

## Dress for Success

**Choosing the right clothing is your best preparation for creating a Beautiful Portrait! In Fine Portraiture, You want your viewer's eyes to look at your face. Your face should be brighter than your clothing, and your clothing should not draw attention to itself.**

- **Clothing Colors** - Choose darker **solid colors**. (Solid darker clothing makes us look slim.)
- **Patterns** - Avoid stripes, patterns and plaids. **Even a single stripe across a shirt or sweater will adversely affect your portrait.**
- **Texture** - Clothing with texture creates warmth and interest. A thick knit sweater has a different feel than a tightly knitted one. Silk has a sheen that is delightful.
- **Hair** - Trim Your hair one or two weeks prior to your Portrait Session so it does not have that fresh-cut look.
- **Families** - Simplicity and Solid Colors create Elegance! Choose **solid color** shades that **blend together**. You do not want family members to stand out from each other. Blended colors suggests **unity** and **family closeness**. Avoid contrasting colors. For example: Do not mix a light skirt with a dark blouse.
- Dress your family in the same timeless style and in the same tonal range. Black, Blues, Dark Grays, Browns, and Burgundies do best. Everyone should **wear long sleeves**.

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- **Men** - Wear simple, **solid color** shirts with collars and a simple textured sweater, formal coat or tux. **No White T-shirts** or clothing that advertises for a team or product, for example: Nike! Be sure your undershirt does not show beneath your shirt. **Wear Long Sleeves.**
  - **Women** - A **solid colored** blouse with a simple sweater works great. A "V" neck provides a base for your head and guides the eye upwards towards your face. Skirts and dresses should cover the knees. Use simple earrings, necklace chains, and rings. A single pearl or diamond -- a small cross or a plain gold chain is all that is needed to look Elegant. **Wear Long Sleeves.**
  - **Children** - Kids look adorable in oversized sweaters and coats. Well worn overalls and jeans outfits look great, too! Keep kids in **solid colors** and long sleeves. Short sleeves are fine for infants and young children.
  - **Shoes and Socks** - Wear dark socks and shoes. If everything else is dark and muted, but your socks and / or shoes are lighter, your viewer's eyes will travel from your face down to your feet.
- Note to Parents:** Check your children's hands and arms for drawings and friend's phone numbers. You will save yourself costly specialized retouching fees.
- More Questions? Call us! We're here to help!

**208.777.1818**

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