

## Choosing Your Wedding Album

With so many types and options, deciding on your wedding album can be confusing. Here's a quick guide to help make your decision easier.

Whichever choices you're leaning toward, buy the highest quality you can afford.

Avoid acetate coverings, which create glare and can cause deterioration. Non-acetate books are sometimes described

as "open viewing." Also stay away from "post-bound" or "piano hinge" page assembly. Higher end professional studios generally offer only "bound" albums with one-piece covers. In addition, make sure your photographer has the design expertise to help you create the album of your dreams.

### **Mounted or assembly?**

Albums are built two basic ways. For "assembly" albums, the photographer orders the album cover and pages and inserts the photographs while assembling the album. This method is less expensive; however, over time, the seals can dry out, causing the album to start to come apart.

Higher quality albums use the "mounted" method. The photographer sends the photos to a professional album binding company (like Zookbinders). The photos are individually adhered to their base pages. With mounted albums, you can then choose between Matted or Panorama (Zook Book®) styles.

### **Matted or Zook Book®?**

In a matted album, the photos are individually mounted into recessed openings, giving a dimensional look to your pages. Matted albums lend a classic, elegant look to your photos.

Zookbinders offers an innovative album that provides benefits coffee



table books cannot. The Zook Book® is constructed with thick, durable album pages, but has just a tiny 1/16” gap in the center for a seamless presentation of photos that span both pages. What’s more, the album has the look and feel of a wedding album with gilded edges and leather cover.

### **Leathers**

Sure, it says genuine leather—but don’t stop there. Leathers come in a variety of styles, colors and quality levels. Zookbinders offers “standard” leathers, which have a “pebbled” texture, with the option to upgrade to one of the following:

- Distressed: Luxurious top grain leather with a two-tone, burnished, old world appearance
- Napa: Softer leather with a “warm and fuzzy” feel
- Glove: Soft, supple leather similar to that used in fine gloves

If your budget is stretched, there are some very nice looking imitation leathers on the market these days. Like genuine leathers, they are available in a variety of colors.

### **Cover options**

- Cameos: This is a photo inset into your album cover that makes an inviting presentation.
- Cover imprinting: You can personalize your album with your names and wedding date imprinted on the cover.

Zookbinders uses an italic font, and offers black, white, silver, gold or branded (blind embossed).

### **Gilding**

You can choose to have your page edges finished with a decorative foil called gilding, which lends an elegant look to your album. Gilding is available in a choice of colors, typically black, white, silver and gold. At Zookbinders, the gilding is enhanced with hand-sanded, rounded

page edges. When evaluating sample albums, be sure to look for pages with smoothly gilded edges.