



# Planning your Senior Session

## Planning Your Senior Portrait Session

Pre-planning and communication will help insure a successful senior portrait session.

We want your senior portrait session to be a success so we created these tips to help your session be more fun and help make it memorable.

### **Arrive on Time.**

If you are running late you will be stressed and will not arrive relaxed and ready to enjoy your session. In addition we sometimes schedule portrait sessions after your scheduled time. We do not want to rush through your senior portraits or ask you to re-schedule because of a late arrival.

Something else to consider is that if your session is scheduled late in the day a late arrival may cause us to miss the best light.

### **Plan Ahead.**

Take a few minutes the night before your senior portrait session to lay your clothes and accessories out so you are not trying to grab things and rush to your portrait session.

### **Non-clothing items to consider**

You should bring items that show who you are. Typical items that Seniors want to have in their portraits are:

- cars
- motorcycles
- sports items - jerseys, awards, trophies
- hunting equipment including guns
- friends, siblings
- musical instruments
- pets are welcome - We have seen snakes, dogs, cats, horses, and rats.
- special collections including teddy bears, dolls, and anything that is important to them

### **Plan The Clothing for your Senior Portrait Session.**

Large prints is not recommended because they will draw the viewers eye away from you. There is no limit to outfit changes so feel free to bring some extras. It is OK to experiment

with portrait clothing and accessory ideas.

You should get everything ready the night before your session. When you are prepared for your senior photography session you will be more relaxed the day of the shoot.

If you are not sure how to get organized here are some hints:

- Put each outfit on a hanger. Put jewelry and shoes in a plastic zip lock bag and hang it on the hanger with the clothing it goes with.
- Don't forget grooming items such as makeup, hair care items, and some additional jewelry.

## **Senior Photography Clothing Suggestions**

### For the Men:

Men usually like plain T-shirts, jackets, and especially letter jackets.

Mom will often want to see you in a long sleeve shirts.

Jeans, and khaki pants are popular. Please remember black socks.

Bring a variety of outfits that are different in color and style. Mom will probably have some ideas too.

### For the Women:

Fashion magazine are a great place to get ideas. For a particular look, bring it along. If you normally wear make-up bring it. If not, don't. We want you to look comfortable and natural.

Bring a variety of clothing styles and colors. Typically, you will want to cover the range from comfortable to formal.

4-shirts are not as popular with the woman.

Bring clothes you like and maybe some you know Mom likes too.

## **Make some notes on what kind of Senior Portraits you want**

We have a lot of photography examples on our website and we try to change them out often. If you see one you like feel free to print the page or just take notes on it. We always have new ideas for our seniors. In fact, one of my goals is to do something new for each of my Seniors. During the session you will be excited and it can be easy to miss a special portrait that you wanted.

## **Bringing Pets and Friends**

Having a friend or a pet in your photos is part of the fun of your senior portrait experience. If you bring a friend they are welcome in several photos and they will also be able to brag that they helped. If you bring a pet, please make sure there is a safe way for the pet to be out of

the way and not distracting you.

### **Plan Your Hair Style**

If you are planning on a hair cut have it done about a week before.

If you want to change your hair style to match a particular outfit you are welcome to use our dressing room. Feel free to make adjustments to show off your style.

### **Make-up**

Sometimes we are asked about makeup for photography. The general rule is slightly heavier, like you might for a special night out.

Generally speaking, you don't need to wear much. Concealer will even out skin tone and powder will help with any unwanted shine. Lip gloss is an excellent finishing touch to emphasize your lips.

### **Glasses**

Unfortunately most glasses have glare, and some prescriptions have more than others.

Our digital artwork can remove some glare in your senior portraits, but sometimes we can't.

### **Sunburn and Fast Pre-Portrait Session Tans**

Avoid excessive sun prior to your session. Red and peeling do not photograph well.

Yes, a suntan can enhance your photographs but harsh tan lines are very unappealing. If you are tanning, move the straps around so that you don't develop tan lines.

### **Moles, Beauty Marks, Tattoos and Piercing's**

Let us know if you want something emphasized in your Senior Portraits or down played. Also, when you order, make sure to tell us in writing what we should retouch.

If you have any additional questions please call us. 316-258-8003.