



# Wedding EVERYTHING

CREATING YOUR WEDDING ITINERARY

## Step 1: Determine Golden Hour for Portraits

- Research sunset time on your wedding date and location.
- Schedule portraits for 1 hour before sunset.

Portraits: 5:00 - 6:00

Sunset: 6:00

## Step 2: Work Backwards to Fill in the Schedule

- Add 15-minute time buffers before and after the portrait time.
- Plan the ceremony and guest arrival times.
- Then add times for a first look, getting dressed, and doing hair/makeup.

Hair and Makeup: 9:00am - 2:00pm (for a bridal party of 8)

Bride Dressed: 1:00 - 1:30

Groom Dressed: 1:30 - 2:00

First Look: 3:00 - 3:15

Guest Arrival: 3:30 - 4:00

Ceremony: 4:00 - 4:30

Time Buffer: 4:30 - 4:45

Portraits: 4:45 - 5:45

Time Buffer: 5:45 - 6:00


## Step 3: Plan the Reception Events

- Schedule cocktail hour, reception start, first dance, speeches and toasts, dinner, parent dances, and dancing.

Cocktail Hour: 4:30 - 6:00

Reception Start: 6:00





First Dance: 6:00 - 6:10  
Speeches and Toasts: 6:10 - 6:30  
Dinner: 6:30 - 7:30  
Parent Dances: 7:40 - 8:00  
Dancing: 8:00 - 11:00  
Sparkler Finale: 11:00 (or 9:00)

## Step 4: Put Everything Together

- Now put everything together in chronological order to see your timeline.

Hair and Makeup: 9:00am - 2:00pm  
Bride Dressed: 1:00 - 1:30  
Groom Dressed: 1:30 - 2:00  
First Look: 3:00 - 3:15  
Guest Arrival: 3:30 - 4:00  
Ceremony: 4:00 - 4:30  
Time Buffer: 4:30 - 4:45  
Portraits: 4:45 - 5:45  
Time Buffer: 5:45 - 6:00  
Cocktail Hour: 4:30 - 6:00  
Reception Start: 6:00  
First Dance: 6:00 - 6:10  
Speeches and Toasts: 6:10 - 6:30  
Dinner: 6:30 - 7:30  
Parent Dances: 7:40 - 8:00  
Dancing: 8:00 - 11:00  
Sparkler Finale: 11:00 (or 9:00)

## Step 5: Book Vendors

- Determine the hours of coverage needed for each vendor.

**Photographer:** 8 - 10 Hours  
**Videographer:** 8 - 10 Hours  
**DJ / Entertainment:** 6 - 7 Hours  
**Hair and Makeup:** 5 - 6 Hours

Remember to adjust the timeline to fit your specific needs and preferences, while keeping in mind the importance of time buffers, prioritizing events, and considering vendor coverage.