

Pre-shoot Checklist

The most productive assignment is one with few or no surprises. To ensure the best possible results from a shoot, there are a number of questions which should be addressed in advance.

Here are some of the questions I might typically ask:

When does the gardener come?

Do all of the lights work? (interior and exterior)

Will spare bulbs be available?

Do you know how to turn the lights on and off? (interior and exterior)

Are lights controlled by timers or photo sensors? Can they be manually controlled?

Are there any decorations or signage that needs to be removed?

Will props be necessary? (flowers, plants, staged furniture, etc.)

Do you know how to control the water features?

Does the pool light work?

Do you know how to turn the pool light on?

Do the fireplaces work?

If the fireplaces are gas, do you know how to light them?

If the fireplaces are wood burning, is it ok to light paper in them?

Are there hoses available to wet down the driveway, patio and pool deck?

Do you know how to control the electric gates and set them to stay open?

Are the owner/occupants expecting the photographer and crew? Do they understand the duration of the assignment?

Is there any construction activity?

Will the interior of the building be accessible to adjust window blinds and lights?