

Anton Rivera Photography
Photo Session Tips & Suggestions for Portraits and Family Shoots

Hair – If you are getting a haircut for your shoot, do so about two weeks beforehand. For men, a fresh cut a couple of days before the shoot.

Hair accessories – If you are shooting outdoors, be ready to put your hair up. Bring bobby pins, hair clips, head bands or any other favorite hair accessories.

Glasses – If friends would not recognize you without glasses, you want to wear glasses in your shoot – however, the glare on glasses can detract from your eyes in photos. You can have your lenses removed from your frames for your shoot.

Red eyes – Visine. Only if needed.

Lips – Bring fresh lip gloss or lipstick to do touch-up. Use lip balm for a few days in advance of your shoot to make your lips look their best.

Teeth – If you want to brighten your smile, start your treatments about two weeks before your shoot. Totally not necessary, but people ask so I put in this information about it.

Breakouts – do not cake on a lot of make-up to try to hide blemishes – it's always easier to Retouch and edit away pimples and blemishes.

Make-up – A subtle application of make-up can really soften your skin and accent your facial features. We suggest a makeup artist. We do have makeup as an option.

Facial hair – Men, freshly shaved with a new razor, shaving cream and a moisturizing after-shave lotion to avoid bumps and redness. Trim up your facial hair, sideburns, etc, especially looking for wiry stray hairs. Ladies may indulge in a waxing in advance of your shoot. Men and women both may benefit from plucking and cleaning up those eyebrows.

Moisturizer – Dry skin can really detract from a great photo shoot. Start moisturizing nightly a week in advance of your shoot. When you get out of the shower, dry off until lightly damp, and slather on moisturizer. Focus on your arms, shoulders, neck, face, hands, anywhere you will be exposed to the camera. This includes your legs if you are shooting in shorts or a skirt.

Nails – A fresh coat of nail polish will make a world of difference in your photo shoot. Pick a neutral color that will not distract in your shoot or clash with your outfits. Freshen the morning of the shoot, then be careful not to scuff it while prepping. Your photo shoot is a great excuse for a fresh manicure, but if you cannot go to the salon, make sure your nails look tidy and clean, including the cuticles.

Undergarments – Be sure you bring a set of bras and strap-adjusting accessories to work with any outfit you want to shoot in to keep those straps well-hidden.

Clothing-Its best not to have lettering on cloths. No highly reflective clothing. Best to bring extra clothing whenever possible.

Sun burns and tan lines –. If you plan to tan before your shoot, do so at least a week beforehand and do not get burned. Be mindful of clothing tan lines, sunglass tan lines, hat tan lines, etc.

Ironing – If you iron, iron the night before and hang the clothes for your shoot. If you are wearing something that wrinkles easily, do not wear it on the way to the shoot – just change at the location/Studio.

Shoes – Ladies, cannot go wrong in heels or wedges. Men clean up your Dress shoes/ Boots.

This is a guideline and in no means mandatory. If you have any questions please ask.

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