



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE TWO PHOTOGRAPHERS AT MY WEDDING?

I know from talking to couples that it can be hard to see the need or value of having a second photographer.

1. Two Photographers, Two Vantage Points: Two photographers allows for different angles, different lenses, and different viewpoints of the same scene. This is one of the biggest reasons I love having a second shooter. There are so many times when I want my camera pointed in two directions during a big wedding moment! For example, I often focus on the expression on the bride's face as she walks down the aisle and have my second shooter capture the groom's face as he sees her for the first time. I work with fixed prime lenses because I think they produce the most beautiful images, but when something is happening quickly, like the first kiss, this means I have to choose for either a tighter shot or a wide shot because I can't zoom in and out, even though I obviously want both! With a second shooter, one of us can photograph that lovely tight shot, while the other can be positioned to capture a wide shot focusing on the bride's, family members and bridal party's expressions. You hire a photographer because you trust in their artistic vision and wedding experience, but having a second photographer just brings another perspective and another creative eye to best tell the story of your wedding day.

2. Cocktail Hour, Candid and Details: The hour after the ceremony is usually the time having a second photographer is key. Some portion of this time is usually when couple portraits are done, and the lead photographer can't be at the cocktail hour also capturing fun party candid. Your closest friends are all dressed up and celebrating your wedding, it's definitely worth having someone there to photograph that! Besides the cocktail hour, the lead photographer has so many shots they need to get, that it can be difficult to also grab a ton of candid shots and details throughout the day, whereas the second photographer can focus on these almost exclusively. So having a second photographer is particularly important for couples who have invested a lot of time, thought and love into all the details of their wedding day and couples who appreciate a candid, documentary approach to photography.

3. Second shooters can focus on details while I worry about the big picture: I rely on my second shooters to capture many of the detail shots throughout the day, but I also rely on them to keep an eye on things that shouldn't be in a photo. Like what, you ask? Like someone wearing sunglasses in a family photo or a groomsman who's suit pants look bad because he's got a phone, a flask and car keys stuffed in his pockets. I love having someone with me who doesn't have to worry about the big stuff and has time to notice how the bride plays with a little curl of her groom's hair or how the groom delicately touches the small of his bride's back. Ideally, I'd notice those things as well, but sometimes things get missed, which brings me to my next point...

4. A second shooter provides backup in case something gets missed: I'm not just talking about the kiss (although that's a pretty big moment to have a little backup for). I'm talking about all of the moments that are constantly happening at weddings. Family members who haven't seen each other in years sharing a laugh. Little kids being little kids. Ridiculous friends doing ridiculous things. Hugs. Smiles. Tears. They happen all night long. They can't all be photographed, but with two photographers around, the odds are pretty good that the big ones won't be missed.

5. Double the Photographers, Double the Coverage: You just get more photography coverage on your wedding day. Which is awesome! Period. End of story. 😊

I hope this helps you understand why I think having a second shooter is so important. 😊