These tips are to help make sure your family portraits are the best they can be.

ARRIVE EARLY Please arrive about 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment time. This will allow you time to check in, bring in and arrange your clothes, fix your hair if needed. You will have a chance to look through examples, props and setting selections to give you ideas of what you might like for your portrait.

CLOTHING Solids photograph very well! Avoid clothing that has excessive wording on it. Plan outfits completely. Also remember, as a general rule, light clothes look better on lighter backgrounds and darker clothes look better on darker backgrounds. So if you prefer dark, bring dark, if you prefer some of both, bring some of both.

HAIR Avoid changing your hairstyle or cutting your hair right before your session. Let it be natural.

Although we pay special attention to your hair to keep "fly aways" down, it is hard to know what your hair "is supposed to look like". So make sure you like the look or let us know your preferences.

JEWELRY Best tip here, keep it simple. We want the attention on you.

GLASSES Most glasses glare! Some prescriptions more than others. Your best bet is to check with your optometrist. Most will "loan" you an empty set of frames similar to yours for your photo session. This will eliminate the "glass glare" that most glasses give. Please remember, if you choose to wear your glasses there could be a computer charge to remove the glare.

SUNBURN/TANNING AVOID SUNBURN! Sunburn and peeling skin DO NOT photograph well!! Tan, yes, burn, no. If you are a winter or spring session and your tan has faded, you might consider tanning. But don't overdue.

Portraits by Theresa

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COMPLEXION We **Retouch** blemishes, (included in our print cost), so don't worry about minor breakouts. Retouching smoothes complexions only. Altering backgrounds or clothing is called Artwork and is an additional fee.

WEATHER FOR OUTDOOR PORTRAITS Let's face it; we are at the mercy of Mother Nature. If it rains, no fretting will do anything about it, we simply have to reschedule the outdoor sessions or do indoor portraits. Don't worry about clouds, they actually HELP! But rain falling IS a problem. We will call you if we need to cancel due to weather, otherwise, we are on! If the weather is questionable, simply call the studio.

SPECIAL CONCERNS FOR GIRLS

CLOTHING STYLES Make sure your clothing flatters you. If you think you have large arms, be careful of sleeveless styles, they can make your arms look fuller.

MAKEUP Makeup should only be slightly heavier than normal, like you might wear in the evening. Mascara should be clean and contain no clumps. Avoid makeup with "sparkles" in it. When you move, it makes a nice shimmer, but in a photo, where you are still, it creates a little white spot that almost looks like a blemish. Summer shine can be controlled by using translucent powder that knocks out shine without adding additional color.

UNDERGARMENTS It is amazing how many times someone will come in wearing flowered underwear and not realize it is a problem until they go to put on their WHITE PANTS! Or come in wearing a white bra and put on a black sleeveless shirt. Please bring appropriate foundation wear for each outfit. Flesh colored is the best you can hope for. Also, if you need a strapless, bring one. Tucking the straps down usually shows and looks bad. With today's thin fabrics, you might want to carefully select these pieces so they do not give unsightly lines.

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FINGER & TOE NAILS NAILS SHOW! If they have the paint all chipped off, it will show. Many casual shots are done barefoot, so don't forget about those toes! Avoid real bright colors. Natural or basic work best. We don't want to draw attention to your neon orange toe nails. And they may look really bad with your next outfit!

DEPOSITS AND SHOOTING FEES Remember to read over our Portrait Brochure and bring along your payment for the Shooting Fee you have chosen as well as your \$150 Print deposit (this deposit goes towards your final portrait order). We accept Check, Cash and MasterCard/Visa.

Please call or email us if you have any questions.

Smiles,

Theresa