

I am far from a master photographer, but after shooting for over 10 years I have learned some dos and dont's when it comes to alternative, pinup, and fetish photography. I had to shoot a lot of garbage before I knew what worked for me. And from editing Sinical Magazine (since late 2010) I know what I don't want to see in a photography magazine. I am guilty of some of the things that I have listed below.



Photo by George Hurrell

Some things **YOU SHOULD NOT DO** if you're a **PHOTOGRAPHER**:

1. If your camera has built-in flash, don't use it! Your built-in flash may come in handy at weddings, but not when you are doing a fashion shoot. The whitish xenon light makes your subjects look like ghosts. An external remote speedlight is different.



2. Don't shoot your models sitting on a toilet. Bleak-chic photographers liked to shoot their strung out models sitting on toilets or lying around in a bathroom in the 1990's to show how grungy they were. This may have been an artistic statement back then, but this was never sexy or cool.

3. Don't shoot your models holding guns or ninja weapons. This doesn't make them look dangerous, it makes them look cheesy.

Some things **YOU SHOULD NOT DO** if you're a **MODEL** and submitting to a publication:

1. Don't submit pinup photos of yourself playing with ground beef and a meat grinder in a sexy manner. This is not sexy, this is gross. And yes, someone actually submitted a photo set like this to us.



2. Don't submit photos of yourself holding a phone camera while shooting yourself.

3. No webcam pictures.

4. No duckface or blue steel.

Duckface definition -

A facial expression utilized by girls in which they push their lips outward and upward to give the appearance of large, pouty lips, but in reality giving them the appearance of a duck.

Blue Steel pose:



is a well-known and highly respected alt. pinup photographer. One of the most important things to remember when shooting alt. pinup is to have a clear vision of what you want to achieve. This involves choosing the right model, location, and lighting. It's also important to have a good understanding of the alt. pinup aesthetic, which is characterized by its bold, graphic patterns and dramatic lighting. Finally, it's important to be patient and persistent, as alt. pinup photography can be a challenging and time-consuming process.



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Pinup photography is a different style of photography with a lot of criticism. Deviations of otherwise don't be possible. Do as you please, but don't be a jerk.