



## WHAT TO WEAR

### General Tips on Styling

One of the most important decisions to make when planning your session is your clothing! The only “rule” I have is to choose outfits that reflect your personality and make you FEEL amazing. Don’t wear anything uncomfortable, even if it “works”, because you’ll be thinking of nothing but how uncomfortable you are.

Trendy clothing goes out of fashion. Keep “trendy” under control and pick some pieces that are timeless. Favorites are jeans, khaki colored pants, white, black or neutral colored shirts, lace, sundresses, hats and bare feet. Avoid busy prints, graphics & logos, checkered patterns and geometric designs as they don’t photograph well. Spice up your session with some visual interest. Stand out with your favorite headband, belt, scarf or piece of jewelry. Hats and headbands are perfect for kiddos too.

Clients are encouraged to include their own props: a musical instrument, sports equipment, a book and reading glasses or a family pet. Maybe try to incorporate your families’ favorite hobby or location. Here are a couple of general tips to help you plan your outfits:

#### ***START WITH MOM***

It’s way easier to visualize the whole puzzle once you know what one piece looks like! Try starting with mom, since women’s clothing tends to have more colors and prints.

#### ***COMPLEMENT, DON’T MATCH***

The day of all white shirts and khaki pants are gone! We want colors that generally complement each other: so for instance, soft colors (light blue, gray, blush) or warm colors (brown, orange, burgundy). If you want colorful images, then you should choose a more vivid color scheme for your outfits!

#### ***STICK TO ONE OUTFIT***

Don’t make things more complicated than they need to be! All you need for an awesome family session is one outfit for everyone. Changing outfits will take time away from your shoot and can put your kids in a grumpy mood.

#### ***CONSIDER YOUR HOME DECOR***

If you’re planning to hang your images in your living room that’s decorated in all white, you probably don’t want your clothing to be dark. If you’re hanging them in a colorful dining area, then wear vivid outfits.

#### ***PLAN FOR THE WEATHER***

Nothing is worse than being uncomfortable in the perfect outfit. If you’re planning an outdoor session in November, think about coats, gloves, scarves, and hats. In the summer, dress in layers that you can easily take off if you get too hot.

#### ***DON’T FORGET SHOES***

These are often the forgotten last element, but they can really make or break your outfits! If you can’t find shoes you love, consider going barefoot (just bring walking shoes to get from point A to point B). Steer away from athletic shoes and bright white sneakers.

#### ***TRY ON YOUR CLOTHES WELL IN ADVANCE***

Check your outfits from all possible angles in the mirror, not just the one you like best. Try sitting, squatting, leaning forward, etc. The kids’ clothes should work well in motion so that we can play during your session (think flying, tickling, and hanging upside down).

#### ***LET THE KIDS HAVE INPUT***

If your daughter hates wearing dresses, don’t force her to wear one for picture day. If your son thinks that bow tie is uncomfortable, ditch it. Happy kids make for happy photos!

#### ***COMFORT***

Above all, if you feel good, you will look good! Choose clothing that gives you the freedom of movement, keeps you warm/cool, and won’t require a lot of maintenance throughout your session.

