

Month Out

WEDDING GUIDE

BRINGING ALL THOSE
LITTLE DETAILS TOGETHER



SHELLY PATE
PHOTOGRAPHY



LET'S TAKE A PEEK:

pg. 04

WHAT TO EXPECT

pg. 06

GETTING READY

pg. 10

FINAL VENDOR CHECK-INS

pg. 12

CEREMONY + RECEPTION

pg. 14

EXIT IDEAS

pg. 16

FAMILY PHOTOS

pg. 18

PACKING LIST

pg. 20

COMMUNICATION

Your day is almost here! YAYYYY!!! I seriously cannot wait!

Through this guide, we will review some key info and details to remember leading up to the big day. I've provided some helpful checklists so y'all are fully prepared!

First things first, go through your copy of The Ultimate Wedding Guide again. I recommend printing the checklists and devoting a few nights to covering specific sections so y'all don't miss anything or feel overwhelmed.

Let's get to it!

WHAT TO EXPECT

01

WHAT TO EXPECT

02

GETTING READY

SPACES

Have y'all booked your getting ready spaces? Remember to account for the people in your wedding party as well as vendors (hair + makeup, photographer, videographer) that will be present.

ATTIRE

Lay everything out and put each person's wedding day items in one area. Check that you have everything you need!

FOOD

Pack snacks (i.e. grandola bars) to have throughout the day as well as some breakfast or lunch items for getting ready with your party.

BRIDAL HANGER

Bring a simple wooden hanger or a personalized one. These look so much better in photos compared to the plastic one your dress comes on. You'll want to check two things:

1. It is no slip.
2. The hook fully rotates.

GETTING READY CHECKLIST:

- ☐ Getting ready space for bride booked
- ☐ Getting ready space for groom booked
- ☐ Getting ready food ordered
- ☐ _____ is in charge of handling/ picking up the food for the bride's party
- ☐ _____ is in charge of handling/ picking up the food for the groom's party
- ☐ Plates, cups, napkins, utensils
- ☐ Drink supplies (Champagne, mimosas, coffee)
- ☐ Getting ready attire (i.e. robes/ PJs)
- ☐ Wedding party gifts (if applicable)
- ☐ Wedding dress hanger (non-slip with a rotating hook)
- ☐ Wedding dress + all your details (listed on pg. 8)
- ☐ Full groom attire
- ☐ Letters/ gifts to open
- ☐ Crochet hook (if your dress has lots of buttons this is super helpful!)
- ☐ Tide To Go pen
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ The florals will arrive in the bride's space at _____ (time)
- ☐ The boutonnieres will arrive in the groom's space at _____ (time)
- ☐ Hair + makeup artists will arrive at _____ (time)
- ☐ Assigned order for hair + makeup
- ☐ Relayed finishing time to the hair + make up team
- ☐ _____ will be in charge of tidying the bride's getting ready space
- ☐ _____ will be in charge of tidying the groom's getting ready space
- ☐ The brides to go/ overnight bag will be _____ (location)
- ☐ _____ is handling the bride's bag and getting it to the room/ car after the reception
- ☐ The groom's to go/ overnight bag will be _____ (location)
- ☐ _____ is handling the groom's bag and getting it to the room/ car after the reception
- ☐ Getting ready music/ speaker
- ☐ _____ knows how to bussel the dress (I recommend packing extra safety pins!)
- ☐ A small, portable fan (if it's hot!)

DETAILS CHECKLIST

Gather all the detail items below and put them in one area or in a bag.

BRIDE

You'll want to have the dress and veil out of the bags, price tags removed, and on your wooden or personalized hanger.

- ☐ Dress
- ☐ Hanger (wooden or personalized)
- ☐ ALL THE RINGS
- ☐ Ceremony shoes
- ☐ Dancing shoes
- ☐ Jewelry
- ☐ Hair piece
- ☐ Veil
- ☐ Invitation suite
- ☐ Ceremony program
- ☐ Secured styling blooms with florist
- ☐ Special items/ heirlooms
- ☐ Ribbon/ special stamps/ postcard

GROOM

The guys should have pants and shirts on 20 minutes before coverage starts. Do NOT get fully dressed if we are documenting getting ready for you! (You'll just have to take it all off)

- ☐ Suit/ tux
- ☐ Tie/ bow tie
- ☐ Suspenders
- ☐ Socks
- ☐ Cuff links
- ☐ Shoes
- ☐ Belt
- ☐ Hair products
- ☐ Any thing needed for shaving/ beard care
- ☐ Watch
- ☐ Pocket square
- ☐ Special mementoes (pocket knife, flasks)

DETAILS CHECKLIST



03

FINAL VENDOR CHECK-INS

It is a good idea to go ahead and schedule your final check-ins with your vendors. Communicate timing and location if applicable! If you have a planner or coordinator, they will probably handle all this for you, but I would check to be sure!

- ☐ Scheduled final chat with Shelly to review timeline + details
- ☐ Sent Shelly the ceremony outline + family combo form
- ☐ Florist (pick up, drop off, getting the styling blooms, bouquet, boutonnières to you)
- ☐ Hair + makeup (trial, timing, order)
- ☐ Venues (set up, timing)
- ☐ DJ/ band (music, speaker set up, mic, special songs) — *I suggest a wireless mic*
- ☐ Videographer
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Cake (drop off time/ topper)
- ☐ Caterer (Reminder to communicate that your photographers need to eat while you are eating)
- ☐ Rentals
- ☐ _____ is going to handle breakdown after the reception

VENDOR CHECK-INS



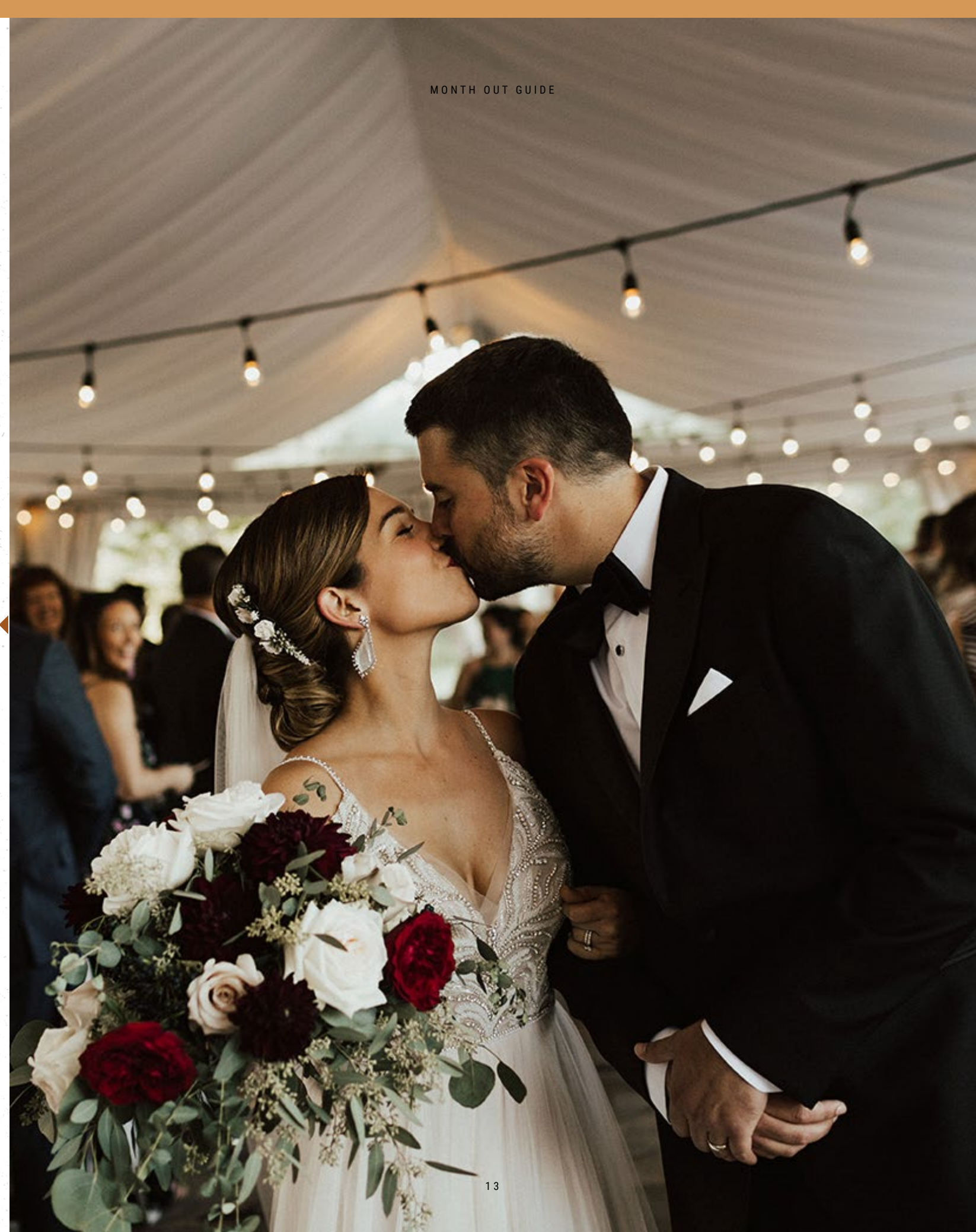
04

CEREMONY + RECEPTION

I highly recommend reviewing The Ultimate Wedding Guide!! Let me know if you need any help! The key areas are lighting, a rain plan if your ceremony is outdoors, and reviewing where your officiant is going to be standing. Remind the officiant to say "You may now kiss" !

CHECKLIST

- ☐ Rain plan
- ☐ Ceremony programs, name cards, signs, etc have been printed and/or ordered
- ☐ Clear umbrellas ordered
- ☐ Talked with officiant/ priest about where they are standing
- ☐ Reminded officiant/ priest to say "You may now kiss" during the ceremony
- ☐ Cleared photographer meal time with caterer
- ☐ Vows written
- ☐ Finalized ceremony order & relayed to photographer
- ☐ Selected special songs for dances
- ☐ Added friend/ VIP groups to photographer's shot list for reception
- ☐ Coordinated item drop off (beverages, signs, candles, etc)
- ☐ Ice for wine/ beer (confirm with carterer that these need to be chilled by cocktail hour)
- ☐ Have received and printed any required permits





05

EXIT IDEAS

Your special exit doesn't have to be at the very end of the night—it can also be as your are exiting your ceremony! Sparklers are super fun, but some venues don't allow them. Here are some other ideas:

CONFETTI CANNON

These look amazing in photos!!! We can do them as your walk down the aisle, just with the two of you, or with your wedding party as a fun celebratory photo!

POP BOTTLES

Of champagne!! I recommend we do this with just you two and/ or the wedding party after the ceremony in case someone gets a little wet.

TOSS

Rice/ lavender/ flower pedals are all biodegradable!

SHAKERS

Do y'all have a favorite sports team? Shakers can be super fun! They can be incorporated as a ceremony exit, during introductions to the reception, or closing out the night.

SPARKLERS

A classic! You'll want to get the extra long sparklers meant for wedding exits. I also recommend having 3-5 lighters on hand and an extinguishing bucket.

BUBBLES

Bubbles look great during the day and in the evening!

GLOW STICKS

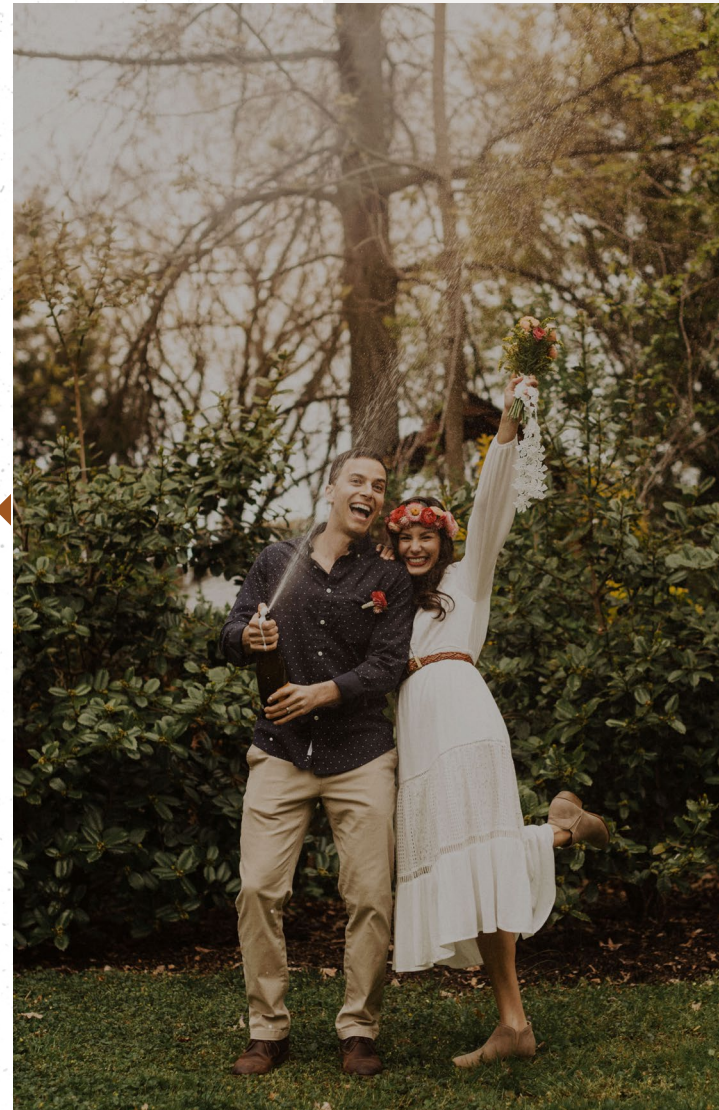
These are super fun to bring out on the dance floor as well!

LED LIGHTS OR CELL PHONE LIGHTS

These are a great alternative to sparklers.

HIGH FIVES

Don't feel like you have to have an additional item! Having your guests gather and give your a congratulatory high five is also a ball!



06

FAMILY PHOTOS

I highly recommend limiting family photos to immediate family only. If y'all want photos with extended family as well, I recommend we take immediate family groups before the ceremony and extended family right afterwards.

FAMILY PHOTOS

- ☐ FILLED OUT THE FAMILY COMBO FORM
- ☐ LET PEOPLE KNOW IF THEY ARE INCLUDED IN FAMILY PHOTOS + WHEN TO BE READY
- ☐ ASSIGNED SOMEONE FROM EACH SIDE TO ASSIST IN GATHERING GROUPS
- ☐ TOLD FAMILY TO STAY AFTER FOR PHOTOS (IF APPLICABLE)



SHELLY PATE PHOTOGRAPHY

PACKING CHECK LIST

BRIDE

- ☐ details (pg. 8)
- ☐ undergarments
- ☐ bridal party gifts (if applicable)
- ☐ groom's gift (if applicable)
- ☐ any parent gifts (if applicable)
- ☐ sleeping PJs
- ☐ toiletries
- ☐ getting ready outfit (shirts should button)
- ☐ night of/ to go bag
- ☐ paper/ plastic products for getting ready
- ☐ snacks
- ☐ cooler (if no fridge)
- ☐ waterbottles
- ☐ umbrellas
- ☐ Tide to Go pen
- ☐ Outdoor/ winter wedding:
 - ☐ Shawl/ jacket
 - ☐ boots/ socks
 - ☐ gloves

GROOM

- ☐ details (pg. 8)
- ☐ undergarments
- ☐ handkerchief or small fan (if it's hot)
- ☐ groomsmen gifts (if applicable)
- ☐ drinks for getting ready
- ☐ paper/ plastic/ glasses for getting ready
- ☐ cooler (if no fridge)
- ☐ toiletries
- ☐ hang out clothes
- ☐ to go bag/ night of bag
- ☐ snacks
- ☐ waterbottles
- ☐ Tide To Go pen
- ☐ check rentals before leaving the shop

If you or your groomsmen are renting your attire, have each person double check that they have every piece, and have tried the full outfit on before leaving the store. (I recommend sending them a checklist of the items they should have.) I cannot tell you how many groomsmen end up missing cufflinks or realize their jacket is too small the morning of the wedding.

07

PACKING CHECK LIST



08

COMMUNICATION

We are now a month out from your big day, so there may be details you need feedback on.

It is best to send me an email so that I can keep all your information organized in one place.

Once we get two weeks out please feel free to call or text me!

SHELLY PATE PHOTOGRAPHY

LET'S GET Y'ALL HITCHED!




SHELLY PATE
PHOTOGRAPHY

P | (404) 408-4743
I | @shellypatephoto

E | shellypatephoto@gmail.com
W | www.shellypatephotography.com