



ellen cohan

PHOTOGRAPHY

Tips for Your Portrait Session

Generally Speaking:

- Allow enough time for your session so you won't be rushed.
- Bring something to drink or nibble on if you like
- These are just guidelines, be true to your own personal style.
- Prepare for something different and relax. Enjoy. Have some fun



Basic Wardrobe Tips

Choose wardrobe to reflect the look you want: fun, casual, formal.

- Bring several wardrobe choices. I can help you choose the best outfits.
- Solids and simple patterns are best, avoid plaids, checks and bold stripes
- Avoid light colors that approximate flesh tones such as beige, peach, pink, white, and yellow
- For a formal look, choose mid-tone and deep tones
- For a range of style options, choose neutral, soft or mid-range colors
- For a casual or romantic look, choose light colors
- Avoid orange or red near the face if possible
- Long sleeves work better than short
- Scoop necklines or v-necks flatter fuller faces and shorter necks
- Turtlenecks and higher necklines flatter slender faces and long necks
- Keep jewelry small and simple
- Good undergarments go unnoticed, bad ones don't
- Dress from head to toe including shoes, socks, and belts for each outfit.
- Make sure clothing is clean, pressed and ready to go.



Hair, Makeup

- Bring a comb or brush for touch up. Cut or color your hair at least one week prior to session.
- Fingernails and toenails should have fresh polish for women, and be clean and trimmed for men.
- Keep makeup light and natural
- Men, a fresh close shave is absolutely necessary; neatly trim facial hair
- Avoid sunburn
- If you want your make up done professionally, you can easily go to a department store and have your makeup done for the purchase of a lipstick or blush. MAC and Chanel do a very good job. Ask for a makeup artist that knows how to do makeup for photography.
- If doing your own makeup: Eye makeup should be blended - no sharp demarcation lines between colors. AVOID WHITE above or below the eyes. Foundation makeup should be blended at the jawline, so that there is no demarcation between the face and the neck



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Executive/Business Portraits

Business portraits should reflect the style and image you want to project.

- Suits often represent tradition and professionalism. They should be crisp and well pressed with ties or scarves and jewelry simple and understated.
- Dark colors suggest more authority.
- If a suit is not your choice, regular business attire works just as well.

Casual Portraits

Your personality is multi-layered and your clothing reflects that. We recommend you bring the following:

- Casual Outfits. Bring one that is light & one that is medium/dark/bright for day and night (well fitting jeans work great)
- Classic/Formal/Dressy/Tailored, or something other than very casual
- Specialty/Unique Outfit such as a special dress, tux, or something for the evening
- Plan on 2-3 wardrobe changes or more

Remember

- If it needs ironing, iron it before you leave home
- Jewelry, keep it simple and to a minimum.
- Bring the accessories so you're prepared to dress head to toe. That means shoes, socks, belts, ties, etc.
- Select a pair of shoes to coordinate with each of your outfits
- And finally, ladies, for each outfit, consider what you wear underneath. An appropriate undergarment goes unnoticed while the wrong garment spoils everything
- **These are only guidelines. Wear styles that reflect your personality**

Most Importantly

- Relax and enjoy yourself. This will be fun and you will get some great photos to show for it.