

How to take the perfect photo

Step 1

Place your subject, either sitting or standing, in profile, in a well-lit room or outside, against a light background. Use a flash when possible. They can be facing either right or left.

Step 2

Position yourself on the same eye level as your subject so that you are looking neither up nor down at the subject as you are taking the picture. You should be approximately four feet from your subject.

Step 3

Be sure to include the entire head and shoulders. The subject should have a relaxed, natural expression on their face. Sometimes, open mouths work on a silhouette. Other times, not so much.

Do your best to get a closed mouth shot. We realize that this can be a challenge with little ones, but do your best. At the end of the day, however, if you don't mind, we don't mind.

NOTE: We cannot close a mouth that is open in a photo.

If you are photographing multiple subjects, please take their pictures individually.

The right way



The wrong way



If it's not a true profile, we can't see the features that make your silhouette special.



If you take the photo from above or below your subject, the facial features will be distorted.



If it's not in the photograph, it won't be in the silhouette.



While full-body images can work well straight on (see image to the left), they don't work well with head and shoulder images.