

Ceremony Timetable

2 ½ to 3 hours before ceremony

The bride, her mother, and attendants begin putting on their makeup, curling their hair, (if not previously done by a professional salon) and dressing. This is expected to take approximately one hour, leaving a full hour, plus, for wedding photographs.

2 hours before ceremony

The florist should arrive with the wedding flowers. The groom, his parents, and attendants will arrive at the ceremony site and pin on their wedding flowers. The bride's father should also arrive at this time. The ushers will assist in pinning corsages on the mothers and other honoured guests who have arrived early for the photography session. Photographs begin at this time especially when you have a large wedding party.

1 hour before ceremony

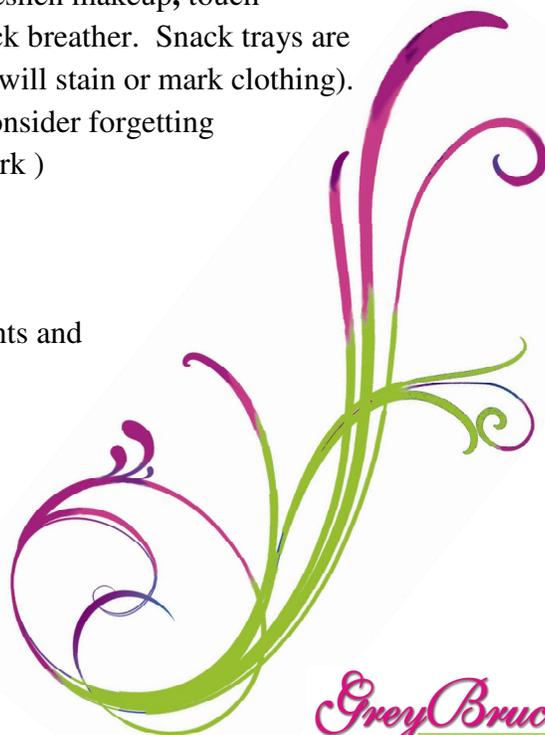
Pre-wedding photos should be completed no later than one hour prior to the ceremony. The bride and her attendants will take this opportunity to freshen makeup, touch up the wedding gown and attendants dresses and take a quick breather. Snack trays are a great idea for this time, (be sure not to include items that will stain or mark clothing). Fresh vegetable trays are a great idea. (You may want to consider forgetting the dip, if it is spilled on a garment it will leave a grease mark)

45 mins before ceremony

The ushers will want to be certain of the seating arrangements and be available in the vestibule of the church for early arrivers. The best man should see that the marriage license has been given to the pastor.

30 mins before ceremony

The organist begins to play the prelude music as the ushers escort guests to their seats.



10 mins before ceremony

Time for a final “once over” for the wedding participants.

5 mins before ceremony

The head usher will escort the groom’s mother to her seat. The groom’s father follows a few feet behind the usher, then takes his seat beside his wife. It lends a nice touch to the wedding for the groom or brother of the groom escort his mother down the aisle.

Immediately following the seating of the mother of the groom, the bride’s mother is escorted to her seat. If the ushers are also the grooms attendants, they will now take their place with the wedding party.

It’s show time!

Special music plays as the candle lighting ceremony begins. The music chosen for the processional as the candle lighters leave the auditorium or find their seats

The minister, groom and best man step into their places at the front of the church.

The wedding party enters, either as couples or the bridesmaids only, if the groomsmen took their place at the front of the church moments earlier with the groom and best man.

The maid of honour follows behind the bridesmaids, and the flower girl and ring bearer behind her. As everyone takes their places at the front of the church, the music will change for the bride and her father’s entrance. The congregation will rise in honour of the bride.

