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## **SENIOR PICTURE TIPS**—*planning ahead will help us make you a star!*

At Crichton Creations, we will capture your personality and special interests through our exceptional photography process. Your photo session will be customized to meet your needs and we will highlight what makes you YOU. We have prepared some general tips for both guys and girls, as well some more specific to each gender. Would you please review this information before you come to your appointment? Remember, these are only tips--if you don't want to follow something, that is up to you--the photos are a reflection of you. If you have any questions, feel free to call us at either of the numbers shown above, or e-mail us at: [dawn@crichtoncreations.com](mailto:dawn@crichtoncreations.com). We look forward to seeing you on your special day!

### **Both Guys and Girls:**

- Select clothing that you like, that fits you well and that complements your complexion. Generally, solid colors photograph best, but stay away from colors that are too similar to your skin tone like brown, tan, light gray or pale peach. Also avoid large prints and loud plaids and stripes--they are all distracting and de-emphasize your positive aspects. Make sure all of your clothing is neat, clean and pressed.
- There is no limit to the number of outfits you can bring to your photo shoot. It makes sense to bring at least one or two dressy outfits and a couple of casual outfits. Be sure to vary the colors so you will have a nice selection. If your school publishes a yearbook, remember to review the requirements and bring a copy of the specifications with you. We have many school's requirements on file, but they do change periodically. We will take care of forwarding your yearbook pose to your school and we will send a copy to you so you will know when it is sent.
- Make sure you put all items for each outfit together on a hanger so you will be able to change quickly and spend more time posing! Accessorize your outfits, but don't wear loud ties, scarves or jewelry that will distract from your image. Put accessories in zip-lock baggies and snip a small hole in the tops so you can hang them on the hangers with the applicable outfits. If you like hats or caps, please bring them too. No need to worry about changing off-site; we have a portable changing room for you to use.
- If you wear glasses and want them included in photos, ask your optometrist if you can borrow the same type of frame you own, but without the glass. This way there won't be any lens glare in your photos, which can be costly to remove.
- Bring a variety of shoes--if they are scuffed, polish them. Flip-flops? Only if you must!
- Good grooming is essential to a successful shoot. Bathe or shower the day of your photo shoot so you will look and feel fresh. Clean skin photographs better than oily skin, which can cause shiny spots on your face. Make sure your hair is neatly trimmed, but don't do anything drastic before your photo shoot.
- Plan ahead to get plenty of sleep the night before your photo session. Posing for portraits doesn't sound like much work, but you will find it can be quite strenuous. We want you to look and feel your best--if you are too tired or not feeling well, it will be apparent in your photos.
- Bring props--anything that helps define you and your interests. This might include sports equipment and gear, varsity jackets or sports uniforms, musical instruments, dance or skating costumes, artist brushes/paints, tablets, drawings, or even a special car, four-wheeler or truck.

- Arrive a few minutes before your session so you can bring in all of your outfits and props and have a few minutes to take a deep breath and RELAX!! If you are not familiar with the area, use GPS or Google the address ahead of time. You can also call us if you get lost and we will help you, but you will be losing time from your appointment if you are late.
- A parent and one of your friends are welcome to quietly observe during your photo shoot as long as they are not interrupting the process or being disruptive. If they do, they will be asked to wait in another area and join you when your photo shoot is finished.
- Sometimes you will experience a complexion breakout just before your photo shoot, or you may have acne or a scar that is difficult to cover. Don't worry, we have software that helps us soften or eliminate facial blemishes/scars in the images you select. There is a small charge for this.
- Please make sure you eat before you come for your photo shoot. It will generally take 2-3 hours and you may also be staying after to select what you want in your proof book.
- Underclothing should enhance your outfit, but not be showing through it; i.e. if you are wearing a light color, wear light or beige underclothing. As with your outfits, make sure your underclothing fits you properly. No matter what your size, when underclothing is too tight, it will create rolls, which will be visible in your photos.
- We can shoot photos in almost any weather, with the exception of rain. If your photo shoot is outside and it is raining or projected to rain, we may re-schedule it. If it is just cloudy, don't worry; cloudy days are actually the perfect time to photograph you because the clouds eliminate harsh shadows.

### **Girls:**

In addition to the tips for **Guys and Girls**, these are a few more tips just for girls:

- Tank tops, spaghetti straps or sleeveless tops/dresses may or may not flatter you, depending on your figure. If your arms are full, select tops and dresses with sleeves, or bring a coordinating short-sleeved, open sweater.
- Make-up will enhance your beauty when it is applied properly--i.e. no clumpy mascara, thick eyeliner, bright blush, or orange tanning spray. It's okay to add a little more make-up than usual, but don't over-do it. If you are not sure, check with your mom or a friend, or consult a make-up artist so they can help you out. Bring some loose powder to matte any shine that might occur, especially if your photo shoot is on a hot day.
- If you enjoy tanning, make sure you cover or tan any strap lines that might show in your photos.
- While clean, shiny hair is great, a little hair spray will keep it in place, especially if it is a windy day; so please bring some with you, along with a comb.
- Tall heels or sandals will flatter you the most, but with the right outfit flats can look cute too. If your photo shoot will be outside, remember to bring a pair of walking shoes to get to the site.
- If you wear nail polish on your fingers and/or toes, it is best to choose a color that complements your hands and feet and one that is not too flashy or distracting. Also make sure you have no chips in your polish. If you polish your own nails, you may want to bring along the shade you are using for touch up if needed.
- If your top or dress requires you to wear a strapless bra, make sure you wear a strapless bra--not one where you try to tuck in your straps. It will be difficult to hide the straps and the support will not be the same.

### **Guys:**

In addition to the tips for **Guys and Girls**, these are a few more tips just for guys:

- If you want to wear t-shirts with your casual outfits, avoid white and also those with large graphics or photos.

- Tennis shoes are okay with casual outfits, but make sure they are clean.
- Shave the day of your photo shoot if you have any stubble. If you have a mustache or beard, make sure it is neatly trimmed.
- If you are wearing a silk tie for your formal shots, make sure you know how to tie it properly. Also, if you are wearing a suit coat or sports jacket, make sure it fits you well. If it is a little large, we can clip it in the back, but if it is too tight, it is difficult to make it look right.
- If you are wearing any type of sweater make sure there are no pills showing (i.e. little tiny balls yarn)--you can shave or gently pull them off.