

## **Senior Portraits Tips**

### **Clothing:**

Avoid wearing white, stripes and loud, busy patterns. Choose clothing with solid colors and/or very small patterns. Burgundy, blue, purple, and green work well. Consider how your clothing colors complement or detract from your skin coloring.

Pastels and very light colors tend to photograph lighter than you would expect. Darker colors bring out skin tones better than lighter colors.

Make sure clothing is as wrinkle free as possible and fits you well, baggy or clothes that are too loose fitting will adversely affect the image, as will clothing that seems uncomfortably tight.

### **Hats:**

You can bring a hat to put on sometime during your session if you wish. We recommend that if you usually wear a hat all day – don't on the day of your portrait session. (They make hair rings.)

Bring it with you and have a few shots taken with it on after the other "hatless" portraits have been taken.

### **Shine Reduction:**

Oil on skin creates shiny spots on your face when a flash is used. To reduce shiny spots apply, a light dusting of baby powder or cosmetic powder to your face. Spots most likely to shine are noses, cheeks, chins, and foreheads. (This applies to guys too!)

### **Acne:**

Don't worry too much if you have acne or blemishes. Retouching works wonders! To help create even skin tones, you can dab a bit of concealer on your blemishes (This applies to guys too).

If you have very heavy acne, it is best not to cover it with hair (such as bangs). Bangs over acne makes retouching more difficult.

### **Glasses:**

Light reflected from a flash in eyeglass lenses can create white spots. To reduce this occurrence, you can check to see if your lenses have a glare resistant coating. Ask your optometrist to temporarily remove your lenses or borrow a set of frames similar to the ones you usually wear.

### **Hair:**

For your portraits, you want your hair to look its best. We recommend that if you are planning to have it cut before your portrait session, have it done at least one to two weeks before. This gives it a chance to grow out and look natural.

### **Facial Hair:**

If you have a heavy beard and don't want that "shadow" to show, please shave before you come to the studio for your session. You can always shave your goatee after the first set of poses to have two different looks.

**Jewelry/Watches:**

Try to remember to wear only the things you want in your portrait. If you wear a watch, but it's not a "special" watch, it's usually best to take it off...even if you have a tan line.

**Sports Equipment:**

If you are in sports and want photographs with your letterman jacket – bring it!

If you have special hobby, equipment or a musical instrument – bring it!

If you plan to be photographed with something big...like a fire engine or horse...bring that too! But please make sure to let me know prior to scheduling so that I can do so accordingly. (Probably should give the fire company a heads up too!)

**Car:**

Love your car? Lets use it! In a photo session with a car, most of the images will highlight you with sections of your car visible in the background.

**Pets:**

Pets are welcome to join you provided that you bring someone along to hold them while your session is in progress.

**Attitude:**

Believe it or not, your attitude makes a big difference in how your portraits turn out. Many people arrive at our studio feeling nervous....we understand that you may feel stress about wanting to look your very best. That's what we want too! Try to relax and have fun.

**Music:**

I love all kinds of music, so if you have a favorite artist, CD, mix-tape, or playlist, bring it along. I have iPod and mp3 connectors and CD players for any area. Having music playing during your session will put you and I at ease and can add a fun pro-photo-shoot feel to the experience.

**Don't Forget Your Parents:**

Your Senior Portrait definitely makes a statement about who you are and how you will be remembered by your peers. But don't forget that this is also a special time for your parents too.

After all, their baby has grown up! Your parents will probably be the ones who will want to hang larger prints of you in their home. After you have moved away, your portrait will be all the more meaningful to them. We encourage you to involve your parents in the whole portrait process.

They are more than welcome to come to your portrait session with you. They can tell us if your smiles are genuine, make sure your hair is arranged just how you want it and they can work with us if they have a certain look they want us to capture. Parents are invaluable!

**Friends:**

Your friends are welcome to join you for your Senior Portrait photography session. If you want a few shots taken with your friend(s), I'll include them at no additional charge.

Perhaps if your friend hasn't scheduled his or her Senior Portrait session yet, you may be able to schedule them together and share this special experience!