

YOUR PHOTO SESSION: What Women Need to Know

We will consult well ahead of time until we are all clear on what you wish. In the meantime, below you will find some general guidelines.

Outfits:

- Please bring several outfits to choose from: we can come out when you arrive to help you carry them.
- Open looks, like v-neck or shirts that can be unbuttoned, usually work best. Generally it is better to avoid stark white shirts: off-white is better if you want a light color. Avoid turtle necks, especially ones with dark colors as they optically cut off the head.
- Choose colors that flatter your skin tone. Solid colors usually bring the most attention to the face. Black jackets often look too serious and heavy, so bring an alternative.
- Consider also what you would like to express and what would look good on your website. Casual? Elegant? A variety? Think: first date in coffee shop to a sophisticated four-star dinner.
- Make sure the clothes are fitting well, not too tight or too loose. You want to give an idea of your body without overemphasizing it.
- Make sure you wear a good fitting bra that does not show through fabric, especially if you don't wear a jacket. Skin tone and smooth material is a good idea.
- Bring at least one pair of matching pants or skirt. Even when we are photographing headshots, an edge of the lower body might be included in the image. It also gives you a different feeling if you are "complete" in your outfit and don't have to hide anything.
- Please do **NOT** wear clothes with thin vertical or horizontal lines, or with small checks or small patterns in lines. They often create unpredictable and moving Moiré patterns on screens that are *very* distracting.
- Most important, choose clothes that make you breathe and move freely, that make you feel good for yourself as well as in front of others.

Makeup and Accessories:

- Some make up is good, mainly to accentuate the eyes and the lips and to even out the skin tone. Avoid eyeliner or black under the eyes as it easily gets too heavy. Avoid makeup with special sunscreens as they can throw off the camera. Please come prepared, so we can make best use of your time, but bring your makeup for adjustments.
- We can also refer you to a professional makeup artist who can also do basic hair styling.
- Hair is one of the hardest items to retouch in postproduction. If your hair is at its best the day of the shoot, your images will reflect this.
- Please bring a few accessories you like. If you have and usually wear a watch, rings, bracelets, things around the neck, please bring them. It can give some color and style to the photo. Pearls often lighten up the skin tone. Whatever style you present should fit with your message, of course.
- Please allow yourself enough time as we will spend some time warming up. If possible, do not schedule anything immediately after your shoot, so you can stay relaxed. Also, if they apply to you, please see how to prepare for Company, Group, and other kinds of shoots.

Location:

We can come to you, or you can come to our studio. We also have the capability to do shoots remotely wherever you may be: contact us for more on that.

If you are coming to our studio, we are twenty minutes from downtown, north of Seattle, and just off I-5 in Shoreline. We will send you our address and directions, and you will have your own off-street parking spot right next to the entrance.