

## What to Ask Photographers.....

Here are some questions to ask photographers to make sure you share the same vision.

Questions To Ask	Photographer: Michelle Lee Photography	Photographer:	Photographer:
What is the photographer's primary style: traditional, candid, posed, documentary?	Photojournalistic: documentary with lots of candids and posed formals.		
What's the photographer's philosophy about shooting weddings? (This question will give you an idea of his/her expertise and passion for the work)	I have helped many friends plan their own weddings, and loved the experiences. I wanted to be a part of weddings and document them for clients to have a visual memory for a lifetime.		
Does the photographer shoot in color, black & white, or both?	Both! Since I shoot digital, I shoot in full color and digitally convert any images to black & white without losing quality.		
How independent is the photographer? Does the photographer prefer that you describe exactly what you want, or would he or she rather have free rein to capture the festivities? (This point determines how you will work together)	I like to know what my clients are looking for in terms of pictures taken. I will handle the typical images, but sometimes clients have special requests. I use a checklist that the clients fill out before the wedding day and I like to meet with my clients to get a feel of what they are looking for.		
Will the photographer you talk with me the one who actually takes your wedding pictures? (This is crucial! Each photographer's style is unique)	I am the primary photographer at all weddings. Depending on the coverage, an assistant comes along to help get those important moments.		
Has the photographer shot many weddings?	I have been shooting weddings since June, 2003, but have been a professional photographer since 1999, after graduating from SJSU with a Bachelor of Science degree in Photojournalism.		

<p>How many weddings will the photographer shoot on your wedding weekend?</p>	<p>I only book one wedding per weekend. I like to be prepared and spend time immediately following the wedding getting your proofs ready.</p>		
<p>Is the photographer open to a list of must-take photos?</p>	<p>Absolutely! I have a checklist of photos requested that the clients complete before the wedding.</p>		
<p>How does the photographer determine price? By the number and kind of prints you think you'll want, the hours spent on your wedding, the developing time, or a combination of the three? How many rolls of film will be shot, and how many proofs and final prints will result? Are packages available, Can you get a price list?</p>	<p>My prices are a combination of hours spent at the wedding and developing time. I shoot an unlimited amount of images because I never want to miss a moment. A minimum of 250 prints will be delivered to my clients. Other packages can be customized per the client's requests. Price lists are available.</p>		
<p>What kind of cameras does the photographer use? (This will acquaint you with his or her experience and knowledge)</p>	<p>I shoot with a Nikon D2H Professional Digital SLR 35mm with a backup D100 Professional Series Digital SLR 35mm. A variety of lenses from macro to wide angle to telephoto are used.</p>		
<p>What kind of lighting and other equipment (such as tripods) does the photographer use? Is backup equipment available in case of emergency?</p>	<p>Lighting: I use a Nikon SB800 flash. Equipment: I use a tripod for low light situations that don't want flash bulbs going off. Backup equipment is available.</p>		
<p>Does the photographer develop his or her own film? How long are negatives kept? Can you buy them?</p>	<p>All images are digital and edited in Adobe Photoshop. When you receive your proofs, you also receive a photo CD containing all your images for easy printing and sharing with friends and family.</p>		