

Sweet Shots: Moments to Capture

You've invested lots of time into finding the right photographer for your wedding. Now, the issue is deciding what moments you need to include in your beloved wedding video - and the best ways you can share the video with loved ones later. Check out the must-have shots that will make your wedding video the keepsake of a lifetime, and our fun ideas for sharing those moments with the special people in them.

The Shots: The Two of You

Although the basic must-have moments may seem obvious, make sure your photographer knows you want these wedding classics preserved on film:

- Close-up of groom anxiously awaiting his bride
- Bride at the end of the aisle, close-up and full-length
- Here-comes-the-bride view, from the altar area
- Bride and groom exchanging vows
- Close-ups during the vows
- Bride and groom exchanging rings
- The kiss
- The happy couple walking up the aisle
- Bride and groom getting into their getaway car
- Bride and groom making their entrance at reception as husband and wife
- Bride and groom's first dance
- Bride and groom cutting and feeding each other cake
- Bride tossing the bouquet
- Groom tossing the garter
- Bride and groom driving off, happily ever after

Sharing the Memories: Romantic Rendezvous

Make the first viewing of your wedding video a private one, and relive the memories in appropriate newlywed style. A few flickering candles, some nice background music, and a lovely bottle of wine go a long way towards setting the mood for what's sure to be a sentimental journey, so plan to unplug the phone and get cozy.

The Shots: Family

When it comes to family, nothing brings loved ones together like a wedding. Honor those nearest and dearest by including the following moments in your video:

- Sentimental shot of bride with parents and siblings
- Bride with mom helping with the dress or veil/tiara
- Groom getting ready with Dad and pals

- Sentimental shot of groom with parents and siblings
- Dad or parents walking the bride down the aisle
- Dad giving the bride away
- Bride dancing with Dad
- Groom dancing with Mom
- Parents and grandparents dancing

Sharing the Memories: Post-Honeymoon Party

We're not talking about a big blowout - that's what the reception is for! But gathering your respective folks, sibs, and grandparents for some video viewing doesn't have to be extravagant. Relive the big day with popcorn and some simple snacks on your fabulous new wedding china, and pour leftover bottles of wedding champagne into your new crystal -- it's the perfect way to break in your wedding gifts and get everyone together for an intimate, post-wedding party.

The Shots: Wedding Party

They'll stand by you from start to finish, but that doesn't always guarantee screen time. The following are the shots you'll kick yourself over if you don't get them on tape:

- Bride and bridesmaids getting dressed
- Bride with bridesmaids
- Bride with the maid/matron of honor
- Groom with all the groomsmen
- Groom with the best man
- Ushers escorting guests to seats
- Wedding party at the altar
- Flower girl walking down aisle
- Close-up of ring bearer
- Readers reading passages
- Singing performances
- Best man giving traditional toast
- Wedding party dancing at reception

Sharing the Memories: Give Edited Copies

Although no one may say it to your face, the fact is not everyone wants to relive all six hours of your wedding day from start to finish. Thanks to modern technology, you can edit excerpts of your wedding video online and create individual DVDs to pass out to the wedding party. Customize copies that highlight each person (or create one version of wedding-party highlights for everyone), add some music and a couple of special effects, and your wedding party will be thanking you for their thank-you gifts.

The Shots: Guests

Unfortunately, you may not have as much time as you'd like to spend with individuals on your wedding day, and there's no way you can be everywhere at once. These guest shots will ensure you get to see all your favorite people celebrating, as well as some moments you couldn't witness first hand:

- Guests entering the wedding site
- Shot of all the guests during the ceremony from the bride and groom's point of view
- Congratulatory shot of bride and groom with guests outside of ceremony
- Shot of the venue as guests arrive at reception
- Receiving line if applicable
- Friends and loved ones making toasts
- Guests enjoying dinner
- Guests dancing
- Kids dancing

Sharing the Memories: Online

Don't want to invite every single wedding guest to your home to watch your video? Through the handy technology of StreamingDVD, anyone you want can view it online. Once your video has been registered with the company doing the streaming, you can organize footage by "chapter," add thumbnail pictures, and then let everyone know where to access your video. Excited guests and loved ones who couldn't attend can watch as little or as much of your wedding video as they want -- all from the comfort of their own homes.