

Photography experience
STYLE GUIDE



OUTFIT COLOURS AND HOME DECOR

Coordinating what you wear in your session with where you plan to display your images will seamlessly integrate your portraits into your personal space with a custom art piece for your home.

By carefully considering your wardrobe and styling prior to your session, you can ensure that the colour scheme of your portrait session complements your personal decor and style.



What is the style of your home decor?
What are the colour tones in your home?
Where do you plan to hang your portrait?
How do you want to feel about your photographs 5 to 10 years from now?

When planning what to wear for your portrait session take into consideration the following:

Think about your personal style. Do you love rustic elegance or do you enjoy a clean modern look? Does your home have a relaxed, casual and cosy feeling? Or is it sophisticated and elegant?

All of these styles are as unique as my clients and are important to consider when styling your session. This style guide should give you an overall idea of how you can take the style and colours in your home and combine them with colours in your wardrobe selection to create a look that will seamlessly and artistically create a beautiful and classic work of art for your home that you will enjoy for many years.

NEUTRALS: WHITE AND BEIGE



A traditional style home in a monochromatic beige colour scheme lends itself to one of my favourite portrait colour schemes. A combination of a variety of white, cream, gold, beige and khaki. These tones work with all the skin tones and compliments any space in almost every interior decorating style. The easy simplicity of this look is a classic and timeless choice and looks beautiful in both black and white and colour images. When choosing clothing in these monochromatic tones I highly recommend you look for clothing with added texture like lace, knit and linen which added dimension and style. It will make a lovely colour scheme and you would never tire of its timeless simplicity.





COLOUR: BLUSH



In a bright and airy room, the light and fresh blush tones add a soft yet still neutral feel. You can always blend your blush pink home decor with natural textures and hues in material like stone or wood.



Blush can be paired with soft grays, creams or taupe as a compliment which will complete the neutral palette. Blush adds a feminine touch but it is also the kind of shade you can easily find in nature; either in fresh flowers or in the glowing sunset or early morning sunrise.

Adding a touch of blush to your images will give your portraits just enough softness and warmth to create a sense of calm serenity in your space.





COLOUR: BLUE



From nautical to modern, every decor style does well with a touch of blue. Designers often use blue to inspire calmness and relaxation. By injecting blue into your home, you invite in the sea breeze, while at the same time celebrating the ocean of love your family gives to your everyday. Consider pairing together denim, cotton and crisp linens. Cotton duck, flowing silks and long lean lines work well too. Textures and colours that echo the sand, the water and breezy draw off the ocean will feel cool and comfortable.

For a touch of tradition, you can't go wrong with the combination of blue and white to keep it classic and sophisticated. Blue is beautiful and lets the sea, sunshine, clean and carefree breeze right into your living room.



COLOUR: NAVY AND GRAY



If you like to incorporate a darker colour into your images, navy is an excellent choice. Not as dark as black, yet sophisticated and crisp, navy adds the design element of contrast to your images and creates interest.

Navy can be mixed with darker toned grays, like charcoal, denim, mid toned blues or even bring in a bit of a surprise with a splash of colour like dusty rose or mustard. When adding pops of colour, the best is that they always stay within a muted midtown colour palette (dusty rose, soft green, metallic blue, metallic gray or mid toned beige) to keep the focus of the images on your family and not on the clothing.



PULLING IT ALL *Together*

Family photographs are special, a legacy of your family for future generations to enjoy. The important rule of family styling for photography is simple: Choose items for the entire family as if you were creating one outfit; If all of your choices were somehow on one person would the results be pleasing?

The best is to choose one patterned item (for example a floral/pattern dress for your daughter) then select the rest of the family's outfits in colours within that pattern. Neutral tones tend to work best because they allow your skin tones and facial expressions to be the focus of the image. Neutral are not distracting and always a timeless classic choice for portraits.

A FEW TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS:

- Varying textures, layers and colours in the same tone always work well. Stay away from mixing very dark colours. Add textures/layeres if selecting very light colours.
- Layered clothing always looks fabulous in photographs. Try working with sweaters, T-shirts, shirts, cardigans and etc.
- Stay away from matching tops and trousers on everyone. Choose one patterned item (maybe your daughter's dress) then select the rest of the family's outfits from colours within that pattern.
- Mix it up slightly! If everyone is wearing trousers, select a dress or skirt for mum and your daughter. Have some of the guys wear polos, others wear a button down and yet another in a sweater. Please avoid checkered, wide stripes, words and logos.
- Long sleeves typically work the best for adults; as too much skin from arms can be distracting. sleeveless tops is best to be avoided.
- Location plays a huge part in how your family should dress. Consider colours that compliment location and colours that will work well in your home (on your wall) when choosing outfits.
- For siblings don't try to dress them in the same outfit. Choose a pattern dress or shirt for one and then have the other child dressed in colours pulled from the pattern or colours that compliment and try not to mix patterns.