

THE DAVID BAMPTON STUDIO

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Points to note for your Sitting

When dressing for your Portrait session, it is important to remember that SIMPLICITY is the key – similar colours and similar styles of clothing are essential in creating a beautiful portrait.

Classic styles of clothing are timeless and will create a more formal portrait that will remain constant through the years. In producing a portrait of this style, we are likely to use a darker background to compliment your clothing, which is also likely to be darker. Any make-up worn should be as for eveningwear.

Clothing that is casual but still smart, against a light background is a very good way to capture the essence of family life today - busy but fun. It is currently a very popular style with many families, and pastel colours would be in keeping with the lighter background. Make-up creating a natural look would be appropriate.

It is best to limit the range of colours in the clothing that you choose, all sitters wearing perhaps, shades of blue, or another colour you may prefer. Casual and formal clothing should not be mixed in a group portrait.

Another point to remember is that if you have a fuller figure, necklines are important - a V neck or a scoop neck will be better for a fuller face, whilst a high neck is more flattering for a longer neck and slender face. If you have chubby arms, a sleeve would be more flattering for you.

With the more casual approach to portraiture, we often will photograph, especially children, without shoes and socks but, if shoes must be worn, please make sure that they are tidy and co-ordinate with the rest of your clothing.

We always play games with the children so as to put them at ease and encourage natural smiles, so please don't "prepare" them for their visit – we are very used to children and there is nothing that could happen that we haven't already coped with! If you are not worried about how they will behave, this will also make you feel more relaxed too.

Dogs who are coming for the sitting will need a short walk before the appointment – this will help to avoid "an accident" in the Studio. Rewards will need to be withheld until after the sitting otherwise the dog will salivate and dribble doesn't look so good!

If, having read our suggestions, you still feel unsure as to what to wear, please feel free to give us a call and speak to David personally.

All these points will create harmony in the image and help in producing beautiful portraits for you!