



Bridal Beauty

Having worked in the makeup industry since her move to Belfast from Scotland 7 years ago, Samantha Weightman is widely regarded as one of Ireland's top Make-up artists. A busy, in demand freelance makeup artist, Samantha regularly works for the BBC, UTV and Northern Ireland's top model agency Style Academy. With vast experience, Samantha specialises in Bridal make-up offering bespoke packages to suit every bride as well as a host of other make-up services.

Your wedding day is so special and exciting! It's all about the two of you and the beginning of the rest of your life together. You want to look perfect! You want to be the most stunning bride there ever was, you want to knock his socks off when you walk down the aisle, you may even secretly hope he cries when he sees you because you are THAT beautiful! When preparing for a wedding most brides take weeks, even months choosing the perfect dress. Every detail is covered from shoes, to bridesmaid dresses, to jewellery, to veils to diet/fitness plans, yet it always surprises me how many brides leave booking their make-up artist to the last minute and then face disappointment when they can't find anyone available.

A professional make-up artist understands what products and techniques to use to keep you looking gorgeous from morning right through till the wee small hours. I always advise my brides to have their trial in morning/afternoon so they can see their make-up in harsh daylight and also see how well it looks late in the evening. My brides always comment on how they didn't need to touch up once, however I always like for them to have a pressed powder and lipstick with them on the day so should they need to reapply they'll have it to hand. A great wee tip is to put these products in your grooms' breast pocket as you will be with him most of the day and so you can fix your lippy if you sneak off for a cheeky wee snog!!

I only ever do one wedding a day so on your big day I come out to you at your home or a venue of your choice and stay with you until your cars arrive

and you are ready to leave. I like to come early and allow additional time for everyone to get dressed in a relaxed manner and for me to do any last minute touch-up's before you go. As I mentioned, for your wedding, powder is essential. It sets your foundation in place and adds a velvety softness to the skin. Because loose powder is so finely milled and contains more oil absorbers I prefer to use it to set the foundation, then you can touch up with a pressed powder throughout the day.

Your eyes express happiness and have an extra special twinkle on your wedding day. Because photography is such an important part of the day, choose a look for your eye make-up that compliments rather than completely dominates your eyes. Beautiful wedding make-up is all about accentuating and highlighting your best features to make you look like a perfect, polished version of yourself.

Try to avoid extreme make-up trends and go for a slightly more classic look that enhances your best features. Always think about your wedding pictures and ask yourself how you will feel looking through your album in 20, 30, 40 + years...?

If make-up is something that is important to you then once you've set your date and booked your location the best advice I can give you is source out a really good make-up artist and get your hairdresser booked up too. Ask your friends/family/colleagues for referrals, read reviews and make sure you check out website portfolios and also Facebook business pages for pictures of 'real brides'. Although it's always important to keep an eye on your budget don't simply go with the 'cheapest' option....trust me, you'll regret it when you have a shiny orange face with (I kid you not) green glitter eyeshadow and candy pink lipstick....or worse!!!! I've heard it all!!!



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