



We typically start 90 min – 1 hour before the ceremony with candid shots of you and your bridal party while you are getting ready. It is better to have more time upfront than on the back end during the reception. Once your main events are done, dancing shots can get repetitive; we do a lot of our creative shots before the ceremony. We like to finish the pre-ceremony shots at least 15 minutes prior to the ceremony so that we are able to get into position before the ceremony begins. It is very important for everyone to be on time. **If you or the bridal party members are running late, it may limit what we are able to do and not allow us to adequately set up for the ceremony.**

You have the option of doing a **“First Look”** (see www.CelebrationsofTampaBay.com/first-look) which allows us to do most of your formals before the ceremony. In most case this is advantageous, however this can depend on lighting situations and where your wedding is at. In this case you will need to tell everyone, to be ready, **2 hours prior to your ceremony start time**. We will start shooting 90 minutes prior to the ceremony, but we request you tell them to be ready 2 hours prior just in case someone is running late.

We recommend for you to designate a **“photography coordinator”** for the formals to call out names of people for pictures. The best person for this job would be a member of your family or close friend that is familiar with everyone and has a loud voice. We find this process saves valuable time being that they are more familiar with your family than our photographer is, and it also allows us to focus on creativity as well as maximizing the number of shots you receive. **If you have a list for your family shots we suggest you provide that list to your designated Photography Coordinator”** as well as send it to us 2 weeks prior to your wedding.

If your church or location has restrictions, you may want to try to **negotiate with your coordinator or pastor** and explain to them your priorities in regards to the pictures. Many churches may have restrictions with the stated intent of protecting the bride; however they can negatively affect the quality of your pictures and the amount of pictures we will be able to take.

After the ceremony we are usually able to complete all formals in about **30-45 minutes** unless there are extenuating circumstances such as 1)friends and family members taking pictures, 2) people that are scheduled to be in pictures disappearing, 3)interruptions from family members or guests. Please make sure that all participants are instructed to remain close by for their pictures. We do allow friends and family to take pictures during formals, however, we ask that they not take their picture until we have taken ours because **their flash may ruin your picture**. Also be aware that friends and family members taking pictures can sometimes cause people to look at different directions while we are shooting, which Celebrations of Tampa Bay cannot be held liable for. There has to be a certain amount of **order during the formals**, and **the more people that are around the more difficult this becomes**. We try to keep you separated from your guests during the formals to limit the interruptions. It is helpful when, once we are done with family pictures that they go to the reception, so that we can have uninterrupted time with the Bride and the Groom.

We recommend that if you desire certain **poses**, to xerox these poses from wedding magazines or websites, and mail them to us, so that it gives the photographer a visual representation of what you are looking for. **Pinterest is a great way to do this; however we ask you limit your requests to 12 favorite poses**. Many of the poses you see on Pinterest can take **5-15 minutes to set up, so, because we are on limited time, we want to be able to fulfill your requests.**

Since the beauty and success of the images are dependent on the cooperation of the subjects, the photographer shall not be liable for any **subjective issues**, such as but not limited to 1)awkward smiles, 2) facial blemishes, 3)frowns, 4)unpleasant moods, or 5) backgrounds. It is your responsibility to advise the photographer of any undesired backgrounds.

Traditional order of Formals

1. BRIDE & GROOM W/OFFICIANT – We do this first so the Officiant is able to leave after the ceremony.
2. FAMILY MEMBERS – We do this next to allow the older family members to get to the reception.
3. BRIDAL PARTY MEMBERS
4. BRIDE & GROOM PORTRAITS ****This order can change depending sunsets, and weather conditions.** Our priority is for the bride & groom shots (for instance during sunsets or before it starts raining), so we may cut short the family shots to do the bride & groom portraits, and do the family shots later.



Thank you,
Stephanie Figueredo

Office Manager 10am-5pm Mon-Fri