

DOROTHY MAY PHOTOGRAPHY

Posing Guide



THE CONTENTS

When it comes to posing our couples the amount of variation can be overwhelming and sometimes, even slightly paralyzing.

Keep these 12 dynamic poses on deck to fall back on at any time during your wedding day portrait session!





HOLD HANDS IN THE MIDDLE



A fresh take on the classic, “red carpet” pose. Direct them to stand next to each other and link up hands. Grooms outer hand goes in his pocket. Bride is holding her bouquet, resting it by her side. Have them look at each other and then directly into the camera. Be ready and shoot quickly. The longer they look at you/the camera the less comfortable they will feel. You can always ask the bride to look back! if trying this pose from behind

“FREEZE”, THEN KISS



THE PERFECT FRAME FOR CREATING ANTICIPATION. DIRECT THE BRIDE AND GROOM TO GO IN FOR A KISS BUT TO “FREEZE” ABOUT AN INCH AWAY. GRAB A FEW FRAMES AND GIVE THEM THE GREEN LIGHT TO GO FOR IT.

HOLD HANDS AND WALK



Great to start off with once you get the couple moving. Just have them link up hands and walk nice and slowly, a 50% pace. If they're still walking too fast, just prompt them to "slow down a bit". Have them look at each other, gaze off into the distance, and at you for a few. Pro-tip: have the bride walk heels in front of toes, to accentuate her natural feminine shape.

CHIVALROUS GROOM



Have the bride and groom walk from a to b. Tell them to forget about you and the camera and to just get where they're going. Direct the groom to help the bride with her train so it doesn't get dirty or snagged on anything while they walk. Great for a more "candid feeling" moment. Also works with directing animals like dogs! if you have one for your wedding day, have the groom direct and guide the animal.

GET IN CLOSE



Have them face each other, get in nice and close and have the groom put his hands on her hips or around the small of her back and pull her in super close. From here I'll direct the bride where to put there hands. Depending on height I might have them put their hands around the others neck or on his arms/elbow area. Or in this case, one of each.

EDITORIAL BRIDE



Bride has her back to you roughly 45 degrees. Dress is fanned out toward you. Bouquet is held with two hands and pointed towards you with little-to-no stem showing. Direct bride to look down with a soft expression at her bouquet. Pro tip: bouquet should be seated roughly bellybutton height.

You can do this with or without spouse, you could try seated, with veil without, hands behind the back.

DIP & KISS



Grooms hands are placed on the small of the brides back – or one high and one low. Brides arms up around his neck or on his face “pulling him in”. Direct the groom to give the bride a subtle (or not-so-subtle) dip and both of them to go in for a kiss. Make it more dynamic by involving the wedding party, and slowing your shutter to 1/10

THE GROOM STANDS FACING FORWARD TOWARDS THE CAMERA WITH A CONFIDENT STANCE, EMBODYING STRENGTH AND STABILITY. MEANWHILE, THE BRIDE STANDS SLIGHTLY BEHIND HIM, HER BODY TURNED TOWARDS HIS, WITH ONE ARM WRAPPED AROUND HIS WAIST OR SHOULDER, SNUGLING THEIR FACES TOGETHER AFFECTIONATELY. BOTH OF THEM GAZE TOWARDS THE CAMERA WITH SOFT, LOVING EXPRESSIONS, CONVEYING A SENSE OF INTIMACY AND CONNECTION. THIS POSE NOT ONLY CAPTURES THE PHYSICAL CLOSENESS BETWEEN THE COUPLE BUT ALSO REFLECTS THEIR EMOTIONAL BOND AND COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER.



HELP/GUIDE DOWN



FOR THIS ONE THE BRIDE AND GROOM WILL TRAVERSE A FEW STEPS. POSITION THE GROOM WITHIN COMFORTABLE ARMS LENGTH AND HAVE HIM GIVE THE BRIDE HIS HAND. HAVE THEM (CAREFULLY) WALK DOWN AS HE GUIDES HER.

EITHER CAN GUIDE. YOU CAN DO THIS POSE FROM THE SIDE, STRAIGHT ON OR FROM THE BACK AS WELL

DOUBLE EXPOSURE



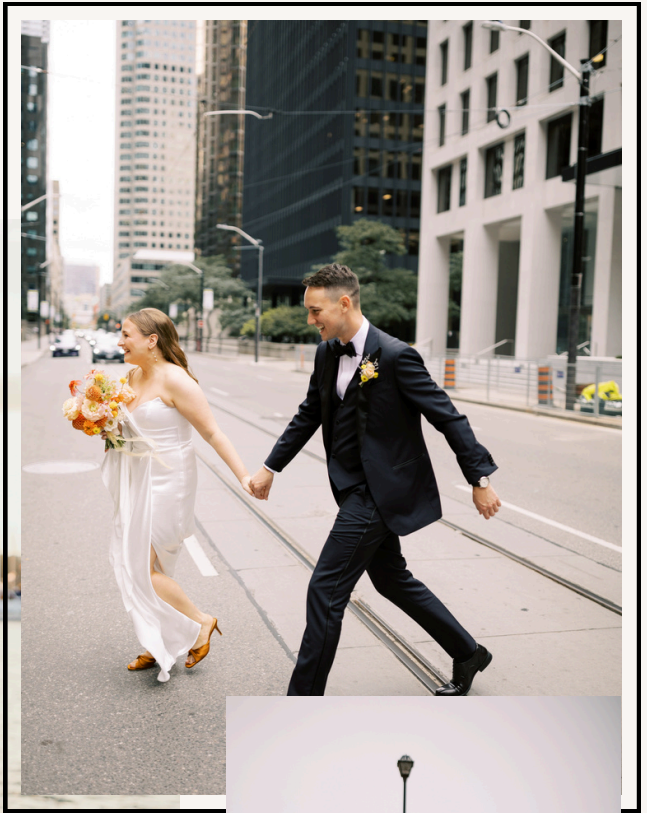
USING THE CANON EOS R6 CAMERA, YOU CAN CAPTURE A STUNNING DOUBLE EXPOSURE PHOTOGRAPH BY FIRST POSITIONING THE BRIDE AND GROOM IN A ROMANTIC POSE, WITH THE GROOM FACING FORWARD AND THE BRIDE SNUGGLED CLOSE BEHIND HIM, HER ARM WRAPPED AROUND HIS WAIST. WITH BOTH GAZES DIRECTED TOWARDS THE CAMERA, YOU'LL CAPTURE THEIR INTIMATE CONNECTION AND AFFECTION. ONCE YOU'VE TAKEN THE FIRST SHOT, SEAMLESSLY TRANSITION TO CAPTURING A COMPLEMENTARY SCENE—A PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE OR A TEXTURED BACKDROP—ADJUST SETTINGS (IF NEEDED): DEPENDING ON YOUR CAMERA AND LIGHTING CONDITIONS, YOU MIGHT NEED TO ADJUST EXPOSURE SETTINGS FOR THE SECOND SHOT.

I TYPICALLY ALSO TAKE MY SECOND IMAGE UPSIDE DOWN

UNDER-VEIL CHEEK-KISS

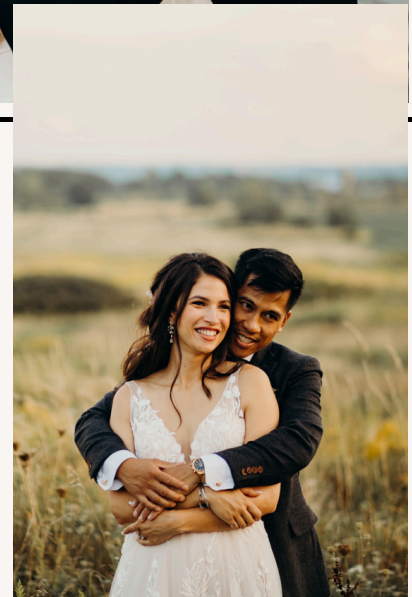
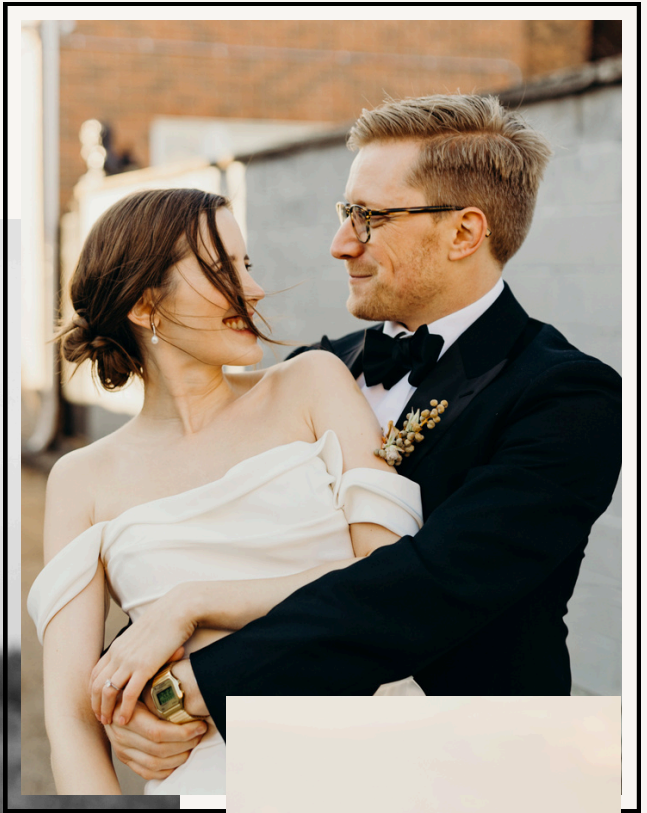


Position the bride and groom nice and close and cover them both (and yourself) with the brides veil. Get everything framed up and direct the groom to kiss the bride on the cheek or whisper something in her ear. Direct the bride to softly smile and voila. Pro tip: backlight them for this dreamy, light-drenched look. To make this pose more advanced try a motion blur or something random/fun like singing their first dance song under the veil! make it fun.



LEAD & SWITCH

Groom takes brides hand and leads out in front as they walk towards you. Conversely, once they get to the end of their “walk”, have then turn around and walk away from you while the bride leads. Pro tip: the groom leads as they walk forward and the bride leads when they walk away because of proximity. If the bride leads in the walk toward she is going to appear larger than the groom – even if she is not. Which is not ideal.



HUGGING

Couple embraces each other in a warm hug, then continues to walk together while maintaining the embrace. The pair wraps their arms around each other, drawing close in a tight embrace, their bodies pressed gently against one another. As they walk, they move in sync, their steps matching, Their faces may be nestled against each other, sharing soft smiles or whispered words, lost in the shared moment.



DANCING

DURING DANCING ASK YOUR COUPLE TO GET ON THE DANCE FLOOR AND TO HAVE SOME FUN TOGETHER SO YOU CAN MAKE SURE TO CAPTURE A FEW SHOTS OF THEM FACING YOU WHILE THEY ARE SIDE BY SIDE OR FACE TO FACE. TO ADD MORE DYNAMIC RANGE, TRY THESE SETTINGS
DANCE: SHUTTER .8 | FSTOP 20 | ISO 200 | FLASH POWER 200

WEDDING PARTY
PHOTOS: GROUP HUG



WALKING BEHIND

