ALABASTER PHOTOS

A GUIDE FOR EXPECTING PARENTS

How to Choose a *Newborn Photographer*

The questions that actually matter when you're trusting someone with your baby's first days — and my honest answers to every one.

APNPI SAFETY-CERTIFIED · QUALIFIED NEWBORN PHOTOGRAPHER

THE CROIX STUDIO · NEW RICHMOND, WISCONSIN

LET'S BE HONEST FOR A SECOND

Every portfolio looks *beautiful*.

Prices are all over the map, every Instagram feed is gorgeous, and it's genuinely hard to tell who's truly qualified to handle a days-old baby. So here are the questions worth asking *any* newborn photographer you're considering — with my own answers, so you can see exactly how I work. Ask these of everyone. The answers will tell you everything.

01

"Are you trained or certified in newborn safety?"

A stunning portfolio says nothing about whether someone knows how to safely handle a fragile newborn. Training does.

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>
> Yes — I'm **APNPI Safety-Certified** and a **Qualified Newborn Photographer (QNP)**, meaning my work was formally submitted, reviewed, and graded by the industry's accrediting body. I'm also **Fresh 48 Accredited**.

02

"How do you keep my baby safe and supported during posing?"

Newborns can't support their own heads or limbs. Safe, gentle posing is a learned skill — never a guess.

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>
> Every pose is gentle and **fully supported**, and I'm trained to read your baby's cues and never force a position. Comfort always leads; the photo follows.

03

"Do those 'floating' or 'baby-in-hands' poses put my baby at risk?"

Some dramatic poses would be genuinely dangerous if attempted for real.

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>
> Never. Any image where baby appears suspended is created with **compositing** — two completely safe photos blended into one. Your little one is supported the entire time.

KEEP GOING — THIS IS THE GOOD STUFF

The questions that *separate* pros from hobbyists

04

"What are your health and hygiene practices?"

A newborn's immune system is brand new. Little details matter here.

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>
> Sanitized props and hands, a clean, warm studio, and a **flexible reschedule policy** if anyone in your home is unwell — no penalty, ever. Baby's health comes first.

05

"Can I see full galleries — not just your highlights?"

Anyone can post five perfect frames. Consistency across an entire session is the real test of skill.

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>
> Absolutely — just ask and I'll walk you through **complete sessions**, start to finish, so you know exactly what your own gallery will feel like.

06

"How much of your work is newborns, specifically?"

Newborn photography is its own specialty — very different from weddings or seniors.

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>
> Newborns and their families are my **heart and my focus** — it's what I'm certified in and what I photograph week in and week out.

07

"What will I actually walk away with?"

Digital files get buried in a phone. These fleeting days deserve to be held.

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>
> We'll thoughtfully design **prints, albums, and wall art** built to last generations. I'll guide you to the pieces you'll treasure — always guidance, never pressure.

THE LAST FEW

And a few that *protect* you

08

"What happens if my baby is fussy or needs to feed?"

A rushed newborn session means a stressed baby and stiff, forced photos.

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>
> We work **entirely at baby's pace**. Feeding breaks, cuddles, and pauses are built right in — there's no such thing as "behind schedule" in my studio.

09

"When should we book, and when do we shoot?"

Timing shapes everything about newborn photos — the curls, the sleepiness, the tiny scrunch.

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>
> The sweet spot is **5–14 days new**. I recommend reaching out during pregnancy and simply sending me a "baby's here!" the day they arrive — we'll protect your window together.

10

"Are you a real, insured business?"

It protects you, your baby, and the images you'll want forever.

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>
> Yes — **fully insured and contracted**, with your gallery safely backed up. I'm here for the long haul, not a weekend hobby.

ONE LAST THOUGHT

You deserve to feel completely at ease.

If a photographer can answer these with confidence, you've found someone worth trusting. If you'd like to ask me any of them in person, I would love that — let's grab a quick call and I'll happily walk you through it all.

Whoever you choose, choose with confidence.

Your baby is worth it. 💛

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