

# Preparation

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PHOTOGRAPHY

## YOUR FAMILY PORTRAIT: What You 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.*

### General:

A family can be any collection of individuals who wish to create an image of themselves together. Pets are also welcome.

### Outfits:

- For suggestions on selecting outfits that will look the best in photos, [please see](#) the separate preparation portrait guides for women, men, and children on our site if you do not have them already.
- Colors: No need for you all to dress in the same colors unless you have a special reason, such as team uniforms. Choose outfits that look flattering and make you feel good. However, for a pleasing look of the final image, it is good for all of you to choose colors that go well with each other.
- Style: Consider your style and the look that expresses the core qualities of your family. Dress-down casual, urban, rustic, stylish, edgy or even tux and gowns: it's up to you. For an elegant sophisticated look, black and off-whites with shades of gray look great. Go with browns, yellows, and reds if you want a warmer look. Big patterns and logos on t-shirts are tricky and best avoided unless what everyone is wearing go perfectly together. If in doubt, however, just bring them along, but with some backups as well.
- Style Level: it is usually best that everybody in the image is on the same level of dressed-up or dressed-down. If you go against this principle, know why. If you are not sure, decide what you can beforehand and, if necessary, we can sort it out on site.
- Bring several outfits, at least three. More is better.
- We will be able to do several different versions and styles. You can change outfits between sessions, mix and match, and have fun.

### Makeup and Accessories:

For suggestions on makeup and accessories for women, men, and children, [please see](#) the separate preparation portrait guides for women, men, and children on our site if you do not have them already.

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We will spend some time warming up, so please allow enough time. If possible, do not schedule anything immediately after your shoot, so you can stay relaxed. If children will be part of the shoot, and they generally have a better time of day, for instance mornings, let us know and we will take that into account when scheduling.

### Location and Parking:

Our [studio](#) is in Ballard is just a few blocks from the old one in a recently renovated multi-story brick building. We are now at 3060 NW Market St, Seattle, WA 98107 just on the corner of 32nd. Our ground-floor Market Street entrance is on the north side of the street: look for "3060" above the door.

### Parking:

There is two hour free parking on the street, but only between 11:30 AM and 3 PM. Don't even think about parking there at other times during the day as the parking police are relentless. However, you can often find a space just around the corner on 32nd, and we have usually been able to find a space just one block up on 56th. If you are bringing a lot of clothes, let us know so we can assist you in carrying them.