

 Dying to 
Understand



PHOTOSHOOT

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Planning a photoshoot

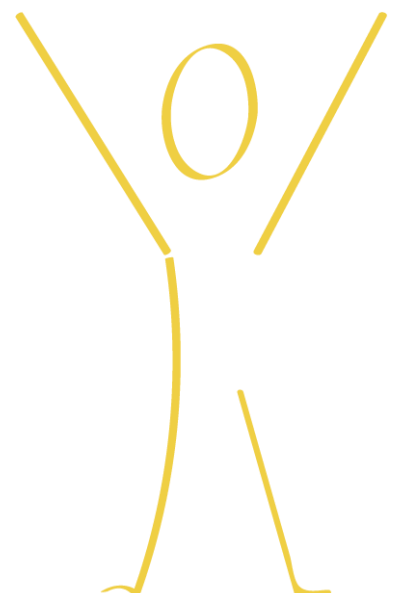
I am one of those people who hates being in front of a camera. It always seems that something goes wrong; I am either eating something or my face is all shiny or I have messed something on my shirt. I think of photos as disaster zones.

Unfortunately, I needed a professional photo for my work, so I was forced to do a photo shoot. Let me assure you that this was the last thing I wanted to do; it is not in my make-up to feel comfortable in front of a camera. IT's like I get stage fright and the more you point the camera in my face the more I become like a statue.

I did however, with some trepidation, head off to my photoshoot as it was one of those things that had to be done. It turned out that my professional photo shoot was very relaxing. The staff were incredible. I was welcomed, made to feel comfortable and with their humour and conversation I surprised myself with how at ease I felt. I even allowed myself to be dusted with powder and before I knew it, I was in the studio chatting with the photographer.

He didn't just take one photo, he took hundreds, and in the mix there were at least a handful that were perfect. The photographer managed to get some incredible pictures that captured me, my mood, my essence to a tee.

From a scared and intimidated person, the process transformed me into this man who took a great photo – something only a real professional can do. If you want to have a photoshoot, don't grab a friend and an iPhone, take the time to get it done right. It is worth every dollar, particularly for the lifetime of memories it leaves behind.



Why you need a photo shoot

Everything changes with time and in time none of us will be here. A good photo captures a moment in time, and it is invaluable when that moment is gone. We cannot go back in time, but through photography, we can bring the memory of a previous time with us. A good photo should be part of everyone's legacy. A missed opportunity may be lost forever.

All the reasons why not

If you are like me, you will have a hundred reasons why not to do a photo shoot. Consider the invalid reasons below and if they are one of yours, get rid of them. That photo will be the most important thing you do for yourself and your family.

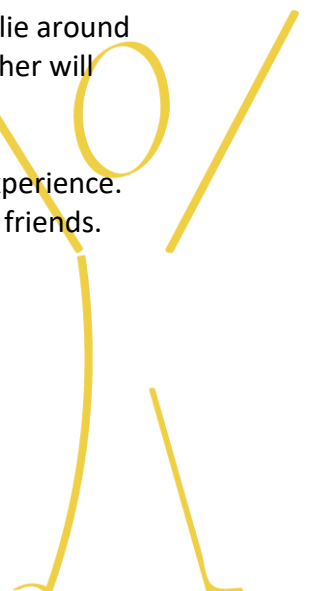
- I am too fat, I am too ugly, I am too old, I am too young—Get rid of all the “*I am's*”
- I don't have time
- It is a waste of time
- Men don't have photos taken
- I don't have the money

Well, money is a good excuse and a good photographer may cost some money, but it is the same with everything, good quality costs more. There are ways around this obstacle....if you don't mind crossing this excuse off the list.



10 steps on how to do a photo shoot

1. Make up your mind to do one, be bold and say, “yes, I will” and then stick to it.
2. Get someone to help you if you can—this may be a friend or a family member. Explain why this is important to you.
3. Do your research. Find out about the professional photographers in your area. Ask if anyone knows of a good professional photographer. There are many resources and reviews on the internet. Consider the full package and the costs. Make sure you get full disclosure on costs involved, including the cost of purchasing prints, before you book.
4. Shortlist two or three photographers and give them a call. Ask them about what they do and the process of the photo shoot. Ask them about what you need to take with you in terms of a wardrobe option. Choose a photographer whose staff are friendly and helpful as this will help on the day.
5. Decide if you’d like any family and/or friends in the images. If so, talk to them and arrange a good time.
6. Book the appointment (and then do a little dance of satisfaction)!
7. Go to the appointment. Don’t be afraid or anxious, this is your fun day out! A professional will put you at ease and make the photography seem effortless. It is the professional’s task to sort out the images and all you have to do is be there. You don’t even have to smile; they will capture your smile after telling a joke and you won’t even know.
8. The hardest part will be picking the images you want at the end. There will be so many good photos, you will want to have them all.
9. Collect the photos and frame some when you get them. Don’t let it lie around because you are too busy with other things. Perhaps the photographer will do this for you.
10. Last but certainly not least. Send us a copy and tell us about your experience. We’d love to hear about it and the joy it brought to your family and friends.



How we can help

Sometimes the task is too great, and it seems impossible to do the photoshoot. If you are determined to do a photoshoot but cannot make it work, why not get in touch with us. We may be able to assist you in getting that perfect smile captured forever.

If you have decided not to do the photoshoot, please reconsider. We know you are worth it, and your family will treasure it.

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