

HIP HIP HOORAY!



HEY THERE!

Congratulations on your engagement!

Is it now the time to start thinking about the logistics of your wedding day? Here's my friendly and straightforward guide to help with planning overload.

I'm so excited for you!

With love,

Katie



FAVORITE VENDORS

Here are some vendors I've worked with over the years. I'd recommend each to a good friend or family member.

WEDDING PLANNERS

- Cape Cod Celebrations
- Perfectly Coordinated
- Jessica Hennessey Weddings
- Whim Events

FLOWERS

- Lilac and Lily
- Bittersweet Gardens
- Artistic Blossoms
- Winston Flowers

HAIR AND MAKEUP

- Maryelle Makeup and Hair Artistry
- Lindsay Griffin Hair
- Kathleen Schiffmann
- Amanda Bowen Makeup

MUSIC

- Sultans of Swing
- Ripcord Band
- Night Rhythm
- Men in Black
- DJ Michael O'Neill
- DJ Sara Williams

VIDEOGRAPHERS

- Juharo Weddings
- Antonelli Visual Media
- Novae Film and Photo

DRESS

- Flair
- BHL D

A FEW HACKS TO HELP

Who doesn't love a good time saver? These are a few spots I've found online to assist with the planning process.

THE HASHTAG GENERATOR

It's as simple as it sounds. \$20 for 3 hashtags!
<https://weddinghashers.com>

ONLINE SEATING CHART

Creating a seating chart can be meltdown inducing. This tool will let you swap, map and switch around guests until you have won an EGOT for chair arrangement.
<https://www.weddingwire.com/wedding-planning/wedding-seating-tables.html>

WEDDING INVITATIONS

There tons of ways to go with wedding invitations. One of my favorite spots for unique and affordable invitations is:
<https://www.artifactuprising.com>

UNIQUE BRIDESMAID GIFTS

Etsy: my go-to source for unique gifts. Just search for "bridesmaid gifts" and you will find something totally cool, totally your style. While we're talking Etsy, it's also great for wedding favors, jewelry and groom gifts. Oh and happy birthday banners, like the one I bought the other week.



5 WAYS TO SPARK JOY ON YOUR WEDDING DAY

1. LIE TO YOUR GLAM SQUAD

As a rule I'm not into lying—just one of those personal value things. But on a wedding day, I wholeheartedly suggest telling your hair and makeup people that you need to be finished one hour earlier than needed. I've seen it too many times where the hair and makeup team, talented as they are, take a little too long. Which, trickles down through the whole day. If you build in that extra time it's like giving your day a shot of Zen medicine. You will feel so much calmer. I promise.

2. EAT THE FOOD

You've heard it before. But it's true. Eat on your wedding day. I still regret that I never got the chance to try the sweet potato stuffed brussel sprout hors d'oeuvres from my wedding. Steve (husband) still talks about how amazing they were. So eat in the morning. Eat lunch so you don't get hangry. And eat all the things on your wedding day.

3. ESCAPE

Take 5 minutes and sneak out of the reception with your partner. Look back on that party. Everyone you know and love is in one place. Listen to the joy.

4. REAL TALK

Make sure your undies, bra (built-in or strapless) and shoes are comfy. If you are anything like me, if my shoes are pinching, my dress is slipping down or my undies get twisted, I'm not my best self. So as your fairy clothes mother would tell you, wear stuff that makes you feel good. And if you want the gold heels, go for it, just bring your flats for when you need a break.

5. DAY OF HELP

Planning a wedding is a lot of work. It feels like the time that goes into it becomes like a second job, an invisible second shift. And while we may have ideas of joining the DIY movement with hand-crafted tablescapes and hand-painted goody bags. It can sometimes be wise to bring in extra team member. Planners or a good friend with organization skills can Mary Poppins the heck out of your wedding before you know it.

*Speaking from experience, I painted 85 canvas totes with the word Love. It took exactly Season 1 of True Blood.





HUH? WHAT IS AN UNPLUGGED WEDDING?

When couples talk about an unplugged wedding, the majority of the time they mean no cell phones at the ceremony.

Why do it? The most common reason I hear is that couples don't want their guests to be distracted. They want Mom and Dad to be looking at action with their own eyes and they want to see faces, not screens.

Why not do it? Aunt Joan can not be stopped with the cell pics. Or maybe you want as many photos of the day as possible.

You like the idea but are not sure how to do it? Before the action begins have your officiant/priest/minister/rabbi say, "The couple would like phones to be put away during the ceremony." Easy peasy!

My opinion on the debate? Either way is totally fine with me, but an unplugged wedding is super nice. I like it because it makes people live in the moment. But I get it! Cell phones are a big part of our lives. And I actually like cell phones out the remainder of the day. Friends will naturally gather—I get to swoop in and use cell pic that to my advantage!

ENGAGEMENT PHOTOS

I'll give it to you straight. There are two main reasons to consider the engagement session: you want practice / you want photos.

Let's talk practice. Getting photographed can be intimidating but taking time to practice before the wedding day can give you an idea what to expect on the wedding day. It will also inform your opinion on what type of photos feel right. Do you like candid walking or romantic hugs? Huge laughs or peacefully checking out a sunset? While my photographic style tends towards the more candid, it's always nice to find out what you like best. You'll also get a chance to get to know your photographer a little bit better. And then I'll get to ask my favorite question: what show or podcast should I be bingeing?

Second reason: you want photos. Lots of times couples don't have any professional photos together. A selfie here, a selfie there but nothing with you two looking polished, taken by a pro. So here's a chance to document this time in your lives looking all awesome and stuff. Folks also find it helpful to have snazzy photos for their wedding website, guest book and save the date.



ENJOY YOUR DAY!

SAY HI! GET IN TOUCH!

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