

This document involves payment terms, cancellation penalties, and image-rights/ownership language that carry real financial and legal consequences if disputed. It is a general starting point only — not legal advice — and should be reviewed by an attorney licensed in your state before use.

Wedding Photography Contract

This agreement is entered into as of [Date] between [Photographer name] ("Photographer") and [Client name] ("Client"), for photography services at Client's wedding.

1. Wedding Details

Wedding date: [Wedding date]. Ceremony venue: [Ceremony venue name and address].

Reception venue: [Reception venue name and address, or "same as ceremony"].

2. Coverage

Photographer will provide coverage from [Start time] to [End time] ([Number, e.g., 8] total hours) on the wedding date, covering [describe — e.g., "getting ready, ceremony, portraits, and reception through the first dance"]. [If a second shooter is included: "A second photographer will also be present for [portion of the day, e.g., 'the ceremony and portraits']." Otherwise delete this sentence.] Additional hours beyond the coverage above are billed at [Overtime rate, e.g., \$250/hour], agreed to in advance where possible.

3. Deliverables

Client will receive a minimum of [Number of edited images delivered, e.g., 500] professionally edited, high-resolution digital images, delivered via online gallery within [Number, e.g., 8] weeks of the wedding date. [If an album is included: "A [size/spec] album is included, with proofs provided for Client's approval before final printing." Otherwise delete this sentence.] Unedited raw files are not included unless separately agreed in writing.

4. Packages & Pricing

The package selected by Client is set out below.

Photography Packages

Name	Total	
Essential Coverage	\$2,500.00	
Classic Coverage	\$3,200.00	
Premium Coverage	\$4,800.00	
Subtotal		\$10,500.00
Total		\$10,500.00

Total fee for the coverage and deliverables above: [Total fee]. A retainer of [Retainer] is due upon signing to reserve the wedding date; this retainer is non-refundable except as stated in Section 6. The remaining balance is due according to a payment schedule agreed in writing between the parties. Coverage will not begin unless payment is current under that schedule.

5. Cancellation & Rescheduling

If Client cancels, the retainer is forfeited and non-refundable, since it reserves Photographer's exclusive availability for the wedding date. Any payments beyond the retainer are refundable only for amounts not yet owed under the schedule above, [minus a cancellation fee of [Cancellation fee or percentage, e.g., "25% of the total fee"] if cancellation occurs within [Number, e.g., 60] days of the wedding date — otherwise delete this clause]. Rescheduling to a new date is permitted at no additional fee if requested at least [Number, e.g., 60] days in advance and Photographer is available on the new date; the retainer transfers to the new date.

6. Postponement

If the wedding is postponed due to circumstances outside either party's reasonable control (including but not limited to venue closure, government order, extreme weather, or serious illness), Client's retainer and any payments made will be applied in full to a new date, subject to Photographer's availability. Neither party owes the other any additional fee, penalty, or damages solely because of a postponement under this section.

7. Image Rights & Usage

Photographer owns the copyright in all images produced under this agreement. Client receives a personal-use license to print, share, and display the delivered images for non-commercial purposes. Photographer may use the images for portfolio, website, social media, and other marketing and promotional purposes[, unless Client opts out in writing before the wedding date — delete this clause if Client does not have an opt-out]. Client may not sell the images or license them to a third party without Photographer's written consent.

8. Consent & Model Release

By signing below, Client consents to being photographed and to the usage described in Section 7. If a guest, vendor, or other individual at the wedding requires a separate release for their own likeness to be used beyond incidental appearance in wedding images, a standalone model and image release should be signed by that individual — this contract does not grant rights on their behalf.

9. Photographer Illness or Emergency

If Photographer is unable to provide coverage due to illness, injury, or another emergency, Photographer will make reasonable efforts to secure a substitute photographer of comparable skill and style. If no substitute is available, Photographer will refund all payments received for coverage not provided. Photographer's liability in this circumstance is limited to that refund.

10. Limitation of Liability

Photographer's total liability under this agreement — including for equipment failure, memory card corruption, or lost or damaged images — will not exceed the total fees paid by Client. Photographer is not liable for circumstances outside their reasonable control that prevent or limit coverage, including venue restrictions, weather, or the acts of other people present.

11. Meals & Travel

[If applicable: "Client will provide a meal for Photographer (and any second shooter) during any reception coverage exceeding [Number, e.g., 5] hours." Note any travel fee or mileage reimbursement for venues beyond [Distance, e.g., "30 miles"] of Photographer's home base. Otherwise delete this section.]

12. Governing Law

This agreement is governed by the laws of the State of [State].

Signatures

By signing below, each party agrees to these terms.

[Client name] ("Client")

Signature: _____ Printed name: _____ Date: _____

[Photographer name] ("Photographer")

Signature: _____ Printed name: _____ Date: _____

This template is a general starting point, not legal advice — customize it and have it reviewed for your situation.