

Family Formals Shot List

SHOT LIST PLANNER

The twenty minutes of your wedding day most likely to go wrong. Fill in real names, put one person in charge of calling them, and this is over before cocktail hour ends.

COUPLE

DATE

LOCATION FOR FORMALS

START / END TIME

The three rules that keep this to 20 minutes

1. Use real names, not roles. "Aunt Susan" means nothing to a photographer shouting into a crowd. Write "Susan Delaney." **2. Appoint a wrangler** — a loud, organized relative who knows every face, not a member of the wedding party who's also in the photos. Give them this page. **3. Order the groups so people can leave.** Start with the biggest group and shed people as you go; nobody should have to be found twice.

YOUR PEOPLE — FILL THIS IN FIRST

ROLE	FULL NAME	ROLE	FULL NAME
Partner A parent 1		Partner B parent 1	
Partner A parent 2		Partner B parent 2	
Step-parent		Step-parent	
Siblings		Siblings	
Grandparents		Grandparents	
Wrangler		Wrangler's phone	

Sensitivities the photographer needs to know — who shouldn't be framed together, who's recently widowed or divorced, who has mobility needs and should be seated or brought in last:

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GROUP 1 — EVERYONE (2 MIN)

- ☐ Couple + all family, both sides — then release anyone not in Group 2

PARTNER A'S SIDE (8 MIN)

- ☐ Couple + A's extended family
- ☐ Couple + A's immediate family + grandparents
- ☐ Couple + A's immediate family — release grandparents
- ☐ Couple + A's parents
- ☐ Couple + A's siblings
- ☐ A + A's parents
- ☐ A + each parent, individually
- ☐ A + siblings
- ☐ Couple + A's parent 1 and their partner
- ☐ Couple + A's parent 2 and their partner

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PARTNER B'S SIDE (8 MIN)

- ☐ Couple + B's extended family
- ☐ Couple + B's immediate family + grandparents
- ☐ Couple + B's immediate family — release grandparents
- ☐ Couple + B's parents
- ☐ Couple + B's siblings
- ☐ B + B's parents
- ☐ B + each parent, individually
- ☐ B + siblings
- ☐ Couple + B's parent 1 and their partner
- ☐ Couple + B's parent 2 and their partner

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LAST (2 MIN)

- ☐ Couple + godparents or chosen family
- ☐ Couple + officiant
- ☐ Couple alone, before heading in

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DIVORCED AND BLENDED FAMILIES

Say this out loud to your photographer rather than hoping it's obvious on the day.

- ☐ List divorced parents in **separate** groups — never assume they'll stand together
- ☐ If a step-parent is being photographed, shoot the biological-parent group first, then swap
- ☐ Decide in advance whether there's a photo with both households together, and tell everyone the answer before the wedding
- ☐ Brief the wrangler on which pairings to avoid calling next to each other

WHERE THE PRINTOUT FALLS DOWN

Family formals break for one reason: the list changes and not everyone gets the new version. A grandparent can't stand for long. An uncle didn't come. You added a stepmother's group two days out. By then the wrangler is holding a printout from six weeks ago.

Shot List Planner gives your photographer, your wrangler, and your coordinator the same live list — with real names attached to each group, so the person calling them out isn't guessing. Change it that morning and everyone has the change. Start yours at shotlistplanner.com.