

Senior Portrait Dos and Don'ts

All of these photos are very nice, but not all will fit into the portrait space and look right when we make everyone's head the right size (usually head size is about an inch tall). So we ask that you see our examples to help so that you don't end up looking like you are leaning into your square oddly, have a tree popping out of your head, or are staring at your neighbor on the page.

Do

Take a portrait, head and shoulders, looking at the camera. This background is pretty simple and the focus is on Angela.



Other common problems

- Taking a photo too close to your face - give us space to crop, if you are too close you will look like one big head.
- Blurry photos - use a professional, we know that many people have nice cameras now or that phones take good photos, but professionals are good for a reason. If you cannot afford one or do not want to use one, we have a nice set up at NV in our darkroom and can take your portrait too. At the very least, we recommend natural light on a slightly overcast day. And the key is the 300ppi quality.
- Watch your background - if it is too busy or you end up with something weird popping out of your head your photo will not be about you, and we want you to look good!

Don't



A. Don't use a black and white photo, look down, or cover your face with anything like a hat.

B. This photo would be perfect, EXCEPT for her name in the corner. We might be able to crop it out, but sometimes your name or the photographer's name is on the photo too close to your face and we can't.



C. This photo is too far away, when we crop in on her face she will look pixelated. Otherwise it would be great.

D. Do not look over your shoulder please, the straight on or slightly turned look tends to look nicer when we set up the portraits.



E. Do not lean on or against anything (objects, your hands, etc) when we crop sometimes parts of them get cropped out and you might look odd leaning on nothing. Also note her feet behind her - when we crop she would end up with a foot popping out of her head, be aware of your background.

F. Do not have objects in front of you (like these leaves) again, the crop will be weird.

to see a color version of this go to the NV website under the parents or students tab