

Emma — We were both born and raised in Wellington. I trained with the NZ School of Dance when I was 17 and spent 12 years working as a dancer. I also trained in Pilates and own a Pilates studio in Wellington. Michael is a personal trainer and sports massage therapist. We met in a very modern way: two swipes right on Tinder! I had attended the gym where Michael was a trainer and he recognised me as soon as he saw my photo. He was the only Tinder date I ever had. We went for cocktails and I knew from the start that it was special. Michael — A year into our relationship, Emma went to Edinburgh to perform in the Fringe Festival. That five weeks apart highlighted how special she was. I knew I wanted to be with her. I proposed 2.5 years into our relationship. I planned a secret weekend in Queenstown for Emma's birthday. We had a nice birthday dinner and the next day, went for a helicopter ride to a point on The Remarkables with a snow-capped glacier and phenomenal views. I got down on one knee and proposed. Emma — The feeling we were going for was an elegant, fresh, romantic, spring garden wedding. Te Mata House was the first and only venue we looked at. The gardens and vista feel as though you could be in the European countryside. We didn't have to add much to it to bring our wedding day to life. With the house at one end, vineyard at the other, and beautiful gardens in between, we didn't want to overcomplicate it with too much else. Ten months before we got married, my sister got married. I went to some of her dress fittings at Trish Peng's boutique. I love the quality of Trish's dresses and how she can customise them to suit you. I always knew I wanted something timeless and elegant, but soft and feminine. Trish was great at pulling together certain aspects of dresses that I liked and adjusting them to suit my shape. The whole process of doing a custom dress and seeing it all come together was so exciting. It was also a really special experience having my sister come to each fitting with me and share those memories together. Michael — The whole process at Barkers was seamless. Having myself, four groomsmen and my father fitted was stress free. Emma suggested we get two shirts each as we were planning on a hot Hawke's Bay day, and we got it! Some of the boys were struggling in the heat during the ceremony and their shirts got a little sweaty. Having a change of shirt was essential and I'd definitely recommend that for warm locations.

Emma & Michael

Havelock North, Hawkes Bay, N.Z.
Photography, Haute Weddings





- Pink
- Yellow
- Blush



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