

## Family and Children Portrait Tips

You've finally scheduled your session and now I'm sure you have a few questions to prepare for it. So here is a little sheet of tips to help you.

Keep in mind as you read these that you want your personality to show in your images, so if nothing else be true to you.

Be sure you are up and fresh for your images. You can tell in the image if you are tired. Try to eat something and stay hydrated. Make sure children are well rested and ready for play time.

It's a good idea to not tell younger children that it's time to get pictures done, but rather that a friend is coming over to play. I do this and just happen to have a camera too.

See you soon.  
Cory Ann

## Basics Do's

- Do introduce me to the children.
- Do allow them to be themselves (as long as that doesn't include being mean to me).
- Do allow babies and younger children to eat when they get hungry.
- Do feel free to leave the room if you are being a distraction.
- Do be prepared to cuddle and be in the images. I try to get all the family members.
- Do clean up the house as it will be the backdrop.
- Do allow them to sleep and go about their normal routine.

## Basic Don'ts

- Do not tell your children to smile.
- Do not bribe your children.
- Do not tell your children to look at the camera.
- Do not threaten your children.

I have photographed many children and always seem to find a way to connect with them without using the above tactics. I know it's hard to watch your children not cooperating to the level you think they need to, but please let me earn their trust and confidence to get the images you will love.

I do not however want to disrupt your parenting structure, so if your child is misbehaving and you need to discipline them then feel free to. I will not be judging you. I understand as I have a 4 year old who likes to occasionally push boundaries.



## Attire

### Basics:

- ... No logos
- ... Avoid tight tops and bottoms that rolls, back and armpit fat, and such are showing.
- ... Stay away from over powering stripes and patterns.
- ... Avoid too much contrast. Ex. black shirt paired with white shirt.
- ... Select a color family to carry through out.
- ... Basic white shirts are not cool, white linens with texture are.
- ... Show your style!

### More:

- ... Do not match exactly, unless you do on a regular basis. Example: Do not go to the store and get the exact same shirt.
- ... Select from the same color family or tone. Example: two black or two blue shirts. Or all dark colored tops.
- ... Textures are good. Example: Instead of two plain black shirts select one with ribbing and the other with some other texture.
- ... Stay consistent in the formality of your clothing, unless one of you is formal and the other relaxed and doing opposite will show your contrasting styles better. Example: If he is wearing slacks and a button up shirt she should be in slack and a nice top or a nice dress, not in jeans.
- ... Long sleeves are trimming, as is black. Short sleeves show all as does white.
- ... Wear nice shoes and socks as they may be in some of the images.
- ... If you wear eye glasses, bring a non-glare pair or be prepared to tip them up or take them off.
- ... Playing dress up is fun and shows children's personality. I love to take pictures of superman, spider man and fairy princesses.

## Hair and Make-up

Do your hair before you or I arrive.

Stay with a current style and color. Unless your doing a couture session I would recommend not trying out new colors and styles during your session. Have some hair spray or gel for touch-ups.

Have lipstick/gloss and powder for touch-ups. Wear your make-up a bit heavier than normal. The camera has a way of seeing right through your foundation. Apply your mascara a bit more than normal as well.

Hands will be in your portraits so have your nails looking nice and clean.

Don't worry about that new zit that popped up. I will be doing retouching on all the images that are posted on the blog or website and all the images that are ordered.

### Preping your home

- Open up your shades and curtains,
- Pick up clutter.
- Turn overhead lights off.
- Turn off the televisions and computer screens.
- Turn on lamps and light candles out of childrens reach.
- Make beds.

