

Profile Photos: Helpful Hints

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Clothing – Keep it simple; solid colors recommended.

Grooming matters – It's ideal when men have had a recent haircut. Women may want to get their hair and make-up done. If you're wearing jewelry, put on something classic and simple.

Lighting – Use existing lighting from a nearby window. It creates a much softer, natural image without harsh shadows. Lighting should be in front of you, not behind.

Angle – Photos should be shot from slightly above eye level. In addition, head turned slightly to the side is more complimentary than straight on.

Expression – Try out different ones! Smiling, not smiling, but no goofy faces, please!

Full Length – Three quarters of a full body image is sufficient; no one really needs to see your feet.

Background – Choose something neutral, as a busy background takes attention away from the subject in the photo.

Solo Photo – Best not to include friends or relatives (even babies) in your profile photo. It is confusing and distracting to others.

In summary, it's worth considering hiring a professional to take formal portraits but not necessary. Draft a friend or family member to take some shots while keeping these recommendations in mind.

You may be pleasantly surprised by the results!