

## How to Select A **Wedding Photographer**

By Lisa Evans

After any wedding, family and friends want to see the wedding album. The memories of your special day will live on forever through photographs that will undoubtedly be viewed by many over the years to come. Why, then, does selecting a photographer seem to come as an after-thought for most couples?

Most modern brides and grooms get caught up in the details of the wedding. The time between the engagement and the big day are most often spent frantically searching for the perfect dress, the most beautiful flowers, the most elegant invitations, the most delicious cake and the best band.

Consider though that after the band has stopped playing, the cake has been eaten, the guests have gone home, the

flowers have wilted and the dress gets hung in the closet for eternity, all that will remain of your special day are your memories and the photographs.

Ryan Parent has worked as a professional wedding photographer for many years and has shot more than 100 weddings. He says picking the wrong photographer is "the one thing people regret the most screwing up on."

While your Uncle Fred might have a nice camera and enjoy taking pictures as a hobby, hiring an untrained shutterbug to capture the most important day of your life will likely result in a disappointing album filled with blurry faces, red eyes and lost moments.

Follow these steps to select a wedding photographer that won't leave you

wishing you could do it all over again.

## **Start Looking Early**

Start shopping for a wedding photographer as early as you start looking for your dress. Just as you taste various cakes to find the right flavour and try on several dresses before finding 'the one,' plan to visit several photographers in their studios and look through their wedding albums.

Many couples underestimate the importance of selecting a good photographer, randomly selecting a name from a Google search, believing one will be just as good as the next. Taking your time and care in selecting a photographer can save you a lot of heartache in the years to come.

Ryan Parent