

“Hiring” a Friend to Photograph You

Having a friend do a professional’s job almost never works out:

- Would you hire a friend to fix an electrical issue at your house unless they were an electrician?
- Would you hire a friend to do your taxes unless they were an accountant?

No, of course not! Obviously you are searching for a *professional* and not some amateur because you value your time and money.

So before we go any further, let’s just go over a few of the reasons for why you should hire a professional and not your friend, because ultimately hiring a friend could end up causing more issues than paying for a professional would, including losing your friendship...unfortunately, *you get what you pay for!*

A Professional is Committed to YOU: A professional will be committed to YOU. They are guaranteed to show up, no questions asked. I’ve seen “friends” commit to photographing a friend and then flake out a week before, people not show up to help on the day-of when they said they would, and even people just not caring at all. When you hire and pay a professional, they are *contractually obligated* to carry out the duties that you hired them to perform!

A Professional will have EXPERIENCE: There’s nothing worse than having everyone standing around not knowing what to do next. Hiring someone who has experience will most definitely help your stress level. A professional with experience will also have a specific way of doing things, so there won’t be too much guesswork for you while planning your session. The last thing you want to have to do while planning is figure out what your “friend” is supposed to be doing!

A Professional will give you Awesome RESULTS: Or in other words, you get what you PAY for! Hiring a professional will ensure that you get a great result. Just like the electrician or accountant example, having someone who photographs for a living will certainly give you the best outcome. It may not always be the most ideal option to spend money on a professional, but really and truly, paying for a service makes SUCH a huge difference! Not to mention that *there’s a contract involved* they are obligated to provide you with those results.

You won’t have to worry about Straining your RELATIONSHIP: When working with a professional, if anything, you will build a relationship with them. Almost always, when hiring a friend the relationship gets strained in some way. Either they hold a grudge against you for making them work for free or less than normal, or you’re not happy with your results and you just can’t tell them. It’s not worth ruining a relationship with one of your friends!

At the time, it seems lucky and like you have all your bases covered, but please do your best to make an informed decision when friends offer to help you. Don’t get me wrong – there are friends that will help out who will do a great job. However, in my experience, it doesn’t always work out for the best.