

## **SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR GUYS**

### **ARRIVE EARLY**

If you are scheduled from 3:00 - 4:30 and show up late or not ready, you will have less time in the camera room. If you need to get ready here (check hair, etc.) please arrive early enough to be ready by your start time.

### **CLOTHING**

First of all AVOID STRIPES AND PLAID!! Solids photograph much better! Also bring a variety of color, don't bring 5 blue outfits even if it is your favorite color. Avoid large, bold brand names or words on clothing. I'm sure you can think of a few big names from just a few years ago, you would not be caught dead wearing now. No need to make your portraits advertising billboards for a clothing brand. Vary the style; all one look (like tanks or T's) gets boring. Vary the dress level, bring some dressy, some medium and some casual. Remember, it is best to do one or two outfits that mom will like, and then we can do the stuff YOU like.

Bring a dark t-shirt to wear under dark shirts. A white t-shirt triangle under a dark shirt sticks out like a sore thumb. So bring a black or gray.

Our new sessions let you do unlimited looks within your time period. This means if you change fast, you get more variety. Spend all day in the dressing room; and you get less time in front of the camera. Most people can get 4-5 looks per hour and more if you are quick and work easy. We suggest you bring double what you think we will do so we have more to pick from.

Some shots are close up, others are full length. Plan outfits completely. It is hard to do a full length (formal in your suit) if all you brought was big old tennis shoes or (in the rocks with jeans, boots work better).

Also remember, as a general rule, light clothes look better on lighter backgrounds and darker clothes look better on darker backgrounds. So if you prefer dark, bring dark, if you prefer some of both, bring some of both.

Group your outfits together ON HANGARS. It is amazing how many people come in with clothes stuffed in a plastic bag and wonder why they are wrinkled! Please make sure they are ironed.

### **SHAVING**

Please make sure you are clean shaven. Retouching stubble costs extra and still does not look as good as a clean shave. Got a goatee that mom hates, but you love? Do your casual shots first with it on, then bring a razor and go to the

restroom and shave it off for mom's formals. Everyone is happy that way! You will be when it grows back.

## **HAIR**

Avoid cutting your hair right before your session. Let it be natural. You do not want that "I just stepped out of the barber shop look!" Although our photographer tries to help with hair, it is hard to know what your hair "is supposed to look like". So make sure you like the look or let the photographer know your preferences. Hair style is ultimately YOUR responsibility.

## **PROPS**

BRING THEM!! Bring props that help define who you are. Some popular choices are: Sports equipment (soccer ball, football, hockey stick, hurdle, whatever), sports uniforms, music instruments (from school tuba to rock guitar), activities (dance apparel and shoes, swimming, hobbies, you name it!), vehicles; i.e. motorcycles, cars, trucks, we suggest more than an hour session to include your vehicle.

## **GLASSES**

Most glasses glare and some prescriptions more than others. Your best bet is to check with your optometrist. Most will "loan" you an empty set of frames similar to yours for your photo session. This is particularly helpful if the lenses are strong enough to distort the side of the face seen through the lens.

## **COMPLEXION**

We retouch blemishes, so don't worry about minor breakouts. We even now offer an inexpensive option to retouch your entire folio or album!

## **PETS**

Pets are OK as long as they are house broken but it is a good idea to have someone to bring a pet, and then leave with them after. Or bring a pet carrier to contain them while you are being photographed without them. Treats can be helpful to hold a dog's attention.

## **FRIENDS & PARENTS**

Friends or parents are welcome. They can be a help. HOWEVER, if they distract you, it is best to have them pick you up after. You can have a couple of shots with a boyfriend, girlfriend, best friend or sibling at no extra charge.

## **WEATHER FOR OUTDOOR PORTRAITS**

Let's face it, we are at the mercy of mother nature. If it rains, no fretting will do anything about it, we simply have to reschedule. Don't worry about clouds, they actually HELP! But rain falling IS a problem. If it is a morning session, we will take your phone number home with us and call you if we need to cancel due to weather, otherwise, we are on! If it is a daytime and the weather is questionable, simply call the studio.

### **TATTOOS, SCARS and BRACES**

Just let the photographer know if you want tattoos to show or not. It is that easy. Scars are not automatically retouched, but can be removed or softened at your request. Extensive work may have a slight extra charge. Braces? Don't worry. You could have the tops taken off for your photo session, or we can retouch them out by computer. But don't fight smiling; a braces' smile is better than a dorky holding back a smile look.