

# **Keyword: Amy Koughan**

# 6-75 Word Biographies

## 1. Amy Koughan: Success as a Freelance Photographer

Successful freelance photographer Amy Kouhgan has learned through trial-and-error to master her art while developing her business skills. Being a full-time freelance photographer is not easy, and those new to the freelance business should tally their strengths but also be ]willing to continue their education in photography. Online classes through Skillshare.com or Lynda.com can help a freelancer develop stronger skills as she is starting her business. Being quick to respond to queries from potential clients and questions from customers can help with referrals for future work.

# 2. Amy Koughan: Confidence in Photography

Amy Koughan has developed confidence in her photography skills, which has led to her successful career as a freelance photographer. The photographer who wants to cultivate confidence in his or her work needs to shoot photos on a consistent basis and in many different conditions. Photographers may also look to the many books and websites on photography, or take online classes through sites like Skillshare.com to learn new concepts and increase confidence in one's work.

# 3. Amy Koughan: Freelance Photography and Entrepreneurship

Amy Koughan has used her savvy business skills to become successful in her career as a professional freelance photographer. Being aware of the necessary legalities, looking at corporations or partnerships, and understanding the nature of contracts with customers are important qualities that the successful entrepreneur needs to know. Koughan has found great fulfillment in what she can **accomplish on a daily** 



basis. She takes pride in her art and business skills, and uses them to benefit her career and her community.

## 4. Amy Koughan: Improving Running Photography

As a freelance photographer and long distance runner, Amy Koughan has faced the challenges that both the photographer and the runner face in a marathon. Marathon photographers should be familiar with the race course, especially with sight lines and vantage points. Equipment is also an important consideration, so shutter speed, sharp apertures, and burst fire mode can help deliver crisp pictures that fully capture the runners' emotions. Koughan also knows that since weather conditions can change rapidly on race day, the photographer needs to have protective covering available for equipment at all times.

## 5. Amy Koughan: Improving Cycling Photography

Professional freelance photographer Amy Koughan specializes in athletic events, particularly cycling, which presents its own set of challenges for the photographer. Familiarity with the cycling course and terrain allows the photographer to select specific areas that will garner the best pictures. These areas should be inspected ahead of the actual race day. Often, a photographer's ideal shot will be interrupted by poor weather, or blocked by spectators. This issue can be fixed by moving to higher ground.

## 8-250 Word Blog Posts

#### 1. Amy Koughan: Achieving Success as Freelance Photographer

Successful freelance photographers, like Amy Kouhgan, have learned through trial-and-error to master their craft while also mastering the art of small business. It is difficult to make a full-time living as a freelance photographer, but if that is an individual's main goal, there are some important personal and marketing tips that should be taken into consideration.





Photographers who are new to the freelance business should take account of their strengths but also be willing to continue to learn and improve their techniques. Investing in internships or even online classes through Skillshare.com or Lynda.com can help a freelancer develop stronger skills as she is starting her business.

The creation of a good website that is clear and provides direct information is a must for freelance success. The site should be developed in a way that makes it easy to navigate, and should be accessible in laptop and mobile form. Photographers need to be picky about what examples of work make the cut on the website; showcase the very best work, not every single picture ever taken. The website should also be active, meaning updated daily, and adding a blog to the site is a perfect way to achieve this online presence. A blog can help keep photographers grounded, and not consumed with work alone.

Amy Koughan and other profitable freelance photographers know that being quick to respond on multiple levels can win the job and result in positive referrals for future work. Photographers should respond to phone calls and emails as soon as possible, and work to get pictures edited and to the clients fast and efficiently.

Source: <a href="http://digital-photography-school.com/successful-freelance-photographer/">http://digital-photography-school.com/successful-freelance-photographer/</a>

#### 2. Amy Koughan: Photography with Confidence

Experienced freelance photographers like Amy Koughan have developed a key skill in their careers that has led to beautiful photographs: confidence in their art. Koughan and other photographers state confidence as an often overlooked or overwhelming concept that may elude those new to the craft, but which is essential to creating style and success.

The old adage "practice makes perfect" is as true in photography as in any other skilled ability. The photographer who wants more confidence in his or her work needs to get out there and shoot pictures regularly, whether it's on weekends, in between jobs, or on a lunch break. It also benefits the photographer to not only take pictures whenever possible, but to do so in many different conditions. This allows photographers to become familiar with what works or does not work in a variety of situations and with multiple kinds of light sources.





Amy Koughan, like many veteran freelance photographers, has advanced her career through forming a clear confidence in her work. Often, this confidence can be gained through public accountability, such as through the creation of a website or blog featuring the photographer's work. Another method of creating confidence is through education. Successful photographers often achieved that status by learning from other photographers. There are many books and websites that provide tips and suggestions, and many photographers can now take online classes through sites like Skillshare.com to learn new concepts and approaches to their art. Regardless of the steps the photographer takes, having confidence in one's work is necessary for future success.

Source: <u>http://digital-photography-school.com/7-steps-to-becoming-a-confident-photographer-a-beginners-guide/</u>

## 3. Amy Koughan: Improving Cycling Photography

Some freelance photographers like Amy Koughan specialize in athletic events photography, which is a very challenging style of photography that requires some careful preparation, creativity, and gumption. A particular challenge is faced by the photographer at a cycling event. Whether it is a world-class race like the Tour de France or a local contest, the photographer at this type of event faces some interesting trials that can result in amazing work.

Depending on the length of the cycling course, the photographer needs a certain amount of preparation prior to the race. Examining the course map and accompanying terrain can help the photographer select certain spots along the course that would be beneficial for pictures. Scouting these areas ahead of time is also necessary to be sure of vantage point and potential for excellent shots. Equipment is also a vital consideration; good equipment can help photographers capture key moments during an active event.

Timing is what it's all about when it comes to photography, even more so in an athletic event. While the photographer might have a photo with a river or mountain backdrop in mind, the reality is often different and photographers need to be quick and flexible should their view be unexpectedly blocked by officials or spectators. Often this problem can be remedied by changing perspective and moving to higher ground to take pictures.





Amy Koughan, a competitive cyclist and successful freelance photographer, has mastered the keys to taking exciting competitive cycling pictures. Reviewing the map and landscape, finding vantage points, and being prepared to move if necessary are all important steps to improving cycling photographs.

Source: <a href="http://cyclingtips.com/2012/06/cycling-photography-tips/">http://cyclingtips.com/2012/06/cycling-photography-tips/</a>

# 4. Amy Koughan: Improving Long Distance Running Photography

Amy Koughan, a freelance photographer and long distance runner, is very familiar with the challenges that face a photographer taking pictures at a marathon. Any athletic competition presents particular difficulties for the photographer, but there are some tips that photographers like Koughan use to take quality, memorable pictures of marathons and other distance events.

The photographer should review the marathon course map and pinpoint any areas that will provide pictures of runners experiencing emotions, such as at the top of a hill, or at the finish line of the race. Standing at corners and on the right side of the road, preferably with the sun behind the runners, are excellent locations to capture key moments.

In terms of equipment, using a long lens, fast shutter speed, and burst fire mode can capture highly detailed moments. Burst fire mode in particular can heighten the odds of getting a clear, crisp picture of a person in motion by taking as many frames as possible within that time burst. Sharp apertures can also assist a photographer in snapping a picture that keeps the runner in focus, but the crowd behind him out of focus, emphasizing the subject of the photo.

Successful photographers like Amy Koughan keep careful photo composition in mind when photographing runners in motion. They avoid taking pictures of the runner's whole body, and instead focus on taking shots from the mid-torso upwards in order to capture movement and the emotion on the runner's face. Finally, weather conditions can change quickly on race day, so photographers should be sure to travel light but carry protective material for their equipment.

Source: <a href="http://expertphotography.com/10-ways-improve-your-marathon-photography/">http://expertphotography.com/10-ways-improve-your-marathon-photography/</a>





## 5. Amy Koughan: What to Know Before Becoming a Freelance Photographer

Successful freelance photographers, like Amy Koughan, quickly learned what was required to become a professional photographer, and adapted their skill set to achieve that goal. Although the idea of being a freelance artist, beholden to no one, is an attractive concept, the reality is that it requires dedication, hard work, confidence, and little luck to make it a profitable career.

The number of individuals who have become freelance artists was estimated in 2005 by the U.S. Department of Labor as around 10.3 million. That amount increased over the last decade, with more than four million freelancers in 2013, according to a group from Economic Modeling Specialists. Many freelancers have risen above these numbers by employing smart approaches to their business. Finding a specialty rather than trying to be or do too much in photography is more likely to bring in business, and thereby create success. It's also important for photographers to be aware of the competition in their market and also the demand that market clamors for.

Amy Koughan and other profitable and prominent freelance photographers know that talent is only one aspect of success; many talented photographers never see commercial success because they do not develop the necessary business acumen to promote and sell their work. Marketing one's work is vital, as is stating costs clearly and upfront, and getting all contracts in writing and signed. This means that photographers need to learn how to bid and price jobs so that they don't price themselves out of the market, but do make a profit for their talents and skills.

Source: <u>http://blog.photoshelter.com/2013/07/11-things-photographers-wish-they-knew-before-going-freelance/</u>

#### 6. Amy Koughan: Finding Continued Creativity in Photography

Amy Koughan, a freelance photographer and craft artist, knows that creative mediums like photography can often be in need of an injection of inspiration. Professional freelance photographers like Koughan





still love photography as an art itself, and find that approaching photography in different ways can help them find a new avenue to pursue in their craft.

Travel is an important aspect of photography, even within one neighborhood or city. Taking a series of pictures in certain perspectives, frames, and lights of neighborhoods, bridges, corner stores, can allow the photographer to find commonality through art. This approach in itself can be inspiring by presenting the photographer with a new way to look at an area. Some photographers also challenge themselves by picking a particular topic to photographer --- an object, shape, or color --- and focus only on that chosen item for the day's photos. Photographers can also have fun by creating a list and subsequent "scavenger's hunt" to find items to photograph throughout the course of the day.

Freelance photographers like Amy Koughan know the important role that creativity can play in inspiring new perspectives and capturing excellent shots. Some photographers may take a specific period of time to try different lights and speeds, or even focus on black-and-white pictures only. Those photographers who specialize in black-and-white photos may gain an entirely new view of their work in color. Creativity abounds in photography, and many artists can find new ideas, motivation, and encouragement from interacting with and following fellow photographers in online groups to inspire each other to keep the creative fires burning.

Source: <a href="http://digital-photography-school.com/7-photography-projects-to-jumpstart-your-creativity/">http://digital-photography-school.com/7-photography-projects-to-jumpstart-your-creativity/</a>

# 7. Amy Koughan: Entrepreneurship and the Photography Business

Many successful freelance photographers, such as Amy Koughan, became profitable in their careers by planning and managing their small businesses efficiently and effectively. There are some essential points that all photographers who are planning on running their own business need to contemplate before getting started.

When starting a small business, the freelance photographer should familiarize herself with all legal recourses necessary, such as state, federal, and local tax filings. Small business should be set up as such, and the photographer would be wise to learn about limited liability partnerships and incorporation to determine which process is best for her situation. The photographer then needs to get the word out





about her business and offerings; this can be done through social media and through meeting and networking with other small business owners and local venues.

There are also challenges that must be overcome in regards to customer contracts and relationships. Many professional photographers struggle to deal with the legal aspects of contracts that many clients may not fully understand upon signing. Extra efforts may be needed to help walk clients through the contract step by step, which can be time consuming and frustrating. Finding the right computer and automated programs for small business can often help alleviate these issues.

Amy Koughan and other freelance photographers who have grown their own small business have found great satisfaction in what they accomplish on a daily basis. Their creativity and final works of art allow them to take pride in their skills and talents, and what they have offered to the community at large.

Source: <a href="http://femaleentrepreneurassociation.com/2014/04/building-a-photography-business-2/">http://femaleentrepreneurassociation.com/2014/04/building-a-photography-business-2/</a>

# 8. Amy Koughan: Improving Swimming Photography

Amy Koughan, a professional freelance photographer and competitive swimmer, enjoys the inherent challenges found in taking shots of an athletic event that exists in two main mediums: in water and out. Professionally shooting swimming events presents difficulties in sight lines, perspective, and motion, aside from the underwater trials.

Taking successful professional photographs of competitive swimming events allows the photographer to take unique pictures of athletes in unusual surroundings. Although all athletic photographers need to prepare before an event, swimming requires the photographer to commit to extra preparation. The photographer needs to know the environment she will be shooting in before the event begins: is it an outdoor pool? Indoor pool? Where will photographers be able to take pictures? Are there any restrictions placed on photographers and where they can shoot? Additionally, equipment must be chosen in advance, from using scuba-gear to get crucial underwater shots to exposing a camera to a high-humidity indoor arena so it defogs in time.





Professional photographers like Amy Koughan, who specialize in athletic event photos, know the importance of getting to the meet location as early as possible to scout the area out, determine important vantage points, and to acclimate to the weather conditions. It is also crucial for the photographer to seek out the photo marshal for the event and get clear answers to questions about photo assignments or special requests. The photographer then needs to find an efficient workspace that is not hampered by advertisements, officials, or spectators, but that still grants her quick access to key locations for shooting excellent photographs of competitive swimmers.

Source: <u>http://www.imaginginfo.com/print/Studio-Photography/How-to-Shoot-World-Class-Swimming-Events/3\$3271</u>

# 1-400 Word Article

#### 1. Amy Koughan: Professional Freelance Photographers and Athletics

Successful professional freelance photographers with a penchant for athletic photography, like Amy Koughan, know how important it is for the freelancer to bid on or take a job and then follow through on it by producing excellent work. Many magazines, papers, and online sources who purchase work from freelance photographers are looking for artists who are hard-working problem-solvers, who are pure photographers who a wide variety of work, and who have a relationship with their subject that goes beyond the ordinary and typical.

As independent contractors, freelance photographers need to be able to work comfortably on their own, and often, solve unexpected problems that arise without pestering or bothering the client who has hired them. Clients want freelancers who work hard, are dedicated to the job, and who are professional in conduct. Freelancers need to remember that while on the job, they represent the client who hired them, both the individual and the larger company or corporate entity. Reputations are at stake, and the freelance photographer needs to be aware of this reality at all times.

Many clients hire freelance photographers for their art and skill, not for their post-production abilities. Photographers who rely too much on apps or computer programs to fix their work and make it marketable are missing out on the essence of the art of photography. The pure eye and ability to





photograph is necessary to be successful in this business. Most clients may want to hire a photographer to cover a marathon or tennis tournament, but want to see more than just standard sports pictures in the photographer's portfolio. Features printed online or in magazines may require photos that capture the athlete on the field and off, and must do so in a memorable and believable way.

Amy Koughan and other professional freelance photographers who focus on athletics also know that the photography needs to show a relationship with the subject that propels the photo above the average shot. The pictures need to capture the essence of the sport, or the athlete, or the event in a way that is eye-catching. This may be a picture of an athlete with his family, or in an environmental setting that is contrary to images of the athlete on the track or field. The photos need to stand out as sharing some aspect of the subject that hasn't been presented in quite that way before. By achieving these steps, the photographer can make some truly memorable work that stands the test of time.

Source: http://blog.photoshelter.com/2013/07/getting-hired-what-sports-illustrated-looks-for-in-photographers/

