

PORTRAIT CROP GUIDE



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Perfect to print A5 size
14cm x 21cm / 5.83" x 8.27"

There are a number of standard "crops" when creating portraits. They include the head shot, the head and shoulders shot, half body shot, and the full body shot. Each crop presents its own concerns for the photographer and the model.



DO NOT CROP BENDING AREAS

Avoid cropping right on areas where the body bends, it creates awkward proportions and it is visually unpleasant. In the example image (left), the areas in red should be avoided. Instead leave those areas inside the frame, or completely out.



FOLLOW THE RULE OF THIRDS

When framing a subject's face, make sure that the eyes meet one of the Rule of Thirds' line intersections. Avoid cropping edges of the face such as the chin.



SHOOT DIFFERENT WAYS

Give yourself options to edit later. Shoot from different angles and formats (vertical and horizontal). Use wider and tighter framing.



CROP IN CAMERA

Plan your capture in camera, and shoot with a purpose. Cropping in post-production means losing resolution- since you're not cropping- as much as enlarging an area. When cropping tight, in camera, you'll have less depth of field, more blur in the background and this allows the subject to "pop" from the background.