

INFANTS:

Infants are best photographed during the first two weeks after birth, during this time, have that special freshly born look. Nothing photographs as beautifully as baby skin, but it's best to moisturize your baby's skin before the shoot for their best complexion. Babies can be photographed wearing a diaper or diaper cover. Be aware of clothing that will constrict the skin and leave marks.

Newborn to 5 months - Since your baby is not able to sit up yet, candid portraits work best. Your baby may be smiling, not smiling, or even sleeping! All three are precious. This is a good time to consider a Mother/Baby Portrait!

Ages 6 months to 1 year - Babies at this age are normally able to sit up, and will respond well with smiles. Babies 6-9 months should be able to sit or stand holding onto something. One-year olds can usually stand and a variety of poses can be photographed.

Ages 1-3 years - Your child is walking and running, and likes to be independent, making the session much more challenging! You may want to bring things the child likes to play with to include in the portrait.

Ages 4 and Up - Your child is verbalizing well by now, and is often shy to strangers. This is normally overcome by talking about things he or she is interested in. No need to stress over your child smiling perfectly. It's more important to capture a natural expression

CHILDREN:

Avoid logos, stripes, and distracting patterns. For fall or winter, textured clothing is a nice choice. For spring or summer, slip dresses for girls or denim overalls for boys is a traditional option. Bare feet are always preferred. Fun extras such as knit hats, scarves or favorite toys can add variety and interest.

Coordinate clothing when photographing multiple children, remembering that color and style should be similar from head to toe. Adding lotion on the face and lip balm on the lips makes a significant difference in close up face shots. Parents should clean their child's face, eyes, nose, and lips prior to the session.

Clothing choice is a very important part of creating beautiful and timeless portraits. Select clothing that is comfortable and reflects the subject's personality. Also, think of how you will be displaying your finished portraits. You may want to choose clothing that will coordinate with your home decor and/or frame selection.

FAMILY:

Clothing for group portraits must be carefully selected to blend bodies together. Solid colors within the same color family are most appropriate for photographs with two or more people, when trying to convey a sense of unity. If each subject wears something with completely different it becomes distracting.

SOME POPULAR EXAMPLES: • White tops with Khaki or Denim bottoms. • All Black or Black tops and Khaki or Denim bottoms. • Shades of Tans, Browns and Creams. • Different shades of Blue tops with Khaki bottoms. • All White from head to toe with bare feet.

GRADUATES:

Solid clothing photographs much better! Although certain styles will be "in", we suggest you avoid clothing that has wording on it. Bring a couple different tones (light & dark) of clothing color so a wider variety of backgrounds can be utilized.

Avoid changing your hairstyle or cutting your hair just before your photo session. Let it be natural. Hairstyle changes during your session are OK but will result in a loss of camera time.

Braces - Our computer experts can remove the braces for an extra charge and it's worth it if you want to show a beautiful smile. Ask us for details.

BRING PROPS! They define who you are. Sports equipment, uniforms, musical instruments are all great. Anything from skateboards to dance shoes can be incorporated.

BUSINESS SESSIONS:

How do you want to portray yourself—conservative, friendly, artsy, approachable? Dress accordingly. When in doubt, professional is always good, and friendly usually is too. If you're unsure about what to wear for a business portrait session, it's hard to go wrong with conservative business attire. Gentlemen, feel free to add a splash of color with a tie. If you'll be wearing jewelry, simple and conservative is better than big and bold.

GENERAL RETOUCHING:

(Ask your photographer for details.)