

Newborn

WELCOME GUIDE



BEFORE BABY *Arrives*

Once the little one is here you will want (and need) to focus solely on them. For this reason, it is best to get as much of our planning done beforehand as possible. Below are a few tips to help you prepare for your session.

WHEN DO WE BOOK OUR SESSION?

I love to hear from mamas-to-be before baby arrives! That way we can plan a maternity session if you would like one. Maternity sessions are a great way to capture this special time in your life and for us to get to know each other before your little is born. When booking, I will ask about your expected due date and mark it on my calendar. Once baby arrives, please contact me and we can schedule an exact date for your session. Newborn sessions should be photographed within the first two weeks of baby's life whenever possible. Exceptions can, of course, be made for premies, any baby who spends time in the NICU, and/or other scheduling conflicts. After two weeks, your baby will be considered a "Newbie."

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A 'NEWBORN' AND 'NEWBIE'?

Babies under two weeks of age sleep virtually all the time (except at night when you want to sleep, right?) They also enjoy spending time curled into the fetal position. Babies over two weeks of age tend to be a little more alert. They tend to startle a little easier, spend less time sleeping, and prefer to keep their arms and legs straighter. Because of these differences, "Newbies" tend to be a bit more complicated to shoot and may spend much of their session awake.

HOW MANY PHOTOS WILL WE GET?

We try to provide at least 20 finished images with your newborn or newbie session. Each session typically features three "sets" or themes. Sets can include the colors of baby's nursery, favorite book characters, sports or other hobbies, a vintage time periods, and/or a set with parent(s) and/or sibling(s.) It is best to have these sets chosen before your baby arrives so that I can have wardrobe and props available. I have a large selection of wraps, tiebacks, blankets, and props but personalized items are always welcome. Please let me know in advance what items you will be bringing so we can plan ahead.



ON THE BIG *Day*

Congratulations! You've been waiting months and now your little one has finally arrived! Now how do you get this tiny human ready for their close up?

TINY DETAILS

Your baby may have gotten vaccinations or had blood taken which left bandaids on their little feet. Please remove these the day before your session if possible and clean any adhesive residue off with baby wash. Please look baby over for "eye boogies," regular boogies, and flaky skin. Apply baby lotion if their skin is dry, and please trim any hangnails on hands and feet.

WHAT IF I MISS SOMETHING?

Don't worry! We have baby nail clippers, lotion, baby oil, and diapering products here at the studio just for your little one. We also retouch any baby acne, fingernail scratches, or dry skin that may still be visible in your baby's photos. Note: If your baby has a birthmark, "angel kisses," or other unique characteristics that you do not want retouched, please let us know.

FEEDING

Please feed your baby long enough ahead of time that they will be hungry again around the time of our session. That way when you arrive, baby can have a feeding right away so they are full and sleepy for the session. If you are bottle feeding, please have plenty of breastmilk or formula with you. Babies tend to have a least one "snack break" during their sessions.

SLEEPING

If it is possible, please keep baby awake after the last home feeding so baby will be ready for a nap during our session. If this doesn't work out, don't worry, we will be happy to help rock baby to sleep.

THE MESS

We are prepared for messes of all kinds. Babies do not care where, when or who they pee, poo, or spit up on. We are prepared with changing pads, spit up cloths, and a fast shutter because outtakes are HILARIOUS. If you or other family members want to be in photos with your newborn, we recommend bringing an extra set of clothing... just in case. We do also retouch out any little accidents that do make it into frame, so there is no need to stress about the mess. We've got this.



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