

FAMILIES

by leise jones photography

your guide to a
stress free
photo session

what to wear
& more



welcome

Family photos are an amazing way to celebrate what makes your family so unique, capture happy memories, and decorate your home. But for some parents, the thought of taking family photos can sound more stressful than enjoyable.

Luckily, it doesn't have to be that way! With a skilled, experienced family photographer behind the lens and a bit of thoughtful preparation, it can be a great experience that rewards you gorgeous photos. As your family portrait photographer, I'll provide you with beautiful family portraits that capture all of the friendship, fun, and love in your family unit. (And I'll help your kids have fun while doing it!)





4 steps for a *stress free* photo session with your kids

As any parent knows, making sure your kids cooperate and behave for hours at a time is no easy task! Family photo sessions can seem a bit daunting. But with some preparation and a lot of patience, your family photo session can be an enjoyable experience for the entire family. Here's how you can make sure your photo session is stress-free.

PREP YOUR KIDS IN ADVANCE

Tell your kids about the photoshoot well ahead of time. Tell them what to expect. Let them know how much you're looking forward to it and why your family is doing it. If you're excited, they'll definitely catch your enthusiasm!

LET THEM BE INVOLVED

Include your children in the planning process. Ask them what colors they think the family should wear. Help them pick out an outfit, either from their closet or at the store. When children feel involved, they're much more willing to participate.

BRING BACKUP

Make sure you're well prepared for photoshoot day. Bring along a change of clothes, plenty of snacks, water, diapers, etc. That way, even if the unexpected happens, you'll be ready for it!

MAKE IT FUN!

Make photoshoot day a special occasion! Bring along snacks and toys to keep their energy up. Plan on doing something fun after the session so they look forward to the outing all day.

A photograph of two young girls with long, wavy blonde hair, smiling broadly and hugging each other. The girl on the left is wearing a light blue t-shirt and has a white flower in her hair. The girl on the right is wearing a white t-shirt and has a pink flower in her hair. They are outdoors in a grassy area with a blurred green background. The text 'best times for your family photo session' is overlaid on the image. 'best times for your' is in a black sans-serif font, and 'family photo session' is in a gold cursive font.

best times for your *family photo session*

Timing is always important to consider when it comes to photography, especially when children are involved. Timing can be the difference between a frustrating session and an enjoyable, memorable photoshoot. So when is the best time to have your family photo session?

DURING PLEASANT WEATHER

If you're planning on having an outdoor photoshoot, try to schedule it during pleasant weather. If it's too hot outside, you might all feel sweaty and uncomfortable. If it's too cold, your kids might complain – and their irritation will likely show through in photos. No matter the season, just be sure to plan accordingly. Bring plenty of layers if it's cold outside, and wear breathable fabrics if it's warm. We also can reschedule if the weather is particularly uncooperative!

AFTER A MEAL

Make sure children (and adults!) are well-fed before the photoshoot. If they're hungry, they might start to get a little antsy and cranky. If you're planning on going to dinner after the photoshoot, give your kids a healthy snack before the session and pack along a few extra snacks just in case.

WHENEVER YOUR KIDS ARE WELL-RESTED

Nothing makes kids grouchy and uncooperative like being tired. Be sure that your family photoshoot doesn't interrupt any of your kids' naptime or bedtime routines.

DURING THE 'GOLDEN HOUR'

The best time for natural lighting is either two hours before sunset or two hours after sunrise. However, if neither of those times is ideal for your children, let me know. Of course I can make you beautiful photos at any time of day.



tips on:
what to wear

When it comes to family portraits, one of the most common questions I get is, "What should we wear?" It's a tricky decision! Since these photos will last a lifetime, you want to make sure your entire family looks as good as possible. But at the same time, you also want them to look like themselves – not wearing stuffy clothes that make them feel uncomfortable. We always recommend wearing clothing that makes you feel and look your best, which can be different for every person. Here are a few other wardrobe suggestions that photograph beautifully.

WEAR COORDINATING (NOT MATCHING) OUTFITS

Make sure your outfits coordinate well with one another. Stick to a color palette of one or two colors. Matching outfits can look a little dated – coordinated outfits look harmonious and pretty. To make sure all of your outfits go well together, try laying out everyone's photoshoot outfits together the day before.

LET YOUR KIDS HAVE A SAY

Ask your children what they'd like to wear. Asking their opinions will help to make sure they feel comfortable and involved. (Just make sure they know their picks are subject to your final approval – otherwise, you might have a little Spiderman in your family portraits!)

DRESS WEATHER APPROPRIATE

Keep an eye on the weather forecast and make sure you dress accordingly. Choose colors that are appropriate for the season. And if it'll be chilly during your photoshoot, be sure to bundle up a bit!

THINK OF YOUR HOME DECOR

Since some of your photos will be framed and displayed in your home, consider your home decor and the dominant colors in your home when planning your outfits.

A FEW DON'TS:

While what you decide to wear is ultimately up to you and your family, there are a few things that tend not to photograph well.

- **Patterns:** one or two family members wearing a pattern is okay, but too many patterns tend to clash and draw too much attention.
- **White:** wearing white tends to wash people out.
- **Large logos:** graphic tees tend to distract from the most important part of the photo – your beautiful faces!

A photograph of a man and a woman walking a dog on a dirt path through a forest. The woman is wearing a pink dress and the man is wearing a blue checkered shirt. The dog is a brown and white mix. The background is filled with green trees and foliage.

best locations for your *family photo session*

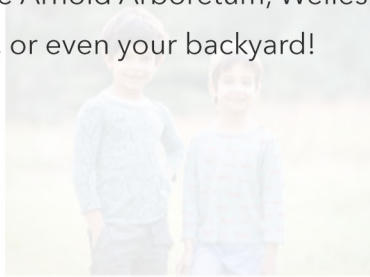
Choosing the location for your family portrait session is about more than choosing a place that is convenient and has parking (although those are important factors.) The setting for your portraits is a major element of the photos. Since your family portraits are going to decorate your home the aesthetic of the location matters just as much as the convenience.

The way I see it, there are essentially three aesthetic locations in our region: the Park, the Beach, and the City.

Which one is right for your family?

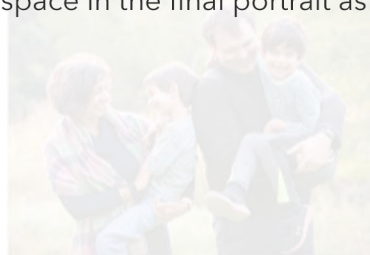
THE PARK

A park could be any place where an abundance of foliage is the main element in the background. This means your photos will have a lot of green in the summer, a lot of red and orange in the fall, and brown and white in the winter. Some of my favorites are the Arnold Arboretum, Wellesley College, Hall's Pond Sanctuary, Larz Anderson Park, or even your backyard!



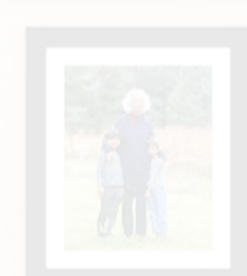
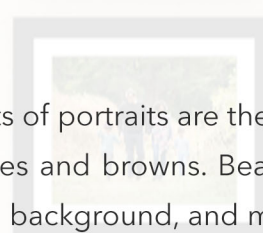
THE BEACH

At a beach location, the main background elements of portraits are the sky, sand, and water, so the color palette tends towards blues and browns. Beach photos tend to open up since there are fewer elements in the background, and may feature more negative space in the final portrait as well.



THE CITY

Portraits in a city location incorporate the architectural elements of an urban landscape; buildings, bridges, bricks, and fountains for example. Photos in the city may have a gray color palette if there is a lot of glass and concrete or, like in Boston, a red color palette from the abundance of historic brick buildings.

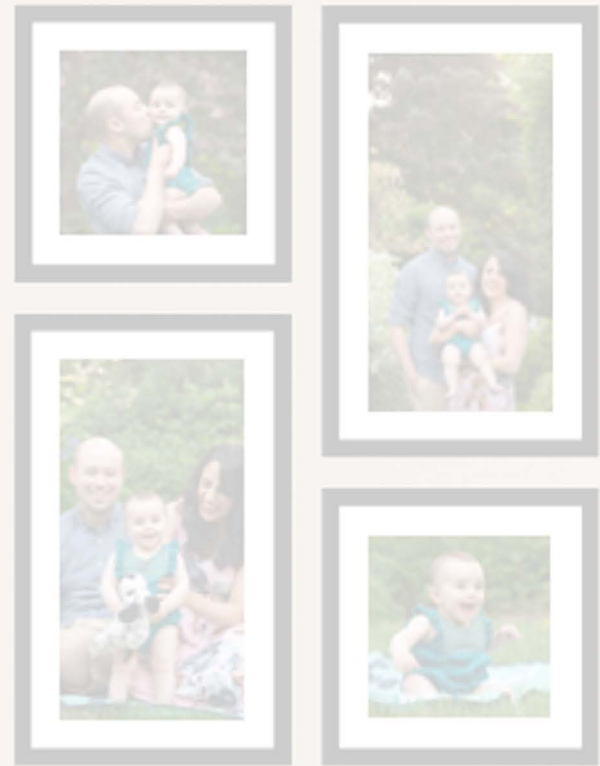


galleries

Before your session, think about where in your home you'll display the photos from your family portrait session and what sizes and orientations will work best in your space.

Some walls in your home are large enough to display a whole gallery of photos, not just one. Together, we can design a gallery for your home and, using specialty software, you can preview how the wall art looks in your home before you invest. That takes all the guesswork out and gives you peace of mind so you know your prints will look stunning on your wall. All of the print packages I offer contain at least one large framed print and a few small prints - perfect to start a wall gallery or add to an existing one.

Custom galleries are designed to fit your home and compliment your decor. When we review the photos from your session, we'll find what gallery designs work best for your walls.



FORGET
DREAM



galleries



galleries



packages

All family portrait sessions are \$250 and include an online gallery of up to 50 selected proofs. After reviewing your proofs, you select a print package that best suits your needs.

Here's how the process goes:

STEP 1: During a planning call, we'll plan for your photo shoot date and location and discuss where in your home you may want to display your family photos.

STEP 2: Your photo shoot! A fun and laid-back 45 minutes at a location of your choice.

STEP 3: Your viewing and ordering session, during which we'll review your images and you place an order for the print package of your choice.

PACKAGE ONE: \$599

16"x20" print, matted and framed
5 gift prints, mounted and ready to frame
1 high resolution digital file

PACKAGE TWO: \$799

18"x24" OR 16"x20" print, matted and framed
10 gift prints, mounted and ready to frame
5 high resolution digital files

PACKAGE THREE: \$1199

18"x24" OR 16"x20" print, matted and framed
11"x14" print, matted and framed
8"x8" 20 pg. custom-designed coffee table book
10 gift prints, mounted and ready to frame
10 high resolution digital files

PACKAGE FOUR: \$1499

18"x24" print, matted and framed
16"x20" print, matted and framed
11"x14" print, matted and framed
8"x8" 20 pg. custom-designed coffee table book
10 gift prints, mounted and ready to frame
20 high resolution digital files



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