

rodneymargison

photography

Senior Portrait Session Tips

We know that your Senior Portrait Session can be a bit intimidating and want to make the event as relaxing as possible for you. Through our experience, we've found the following tips, hints and suggestions to be quite useful:

Clothing

- Solid colors are best. Use caution with prints, plaids and stripes.
- Your clothing should be selected to compliment you, your personality and lifestyle. Got a favorite shirt or jacket that "defines" you? Bring it!
- What's your flavor: Hot? Medium? Mild? It's OK to be HOT, but mom and dad might prefer to see you in something a little tamer. Choose your wardrobe to satisfy your taste, but be sure to take care of your parents, as well.
- Bring a variety of clothing: Formal, fashion, casual, business, swimsuit, glamorous, sports and/or work uniform, etc. Don't, however, bring too many of any one style of clothing.
- Some of your poses will include full- and ¾-length portraits, so plan accordingly when selecting your outfits.
- Don't forget the shoes! Surprisingly, they are often overlooked.

Props and Accessories

- We encourage the use of props and accessories in your Senior Portraits. Some suggestions include musical instruments, sports accessories and equipment, pets, best friends, vehicles, etc.
- Let us know well in advance of the shoot whether you intend to use your vehicle as a prop so that we can plan an appropriate location. Information about your vehicle, such as make, model, color, etc., is also helpful.
- Choose props and accessories that are important to you and your personality, but don't overdo it. The props in your portraits shouldn't take away from the most important part of the image, YOU!
- If you would like your favorite pet in your Senior Portraits, please remember that he/she will need a "sitter." All pets must be housebroken and don't forget to bring a leash, treats, water or anything else that might help make your pet more comfortable.

Hair and Makeup

- You are responsible for your own hair and makeup. Our staff will do our best to make suggestions, but we are not professionals in those areas and prefer to leave them to the experts.
- Style your makeup as you would for a night on the town – a little more than day makeup – but avoid makeup with sparkles and mascara with clumps.
- Normal hair is best, whatever makes you the most comfortable and portrays you in the most genuine way. Don't try to change your hairstyle at the last minute at the risk of experiencing a "What was I thinking?" moment sometime down the road.
- GUYS – A clean shave is always best. If you want the "five o'clock shadow" look in your casual photos, be sure to bring a razor so you can clean up before the formal shots are taken for mom.

Other

- Parents are encouraged to attend the Portrait Session with their Senior. If mom or dad has a particular pose they would like us to try, let us know and we'll do our best to replicate it.
- Friends are also permitted to accompany you to your Senior Session. But please limit your "posse" to just one or two friends and/or your parents.
- We like just about any kind of music, so if there's something specific you think would help you feel more relaxed in front of the camera, bring along a CD or two or your MP3 player to plug into our speakers.