

10 THINGS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER BEFORE CHOOSING YOUR WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHER



How to choose a style that suits YOU!

Plan a fun and stress free day

A budget for your perfect day

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Photography

You've poured your heart and soul into planning your perfect wedding, and you'll want every meaningful moment captured in photos so that the memories stay fresh. But with so many photographers to choose from, how do you know which one is the right t for you?

Well, here's just a few things to know, and at the bottom, is a link to a complete checklist to help you book the right photographer.





Research, research, research!

Of course, to ensure your planning and the wedding day itself is stress-free, you should thoroughly research all of your suppliers and that includes your photographer.

Read any:

- What to expect articles
- FAQ's
- The about me section on their website

Look for feedback

- On their website
- Or social media channels

Also

- Take a closer look at their wedding galleries online.
- Ask to see full wedding albums, not just a few images from each wedding that they consider to be the best. This will help you get a clear picture of how they photograph a wedding day and what you can expect from them.
- You can also get a picture for what their focus is. Have they captured all of the little details, are the group shots posed or do they photograph in a reportage style?
- Asking to see a few weddings also shows consistency in their quality and style, allowing you to imagine what your photographs will look like.



Arrange a meeting

Posing in a wedding dress and feeling relaxed on one of the biggest days of your lives isn't always that easy. However, choosing a photographer you feel comfortable with can help you to feel much more relaxed throughout your special day.

Before booking your photographer ask to meet them. They may shoot amazing photographs but you might not feel comfortable around them or gel with them. With such fabulous technology like Zoom and Google Meetings, it's not necessary to meet in person, plus they save you time. From these meetings you will see if you like their personality, which is more important than you might think, you will be around them for most of the day.

The right photographer will be able to keep you calm and find all the parts of your wedding that are uniquely you.

How many weddings a year do you photograph?

This is an incredibly important question, as it will give you an indication of how experienced your photographer is and how much they are likely to charge! For example, a photographer shooting less than 20 weddings a year will either be extremely expensive, as they dedicate a lot of time to the shooting and the editing, or they will be reasonably cheap, because they haven't yet established a solid reputation in the industry.



It rains!

WET WEATHER PLAN

We live in the UK, so let's be realistic. The weather can be unsettled most of the time and rain on your wedding day can become an issue or at least a worry for you leading up to it. You can't stop the rain, but there's no reason to worry. You should still have a great day and a set of fabulous photographs.

Ask your photographer if they have a plan for it. If you are marrying in the summer or are planning on having an outdoor wedding you should discuss a plan B in case it starts raining. Most photographers carry a large umbrella and modern cameras can withstand a lot of rain, so it shouldn't stop you having stunning pictures outdoors. But, if you don't fancy braving the rain, your photographer should be flexible in their timings and come back to some of the photographs later in the day when the rain has eased.



Style

Photography is an art. You will know from looking at lots of portfolios, which style of photography you prefer, whether it is the fly-on-the-wall documentary, the stylised fashion editorial, or the classic traditional.

Some photographers will demand a significant portion of time from your day whilst others will let the day flow and capture the magical moments.

Do your research and find the one that is right for you.

Back up kit

Even the finest professional equipment can suffer a technical issue. In the event that a camera gets damaged, you definitely want your photographer to have a backup on-hand!

Even if your photographer has awesome cameras, that is not enough! Make sure they have spare lenses, plenty of batteries and memory cards.

Have Fun



A PRE-WEDDING SHOOT

A pre-wedding photo shoot is a fabulous photography service to take advantage of before your special day comes around as many couples won't have been photographed by a professional photographer before. Get comfortable in front of the camera and practise posing.

Some couples see it as unnecessary or even a waste of time but there are many reasons why you'll benefit from the rare opportunity of a pre-wedding photo shoot.

- The shoot will help you develop a connection between you and your photographer.
- Create memories in a place that has meaning to you both.
 - By choosing a location that is meaningful to the both of you, you're going to come away with a set of stunning images to cherish forever. Have your shoot in a place that has some meaning to you both. Where you got engaged, your first date or somewhere that you like to visit together.



Let your expectations be known

This is hugely important. Let your photographer know what your expectations are so you can both discuss how to best capture the day. A good photographer will use their experience and ask you questions to find all this out. If there is something specific or unique you want them to capture be sure to let them know. Also, tell them things that you don't like!

Have they worked at your venue before

It shouldn't put you off if they haven't. With so many wedding venues it's impossible to have been to them all.

It's not always about knowing where the best areas of a venue are, it's more important knowing and understanding light and how to best use it on any given day, especially with our changeable weather. A venue will look and photograph very differently from one day to the next, or even from one hour to the next, which is why this is such an important skill to look for when choosing your photographer.





Budget

Remember that if the price seems high it's because wedding photography does not simply include the time that you see the photographer. It is more than a few hours work and usually involves anything from three days to a week's work in total when you take into account all the preparation, admin, image processing, album design, and delivery.

For some, it's not always clear why one photographer is way more expensive than another, however, just like anything we buy these days you need to be careful of photographers offering the world for very little.

Yes, there's lots of great value to be found, but please remember that photography is a massive and important part of your wedding day with a lot of responsibility.

If you do want to ask a friend or relative, or indeed go for a photographer with little or no experience, here's what you should do:

- Make sure you discuss your expectations thoroughly.
- Make a list of the shots you really want, especially the groups. Mum and Dad, bridesmaids, groomsmen, hen night girls etc.
- Make sure you give this list to your photographer a couple of weeks in advance and discuss it with them to make sure there are no misunderstandings.
- You may want to visit your wedding venue with them and even have a pre-wedding shoot.

If you get the feeling it may be too much for them, then do speak with them honestly. Remember, it's a big responsibility to be photographing someone's special day.



I really hope you've found this document useful and I'd so love the chance to answer these questions and more for your wedding day.

There are links at the bottom to my website and how to find me.



[Click here to see if I am free for your special day](#)



[Then click here to schedule a time to chat at your convenience](#)

Get Your Wedding Photography Checklist

This checklist will help you choose the right photographer for your wedding. The questions you should ask any photographer before booking your wedding photography - including the ones they don't want you to ask.

CLICK HERE

*Happy Wedding Photography,
for Happy Couples!*

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