

# chocolatebeige

## BRIDE + GROOM IMAGE GUIDE

### LET US HELP YOU SELECT THE PERFECT IMAGES

So the big day is over, you had an amazing honeymoon in Bora Bora, you have seen a sneak peak of your wedding images and are absolutely in love, you have shared them with all your friends on Facebook and now you have to decide which images to include in your album design. Where do you start? How do you look through hundreds and hundreds of images and know which ones are the right ones, which ones will best tell your story about the day you went from boyfriend and girlfriend to husband and wife.

Your photographer or album designer should give you some brief tips like how many images and what size your album will be, but sometimes you just need a little bit more guidance so that the task doesn't seem so overwhelming. It can be hard to pick just 150 or so images when you love them all. So below I have set out a plan, to help tackle this exciting but time consuming and sometimes emotional task.

To keep things simple I have provided numbers and categories to help you select 150 images for your album design, depending on the number of pages you would like in your wedding album you can add a few or minus a few but the ratio of images per category should be about the same.

#### TOP 10 FAVOURITE - YOU MUST LOVE LOVE LOVE THEM

First things first, pick your top 10 absolute favourite favourite images from the day you became Mr and Mrs. These images are an absolute must to be included in the album design and should be used as large wow images in the layout of your album pages. These images will be used for your album cover and also the first and last pages of your album design. You must LOVE them.

#### GIRLS GETTING READY - 25 IMAGES

The bubbles are flowing, the air is full of hairspray and mum and dad are watching close by as their little girl is being transformed into a beautiful princess. Emotions are high and things are busy busy busy. Girls getting ready is the second hardest category after the stunning location shots to pick which images to include in your album. So let's break it down even further.

#### PRETTY THINGS

Flowers, jewellery, perfume, shoes, accessories - these are all the little things that you love, the things that make these album pages all about you and who you are, they tell future generations what type of girl you are, a girly girl who loves sparkle, roses and diamonds or a country girl in riding boots and pearls, carrying a bouquet of succulents about to walk down the aisle and marry her cowboy.

#### BRIDE GETTING DRESSED

A great idea is to have the getting dressed images in black and white it then makes the images more uniform, ugly curtains, bright blue vases or tossed aside clothes on the floor seem to then blend into the image leaving the bride and her bridesmaids giggling and laughing the main focus. You only need to select a few in this section and can also include hair and makeup.

Once everyone is dressed and looking stunning and the father of the bride has his flowers pinned on the right way we can move onto the family and group images.

#### FAMILY

Bride with mum and dad, bride with mum, bride with dad, bride with mum dad and siblings.

#### BRIDESMAIDS

Bridesmaids individually, group shot of bridesmaids with bride.

#### BRIDE

Self-explanatory I guess, these are the images of you looking stunning with your beautiful dress, stunning flowers, and eyelashes to die for. If you have had images taken in a couple of different locations such as inside against a beautiful fresh white wall as well as some outside images under a beautiful old tree or amongst the rose garden try and select a few images from each location. This will help your album to tell a story and will ensure that the layout of your pages are complete and balanced. Try to avoid selecting only one image from a particular setting or location as it is very hard to include a random single image which is completely different to all the other images you have selected.

### BOYS GETTING READY - 10 IMAGES

#### THE RINGS

It is also good to include a couple of accessory shots here as well such as the grooms shiny new shoes, aftershave or gifts for his groomsmen.

#### BOYS GETTING DRESSED

It is a good idea to go with black and white images here as well, not only does it uniform the images it also ties in nicely with using black and white images in the girls getting ready section of the album.

#### FAMILY

Groom with mum and dad, groom with mum, groom with dad, groom with mum, dad and siblings.

#### GROOMSMEN

Individual groomsmen, group shot of groom with groomsmen

#### GROOM

Once again self explanatory, these are the handsome photos of yourself, with styled hair, groomed nose hair and shining shoes, bet you didn't think you would scrub up that well, handsome hey. Now I know this doesn't sound very fair but boys you just need to suck it up the boys getting ready section of the album is normally not as many pages as the girls getting ready, I know sexist isn't it but that is just the way it is, it is hard work being a girl, we are high maintenance you know, so basically we need more pages. The good news is you won't need to pick as many pictures that you love of your handsome self.

## CEREMONY - I DO - 20 IMAGES

Ok there are 10 easy must have images to pick in this section

- Bride walking down the isle with her dad
- Grooms reaction to seeing his soon to be Mrs
- Bride and Groom holding hands facing each other close up
- Bride and Groom holding hands facing each other from a distance including guests
- Bride vows
- Groom vows
- Bride ring
- Groom ring
- THE KISS
- Bride and Groom walking back down the isle as Mr and Mrs

Once you have these 10 images picked the rest is really up to you, there are still heaps of beautiful images to pick from, bridesmaids walking down the isle, guests wiping their tears and best men rummaging in their pocket for the rings. Pick the images that tell your story, that feature the people you love and compliment the 10 must have images already selected

## FAMILY + FRIENDS - 10 IMAGES

Ok this section should be fairly straight forward, start with the big image of all the guests, be sure to include an image of the bride and groom with each other and their parents and then one with both sets of parents

Then you can add in bride and groom with siblings and extended family such as grandparents, aunts and uncles and last but not least special friends.

A photo of the bride with her girlfriends and one of the groom with his mates can also add something special and a little more casual to these pages

## LOCATION - 50 IMAGES

No other way to put it, but this is the hard section, this is where all the amazing, stunning beautiful wow shots are. You have probably already selected quite a few of these location shots in your top 10 absolute favourites so now it is time to include all the other images that you love.

There are not really any rules here or must have images it is really just a matter of going with the ones that you love. Something to again keep in mind though is if you love an image from a particular scene or location try and select a few complimentary images from the same location which will all work well together in the album design, there is nothing worse then a beautiful album design with a random image which the couple absolutely loves and must include but it doesn't match in with anything else on the page. Really it will stand out like an orange frog and break the flow of your wedding day story. So try and always select at least a few images from the locations you would like included in the album design.

## RECEPTION - 25 IMAGES

We are nearly there, the end is in sight just a few more must have images and then let's get this party started with all those images of everyone letting down their hair, enjoying the cake and dancing the night away. This is where you can really show how much fun your wedding day really was with 88 year old Aunt Lucy carving up the dance floor amongst the spring chickens and Grandpa and Grandma enjoying a slow waltz and little love in the corner even though the song has changed and the DJ is now pumping out the latest song from Pink. This is where all of the funny family traits and traditions which make both of your families what they are today will shine through and leave you giggling on your 30th wedding anniversary as you reminisce over your album with a glass of wine.

The must have images from the reception are

- Bridal party sitting at the head table
- The cake
- Bride and Groom cutting the cake
- The first dance
- Bride dancing with her dad
- Groom dancing with his mum
- The speeches

Ok, all done. You should now have a beautiful selection of images that you absolutely love which will tell the complete story of the special day you become Mr and Mrs.

Having personally designed over 28 000 album pages experience has shown me that a stunning wedding album begins with selecting the right images.

Enjoy your album, look at it often, share it with loved ones and treasure it for future generations to love.

Cheers Mel x  
Chocolate Beige Designs

[www.chocolatebeigedesigns.com.au](http://www.chocolatebeigedesigns.com.au)

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