

Clothing Guidelines for your Family Portrait Session

Keep it simple!

Although clothing is an important factor in a portrait the most important part of your family portrait is each person's expression and the relationships between you. It is the expression that will make you love your portrait because it is the expressions that remind you of each person's unique personality. This is where your heart strings are attached – your heart strings are attached to each person's special twinkle within their eyes.

Glasses:

If you wear glasses you may consider asking your frame supplier if you could borrow an empty set of frames for your session. There is typically no charge for this. Lenses distort your eyes. Although artwork can be done to correct distortions it can be time intensive to make the corrections which would add artwork charges to your order.

Children's tips:

Stay away from busy outfits that compete for attention in the portrait. Avoid bold, bright patterns and emblems.

Classic cuts and styles will bring attention to your child's adorable features, not the clothing.

Dress babies in light-weight, soft, stretchy material. Avoid heavy material such as denim and corduroy.

Shoes are optional ... in most cases we prefer bare feet and so do the children. Cute little toes are much more fun to view than the bottom of a shoe. Socks only are also a good option. The socks should match the color of the pants, when pants are worn.

DO NOT COACH CHILDREN. The photographer needs to illicit an expression, but if a child has been coached then they will

Men's clothing tips:

Wear solid colors.

Avoid word and logos on your clothing.

Have a clean, fresh shave. If you have a beard or mustache, make sure that it is trimmed and shaped.

Women's clothing tips:

Wear solid colors. Prints will 'date' a portrait and make you look heavier.

If you create a fluid line between your top and your slacks or jeans it will be more slimming. Do not create a distinctive separation between the top and bottom. This will draw attention to your mid-section.

Do not wear exaggerated neck-lines. This includes a scoop neck, turtleneck or boat neck. A "V" neckline is most flattering.

Pose in your clothes. Sit on the floor or in a chair in front of a full length mirror. How do your clothes look?

Keep jewelry simple. It is better to go without jewelry than to wear trendy jewelry.

Wear your hair and make-up as you would naturally wear them.

Family clothing tips:

It is VERY IMPORTANT that everyone is dressed similarly. You should blend with one another. You should look like a family and not individuals or teams of people.

Varying necklines, layers and textures add depth and richness to a portrait.

If anyone is dressed differently than others in the family that person will stand out and be prominent in the portrait.

I will be happy to share more tips and ideas with you. Please give me a call. Thank You!



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