

## Wedding Photography – Film vs. Digital

IF ASKED, HOW DO I CHOOSE WHICH ONE?  
*Should I care?*

The following is intended to be factual and unbiased but it is fair to recognize that I have shot film for 30 years and two years ago switched to shooting digital.

You can search the Internet and probably find thousands of opinions on this subject but what you will mostly find is the perspective of the photographer, not the consumer.

To satisfy a consumer perspective, I would suggest that you look at examples of digital images and see if you question the quality. Much of the magazine and advertising images that you see are digital.

*If you are going to research base your decision on what you see, not the technical debates.*

### **Will my choice impact the options that I have to get prints or digital files or DVD?**

NO, the first most basic thing to understand is that this is a question of what media the photographer will use to capture the image and really has nothing to do with the output media. In other words, if what you want are prints or digital files, either film or digital can result in those.

From a consumer perspective, **pick your photographer not their media.** There are bad film photos and bad digital photos.

*Film or digital does not make the quality, the photographer does.*

If you are shooting your own photos, research, try it yourself and decide for yourself.

The debates amongst photographers over digital vs. film will go on for a LONG time and there is no right or wrong answer.

### **Additional Info**

It is technically true that film has a smoother transition of tonal qualities and a higher level of resolution, especially with large format film; this may be noticeable to many if the image is the size of a house.

Some say the “feel” is different between the mediums, similar to the cold difference discussed between vinyl LPs and music CDs. The true audiophile would not be caught listen to the harsh non-feeling sound of music recorded on a CD or MP3. What do you listen to? So do I and I have 5,000 LPs.

Photographers shooting digital are likely to take more photos (pure economics of film)

The work on the backside to the photographer shooting digital is typically more intensive - some would argue a tradeoff between time and cost.

Whether shooting digital or film the lens is probably the most significant hardware factor that will contribute to the quality of the image. There is nothing like a big quality piece of glass