

Photography Mentoring Checklist

Are you ready for a Photography Mentor

- I am open to receiving feedback and coaching
- I take responsibility for my own professional growth and development
- I seek challenges and new responsibilities
- I will keep commitments agreed to with your mentor
- I will renegotiate the mentoring relationship when your personal or professional needs change
- I am committed to developing my talent, even though I may not yet know exactly where it lies
- I have the desire to achieve personal growth and professional goals
- I appreciate and am open to different perspectives
- I am willing to share time with a mentor
- I have the ability to receive constructive and honest feedback
- I have respect for confidences and intellectual property rights
- I am accessible and positive
- I have the willingness to try out different things
- I will have faith in what my mentor has designed for me
- I have the ability to take creative risks (demonstrated by, for example, a record of seeking challenging assignments and new responsibilities)
- I have initiative and independence (demonstrated by a history of taking responsibility for your own growth and development)
- I have the willingness to work and can take direction
- I have good organisational skills
- I have a good sense of self and my personal capabilities
- I accept that my mentor is not there to pick up my work and finish a project for me
- I have some photography experience and lots of passion (not just formal training)

Mentor Evaluation Checklist

My prospective Photography Mentor

- has a commitment to identifying and developing my talent
- has a similar genre of photography to me
- has the desire to share their expertise and experience
- has attained a certain status in their profession (accreditations, degrees, certifications, association with a professional body)
- is willing to facilitate networking opportunities through their contacts
- is non-intimidating
- has confidence in themselves (openness about their work and untroubled by the 'threat' of a mentoree)
- excited and interested in the my work
- has the ability to give and receive constructive and honest feedback
- has respect for confidences and intellectual property rights
- is accessible and has a positive disposition
- has honesty and integrity
- is easy to communicate with
- encourages the exploration of ideas
- encourages creative risk-taking
- has good listening skills (particularly when you may have a problem)
- has the ability to provide appropriate and timely advice
- has ability to help you shift your mental context
- has the ability to understand where you are coming from and what you have in mind
- has flexibility about his or her expectations of you
- has sensibility and patience
- has the time and mental energy to devote to a professional relationship
- has up-to-date knowledge
- can ability to pick up and identify your strengths and weaknesses
- has the ability to articulate what needs development in your work and to suggest ways of achieving this