

My Tips for the Unplugged Ceremony

Just as the ceremony is ready to begin with the first family member coming down the aisle, the officiant walks to the front and says something like this:

"Good afternoon, everyone. We have a couple ready to get married!. As a reminder, the couple kindly asks that you silence your phones and put them away during the ceremony. The professional photographers will capture this beautiful moment, and the couple will be happy to share the photos with you afterward. Thank you for helping them be fully present and enjoy this special time with them."



Why this works:

- **Polite but firm:** "Kindly asks" keeps it classy. Doesn't sound like a lecture.
- **Reinforces the message:** Even if there was a sign or note before, people need reminders.
- **Gives them a reason:** Guests know the pros are handling the photos.
- **Eases FOMO:** They'll get the pics later, promise.
- **Quick + clear:** No long speeches that stall the big moment.
- **Pro tip:** Always say *"the couple kindly asks."* If people think it's just me being bossy—or the photographers—they'll tune it out. But when it's the couple's request? Respect level goes way up.

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