



## Preparation Guide for **Senior Girls** Photo Shoots

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Being well prepared for your photo session can make the difference between average and fabulous photos. Follow these easy tips and you'll be well on your way to looking your absolute best.

### **Mindset**

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Have fun! We're going to make you look great and you'll have a great time.

That's why you chose AfallaStudios.

Relax. We like to think we're rather cool and easy to get along with. Plus, we help you with posing, so there's no pressure on you. The process is very simple and we use techniques and different exercises during our photoshoot to help you create the best photos possible.

### **Arrival**

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Arrive early or on time to your appointment.

**Showing up late means you lose camera time** and/or hair/make-up time, and we don't want that.

If you're coming from out of town, give yourself plenty of time to find your way around. The streets in Dallas aren't the easiest to navigate and having a buffer in case you get lost will save you some stress.

### **Style**

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You're unique and beautiful. Follow our guidelines but be yourself in how you dress.

Be fashionable. Wear clothing that's stylish and put a lot of thought into your choices. This is a unique opportunity and we want you to look amazing!

### **Clothing**

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We give you unlimited wardrobe changes, so bring A LOT of options. The more outfits we have to choose from, the better. This will give us flexibility in matching your clothing to backgrounds and the surroundings.

Group your outfits together on hangers. Make sure items are ironed and ready to go.

Plan on changing quickly. The faster you change, the more time we have to photograph and the more photo choices you'll have later. Make sure you're comfortable in your clothing and that it flatters you. This will ensure that you like how you look when viewing your photos.

If you're self-conscious about your arms, avoid sleeveless or cap-sleeve shirts and tank tops, as they tend to make arms look fuller. Avoid stripes and plaid. Solid colors photograph much better than busy patterns.

Bring a variety of colors and mix the level of styles. Some should be dressy, some dressy-casual, and some casual. If you're comfortable in dresses, bring them! They photograph really well and offer a nice variety from your other casual clothing choices. We can mix dressy and casual dresses for some great looks.

### **Where to Change Clothes on-Location**

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We now have a portable collapsible changing tent on-location for you to use. Also, you should always have your guest (i.e. parent or friend) to assist you while you change in privacy. Our crew will step away from the area until you're done changing. Trust us, this changing tent is pretty cool and gives you the privacy to change.



### **In-Studio**

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AfallaStudios has a newly renovated 475 square foot studio that provides their customers a unique



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photo studio boutique experience. Although most of our photo shoots are done outdoors, we do offer in-studio photo shoots. Our studio has a large bathroom that you can use to change into your many 'looks' along with a full size mirror to check out how amazing you'll look for the camera. We also have a half-galley style kitchenette with refrigerator filled with complimentary beverages and snacks.

### **Headshots - In Studio**

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Professional headshots are a must- especially if you're building LinkedIn profile. Employers like to put the name with the face. Having a confident headshot helps. When taking headshots for employment, wear colors like black, gray, or white. A hint of color is fine too as long as its subtle.

### **On-Location**

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We are constantly on the look out for cool and never been used before locations. Whether its in front of a blue rusty dumpster that has amazing textures or on a hill in front of a huge bridge, we are always open to create amazing portraits using these types of backgrounds. We want to push the envelope and not look like the other studios that photograph in the same locations year after year.

### **Shoes**

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We cannot say it loudly enough. Wear heels! Whether pumps or boots, dressy or casual, plain or sassy, heels really make you stand out and look glamorous. Flats can also work well **if** you mix them with the right outfit.

We will not photograph you in flip-flops. Yes, they're comfy and we all love them, but they don't photograph well.

### **Hair**

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Although we try to help with hair, it is hard to know what your hair "is supposed to look like." Make sure you like the look or let the photographer know your preferences. Better yet, bring your best friend with you for the session and he or she can help. Hair style is ultimately YOUR responsibility. Any hair changes during the session should be quick and simple so you have as much camera time as possible.

Bring hair spray, clips, pins, and whatever else is needed to keep your hair out of your eyes if it's windy. Also bring a brush and mirror on location or on-set for quick hair touch-ups.

Do not make drastic changes to your hairstyle right before your photo session. This could add unneeded drama to your life. Keep in mind, we do offer hair and make-up services. Contact us for more information.

### **Makeup (if you decided to do your own)**

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Makeup that is well done is one of the best preparations you can make for your session. It will even out skin tones and help give your photos that extra pop for a model-like look. Even if you don't normally wear makeup or wear very little, take the time to do it well and your photos will look their best.

Makeup should only be slightly heavier than normal. Mascara should be clean and not clumpy. Avoid makeup with an SPF because it tends to create a shine. Summer shine can be controlled by using translucent powder that knocks out shine without adding additional color.



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### **Makeup (If you use our staff makeup artist)**

Make sure you thoroughly wash your face with your facial cleanser before he applies your make-up. Feel free to collaborate with Michael and bring some sample photos of what you'd like.

### **Jewelry**

Keep it simple. Big, shiny jewelry can distract from the important subject, you. If you have different jewelry for different outfits, you might put each set of jewelry in a plastic baggy and hang it on the hanger with that outfit.

All that being said, the proper jewelry can really complement your outfit. It's nice to have a variety to choose from and it doesn't hurt to bring numerous options with you.

### **Props**

They're great! Bring props that help show who you are. Some popular choices are:

- Sports equipment or uniform (soccer ball, basketball, softball bat, etc.)
- Cap and gown (as an idea, we'd rather have you drag this instead of wearing it in the photo)
- Military uniforms
- Musical instruments
- Activity related items (dance, art, school clubs, etc.)

### **Glasses**

It's ok that you wear glasses but why not use a pair of sunglasses. It's a great prop as well.

### **Tanning**

Tan lines are a distraction and take away from your photos. We suggest you use a tanning bed and varied swimsuit tops to minimize any existing tan lines. If you choose to tan outside or in

a tanning bed, don't overdo it. We don't want you looking orange and leathery.

### **Complexion**

Makeup helps a lot here, but we do retouch your photos, so please don't be concerned about minor breakouts. We have you covered! If your acne is more severe, you're still okay. We had bad acne in high school and understand! We're happy to help you out with some extra retouching free of charge.

### **Parents**

Let us do the creating and bring out your personality. I know some parents want to help, and if we need help, we'll definitely ask them. However, we try to find the best moment to snap that shot when you're not 'faking' a smile. The objective is to get a photograph that is natural and brings out your real personality.

### **Weather**

Don't worry about clouds because they actually even out the light and make for ideal shooting conditions. But falling rain is an issue and we will have to reschedule. We will try to contact you first, but please call or text us if you have any doubts or concerns.

If we are expecting a heatwave, we will let you know if the photo shoot needs to be rescheduled as well. When the weather is hot, we always photograph later in the day and early evening when it's cooler.

### **Undergarments**

Please make sure the colors of your undergarment coordinate well with your outfits and don't show through your clothing. If you need a strapless, please bring one to your session. Tucking or moving straps will not always work or give the



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most pleasing look. Check ahead of time to ensure that undergarments don't leave unpleasing lines underneath your clothing.

### **Fingers & Toe Nails**

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If you paint your nails, make sure they're done well before your session. Chipped nail paint will show up in your portraits and distract from you. Avoid bright colors that will distract from you and may not work with all your outfits. Instead, opt for basic or natural tones.

### **Safety**

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Safety is extremely important therefore we trust that as young adults, you'll be well behaved and responsible. For on location shoots, we won't force you to be standing on some ledge or risk your life just for a cool looking shot. Always secure your vehicle when you're on a location photo shoot and hide any visible items in your vehicle from theft. We want you to enjoy your photo shoot and not be stressed out by all the activity that goes on in a photo shoot. **JUST BE YOURSELF!**

### **Music**

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In any photo shoot (depending on the location where possible), whether its photographing a top model, an engagement couple or a high school senior, music puts people in the mood. We have a bluetooth wireless speaker that can connect to any bluetooth enabled music device like an iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, or Android. We connect our bluetooth speaker and play your playlist that personally created for your taste in music.

Another option is let us know the type of music or list of artists you enjoy listening to and we'll set our Spotify internet radio to your list.

Now, how cool is that?!?

### **Photos of the Photo Shoot on Social Media**

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We all love social media, especially the clients where they take a photo of what we're photographing during the photo shoot. Why show an average photo when we can push it immediately from the photo shoot ourselves. Our cameras are made to wirelessly transfer some photos to our mobile tablet. By doing this, you'd be showing an awesome shot that we took and allow your friends to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter! All you have to do is ask- we'd be happy to do that for a few awesome shots. Remember, you hired us pros to take amazing photos, right?

### **Conclusion**

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We want your images to look perfect the first time we shoot them. What that means is we shoot perfect in camera with very little post processing (i.e. Photoshop, adjusting colors, etc). Remember, what we create is art and not just your typical 'snap shot'. Nowadays, everyone is a photographer. The difference is that we're the experts in creating beautiful images and not from the average pro-consumer camera and amateur photography experience.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email or contact us. We're here to help.