

THE GROUP-PHOTO PLANNING GUIDE



A calm, simple, stress-free way to organise your family photographs.

Your group photos are the record of your closest people – the relationships that shaped your story and the loved ones who stood beside you on one of the most meaningful days of your life.

This guide is designed to make planning your group photos effortless, elegant and joyful. With a short, meaningful list, a thoughtful flow, and a little gentle structure, we can create beautiful images quickly – so you can get straight back to celebrating.

YOUR ESSENTIAL GROUP LIST

These combinations cover the most important people in your life and create a timeless family record:

- Couple + Immediate Family
- Couple + Parents
- Couple + Siblings
- Couple + Grandparents
- Couple + Wedding Party
- Couple + Close Friends

These are the **core groups** we'll complete efficiently and calmly.

OPTIONAL “WISH-LIST” GROUPS

If timing allows (or later in the day):

- Extended family
- Friendship groups
- Colleagues or work friends
- Godparents
- Couples with children
- Any important combinations you'd love to remember

These are flexible – we'll capture the essentials first, then add these if time and light allow.

ASSIGN YOUR GROUP WRANGLER

A group wrangler is your secret superpower for smooth, stress-free group photos.

Name: _____

Phone (optional): _____

Their role is simple:

- help gather the next group while the current group is being photographed
- identify family members quickly
- spot anyone who has wandered to the bar or the loo
- keep the energy positive and organised

Choosing someone friendly, confident and well-organised makes a huge difference to the pace and atmosphere.

TIMELINE NOTES

Group photos run best when timed well.

Ideal Time:

- *Immediately after the ceremony*
Everyone is together, joyful and energised. It's the perfect moment.

Alternative Time:

- *10–15 minutes into the drinks reception*
If you'd prefer a quick round of hugs and fizz before we start.

Optional Extra:

- *Golden Hour Group Shot*
A beautifully cinematic option – warm, soft light and relaxed expressions.

LOCATION & LIGHT

The right setting elevates your group photos without adding complexity.

We'll aim for:

- open shade or soft light
- a clean, elegant backdrop
- a spot close to the ceremony or drinks reception
- enough space to move groups smoothly
- consistent light across everyone's faces

Venue Notes:

A few steps from the ceremony is often all we need.

TIPS FOR A SMOOTH GROUP-PHOTO SESSION

- Keep the group list short and meaningful
- Share the list with your wrangler ahead of time
- Tell family members when and where group photos will happen
- Keep bags, drinks and coats out of the frame
- Stay nearby – it keeps things flowing beautifully
- Allow a moment for everyone to breathe and settle

With the right preparation, this part of the day flows naturally and joyfully.

PEOPLE TO INCLUDE

Fill this section in ahead of your day – it makes everything smooth, calm and effortless.

Family Group 1 – Names:

Family Group 2 – Names:

Wedding Party – Names:

Wish-List Groups:

SAMPLE GROUP-PHOTO FLOW

1. Couple + Bride's Immediate Family
2. Couple + Groom's Immediate Family
3. Couple + Both Parents
4. Couple + Both Families
5. Couple + Siblings
6. Couple + Grandparents
7. Couple + Full Wedding Party
8. Couple + Close Friends

9. Optional extended family group
10. Optional fun group moment (cheers, lean-in, laugh)

This structure keeps the session smooth and beautifully organised.

HOW WE KEEP IT CALM & ELEGANT

- Clear direction
- Gentle adjustments to hands, hems, collars
- One classic frame
- One relaxed, natural frame
- Quick release of each group
- Calm energy throughout

Group photos should feel like a moment of gratitude – not a chore.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Group photos don't need to feel rushed or chaotic. With a simple plan, an organised wrangler, and a calm approach, we can capture elegant, meaningful images in just a few minutes – giving you more time to enjoy the celebration with your favourite people.

Your wedding day is about joy, connection and presence.

Let your group photos reflect that.