

I want to be a . . . Photographer

Initial Career Steps:

- In order to take good pictures, you need to understand the mechanics of a camera. Beyond that, you need to know how to take pictures to achieve effects, understand focus, filters and more. Getting to know how a camera works is one way to figure out how it can work for you. In short, read up on the subject and get a lot of experience behind the camera.
- You may not be able to start your own photography business right away, but you can build your experience and make contacts as a photographic assistant or by working in a darkroom or studio.
- Contact your friends and family and volunteer your services. Set up a small studio in your home for family portraits or offer to photograph at family birthday parties, weddings, and other special occasions.
- Create your own website to display your work and contact information. The internet can help you find galleries that might be interested in helping you sell your work, events in your area where photographers may be needed, and groups or organizations where you can communicate with other professionals.
- Build a portfolio. Pick out at least 5-10 of your best images to showcase your abilities. Buy a portfolio case that will be easy to for you to carry as well as easy for a gallery owner or buyer to review.

Local Resources:



--Professional Photographer's Guild of Houston:
<http://www.ppgh.org/>

--Texas Professional Photographer's Association
<http://www.tppa.org/>

--Texas Photographic Society:
<http://www.texasphoto.org/>