

Top Tips

Having a family portrait is not something that you will do every week! That's why we've compiled the following tips to help you get the very best from your session.

1. Bring a change of outfits! Variety is the spice of life. The customers who get the best and most varied results always bring a change of outfits. Smart, casual, sporty, classic, the more the merrier! Usually 2 to 3 outfit changes is a good idea!
2. Matching outfits work well one very popular matching outfit is blue jeans and white shirts which looks very fresh and clean on our white backdrop.
3. Bring some Props. Bringing a selection of personal props adds that personal touch to your session. Our style of portraits is about reflecting the real you! Bringing props can add amazing results to your portraits.

Planning your portrait

Slimming Colours and Ideas

Most people prefer to look a little slimmer than they are; yes it's true that a camera adds ten pounds (at least). BUT, most photographers can correct that plus subtract a few extra pound by proper posing, turning your body to a better angle, and adjusting the camera angle or height. But it makes a big difference if you do the following:

To look slimmer try these:

- Darker Colours are slimming. Consider Black, Olive, Gray, Navy, Plum, Burgundy, Dark Brown, or Eggplant.
- Solid colours (monochromatic) are slimming
- One colour (darker) head to toe is slimming
- Vertical lines are slimming, consider vertical pleats or a long chain
- Instant flatter stomach: try pants with a flat front, No drawstrings, pockets, zippers, or decorations.
- No pockets! avoid a lot or bulky pockets that draw attention to the waist area.
- Dark, Dull Cool colours recede (slim), warm colours advance
- Use eye catching, shiny jewellery or objects to avert attention away from problem areas
- Simple lines are slimming, consider A Line Skirts, collared blazers and blouses
- Shoulder pads (small rounded) have a slimming effect
- Single breasted jackets or blazers are slimming
- Heels add height and therefore are slimming on a full length portrait
- An interesting or long neckline draws attention from other areas
- Good posture always makes you look slimmer

- Wear your proper size. You'll look slimmer in clothes that fit properly rather than too tight.

To look slimmer **AVOID** these:

- Lighter colours (white, most pastels etc) make you look heavier
- Bold patterns, shiny fabrics, heavy fabrics make you look heavier
- Short sleeves make upper arms look wider
- Do not draw additional attention to the waist area so avoid any horizontal dividing lines, like belts or a different colour.
- Horizontal lines make you look heavier avoid belts and wide collars or wide lapels
- Double breasted jackets or blazers add weight

More ideas

- White or pastel colours work best against a light or pastel backdrop.
- Avoid glasses, especially tinted glasses, whenever possible. They compromise the lighting and distort the facial lines. Pop the lenses out, or borrow a pair of frames.
- Tinted glasses are virtually impossible to work with.
- Non-glare glasses are often okay, and the newer style small frames seem to pose no major obstacles.
- Avoid big sloppy running shoes, especially ones that used to be white. Watch tight shirts on larger mid-areas. Men-watch out for that “five-o’clock shadow”. Ladies- no more make-up than is the norm. Avoid new hairstyles. Avoid mini-skirts, unless it is a fashion statement. Clothing should not be too tight or too loose.
- Your portraits are meant to be enjoyed and cherished for years to come. Fad type clothing should be avoided, unless you are planning to have a portrait taken annually.

