Photography Checklist

Created: 12/28/2011

# Tasks:

☐ **Preparation**

☐ **Classes**

*Taking a few courses at the local college or art school can make all the difference in your finished product.*

☐ **Scenery**

*Picking the right scene, or backdrop for the perfect picture is always a necessary thing but ensure at the same time that you and the subject will be safe.*

☐ **Cleaning**

*If an arranged shot is being taken of a family or person, ensure that the area is properly cleaned and safe.*

☐ **Schedule**

*Make sure that you allow enough time for the pictures that are going to be taken, and then allow some extra.*

☐ **Equipment**

*Double check all of your equipment, and ensure that it is all in good working order; it would not do to have any of it shorting out on you.*

☐ **Equipment**

☐ **Digital Cameras**

*Using digital cameras provide some of the sharpest pictures now; do make sure that you have several sets of rechargeable batteries handy, and that your camera is in good shape.*

☐ **35mmCameras**

*While 35mm cameras are slowly on their way out, they do provide some excellent pictures, and give photographers the experience of working in a different medium.*

☐ **Tripods**

*Always double check your tripods and see that the legs aren't stuck or anything that might cause a safety issue during the photography session.*

☐ **Film**

*35Mm film is still pretty common, and can be bought in small canisters; keep it in those small canisters and when developing it, handle it with care.*

☐ **Memory Cards**

*Digital cameras use memory cards to hold the pictures, and allow the computer to do the editing later; handle them with care.*

☐ **Lenses**

*Whether choosing to use a short or a long lens to get the desired effect in a picture, always inspect them to make sure there are no defects.*

☐ **Things to Plan For**

☐ **Weather**

*Photographing a wedding, especially outdoors, can be problematic if the weather is bad, so keep an eye on the weather report.*

☐ **Illness**

*Photographers are human, too, and if they're sick they're not going to do as well; have a back-up photographer just in case.*

☐ **Malfunctions**

*Unfortunately, equipment error does happen, so have more than one camera that can take the same picture you want.*

☐ **Curiosity**

*Build in some extra time for the curiosity of customers and would-be photographers, that you know you will not be able to avoid.*

☐ **Things to Take**

☐ **Identification**

*Be able to show who you are to a customer, or just in case something happens to you.*

☐ **Cell phone**

*You'll need this in case something happens on your way to the customer, or you get hurt.*

☐ **Water**

*It's important to at least stay hydrated, and taking water with you is a great way to do that.*

☐ **Snacks**

*It definitely won't hurt to take some trail mix or some other snack with you, just in case there is no food available where you're going to work.*

☐ **Directions**

*It's a necessary thing to know exactly where you're going to safely arrive there.*

☐ **Sunscreen.**

*This is great for outdoor sessions, especially weddings*

☐ **Extras**

*Always take extras, especially of memory cards and rechargeable batteries, as a backup plan.*

☐ **First Aid**

*Curiosity always gets the better of people, so be prepared, and take a First Aid kit to clean them up afterward.*

☐ **Safety Issues**

☐ **Broken lenses**

*Glass on the ground does not make for safe walking, so clean it up immediately.*

☐ **Tilted tripods**

*Bent legs on tripods can throw cameras off on the ground, or stick the legs into a person.*

☐ **Cracked batteries**

*Batteries of any kind are dangerous when they crack open, so dispose of them immediately, in the proper way.*

☐ **Cords**

*Leaving cords of any type, especially power cords, lying about is a way for anyway to trip and hurt themselves.*