

TIPS and TRICKS for your SENIOR PORTRAIT

Yes, senior photos are such an important part of your Senior year, so maybe you're putting some pressure on yourself to get the perfect photo shoot. Do you want to know the secret to getting that perfect picture? **Be yourself.** Getting the *best images* of you means capturing the most *authentic version* of you! Sounds simple, right? It is if you have a photographer with experience to make that happen. And with a few suggestions to help you get ready for the session, you have the perfect opportunity for a perfect portrait and an amazing and memorable senior portrait session.

- Choose outfits that make you feel good.

As a general rule, we usually suggest three outfits; one dressy, one casual and one fun. Solid colors work the best, whichever colors work best for you. White may wash you out, and black generally shows no detail. Stay away from stripes and patterns, and anything that is too vibrant or wild that would draw attention away from your face. It's about *you*, not your clothing, so no need to overthink it. If you can't decide and want to bring a few extra outfits, we'd be happy to help choose the ones that would make you the most photogenic.

- Girls: makeup and hairstyle should match your style

The right skincare and makeup is important to achieve the most flattering look. Some types of makeup can result in too much shine, while others can cause a very flat look. We offer a professional senior portrait makeup service to give you the right look so you don't have to worry it. If you'd rather do it yourself, remember to use a non-mineral based foundation, accentuate your eyes, and add a bit extra cheek color to bring out that healthy glow. In general, keep your makeup natural, just a bit heavier than you'd normally wear it.

It is a good idea to wear your hair the way you normally wear it. Pick a style that you know you love and have tried before. We also offer a professional hairstylist that can help you achieve the most flattering yet natural look.

Your hands are usually visible in most of the shots, so having a fresh manicure is a good idea (and a good way to pamper yourself before your big photo shoot!) Avoid the trendy look of bright or unnatural colors. We want your images to be timeless and that you look back and still love your photos. A soft, neutral color is recommended.

- Guys and girls: Even though getting a tan may make you feel more confident, use caution.

We recommend staying out of direct sunlight for at least a couple days prior to your session, or make sure you are using a good sunscreen. We are the most experienced retouchers around, but sunburn gets a bit tricky. Don't worry about blemishes, bruises or skin imperfections. We will very naturally remove them.

- Personalize your photoshoot

Props can be fun. Or not. It's up to you. If you play an instrument or sport and you'd like to have a memory of that part of your life at this time, bring it to your session. Creativity is our passion, so the more options we have, the better. You could wear jewelry that is meaningful or your class ring. You could pick a location that has good memories tied to it. There are lots of ways to make this experience special to you. It is important that we capture the most authentic you, so having a personalized session that fits your likes/dislikes is important.

HAVE FUN!

That's what it's all about!

