MERCY STREET STUDIO
SENIORS
Class of 2023
5 STYLE MISTAKES TO AVOID
6 FUN LOCATION IDEAS FOR YOUR SESSION

PEP TALK

IT'S GOING TO BE BETTER THAN OKAY - IT'S GOING TO BE AWESOME!

LETS BE HONEST *your son may be apprehensive about a photoshoot. That's pretty typical. If your son is looking forward to this, hooray! We are going to have a blast! However, after photographing thousands of teenagers we can say that many guys do not love photoshoots. It's okay. And here's a secret: they often end up enjoying it. And they always appreciate having the photos, an appreciation that will only grow as the years pass.*

This guide is for you, the parent that has to gently guide a senior through this important rite of passage. We want you to know we've seen it all, including moms who have shown up to sessions with tear stained cheeks because their sons were tough/moody/etc before the shoot. Good, sweet, kids.

It's all okay.

If your son isn't into it, we recommend that you choose outfits for him. If he's picky about fashion, let him choose. Many boys approach senior pictures with complete apathy, for them it's like putting on scuba gear to go scuba diving. They don't want to have to make choices or think about fashion. (We'll talk more about outfits later).

Finally, don't worry. Please express any concerns you have, we're here for you. Our goal is not only for you to have the very best senior portraits, but for your son to have a fun and memorable experience to kick of a great senior year!

WORLD MYTHOLOGY
Eastern Religion
Philosophy
Self Help
PROTEST KITCHEN
SOUTHERN BAKED
GRAVITY CAKES!
THE FOOD BIBLE
Refreshed
INNER AND OUTER SPACE
NIETZSCHE
LANGUAGE
Educated
UNTAMED
GLENNON DOYLE
THE DIY COOK
PRIDE
MOOSEWOOD COOKBOOK
THE BEST MAKE-AHEAD RECIPE
FLASH BOYS
MICHAEL LEWIS

LOCATION:

SIX FUN SENIOR PHOTO SHOOT LOCATION IDEAS

LOOKING *for a unique location ideas? We've got you! Aside from our normal coastal areas, below are a few lesser known options for your consideration. We see locations differently; even if you can't picture it, we can usually make magic happen! You can also see some locations on our FB page under our "location" photo album.*

HEAD DOWNTOWN.

Cityscapes offer the best of everything and no two shoots are the same! Take advantage of the colorful buildings, graffiti, colorful doorways in the city. Portsmouth & Dover have a ton of options!

A MARINA.

We are blessed to live on the seacoast and many of us loving the boating lifestyle. Shooting on a boat or at a marina you have access to is a lot of fun and makes for great pictures!

ENJOY AN AMUSEMENT PARK.

Using an amusement park is as fun and as it gets! Incorporate the bright colors and bold patterns into your shots. York Animal Kingdom is a fun colorful option!

INDUSTRIAL PARKS.

Yes! They have gorgeous landscapes and beautiful flowers! These are pretty vacant on the weekends as well, providing a great opportunity for photoshoots!

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK.

Want a location that's totally unique? We can share some lesser known spots! And if you're really adventurous, we can stop at a few roadside locations. Sometimes the best spots are the least likely!

IN THE FIELD.

If your son is into sports, we can shoot at his favorite venue! From golf courses to football fields, to motor biking, we've done it all!

STYLING:

THE 5 SENIOR SESSION MISTAKES TO AVOID

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1 **WEARING THE WRONG OUTFIT.**

The wrong clothing can really make a big difference to your senior portraits. Experts say that fashion is the #1 determining factor of male attractiveness in photos (who knew?). For great photos, make sure clothing is fitted and suited to your body shape and type. Do not wear clothing that is too big or too small. Please avoid neon colors and large logos. Most guys do jeans or khakis with a few different shirt options. Layers are great. Adding a jacket or sweater to a button down shirt is easy and stylish!

2 **CUTTING YOUR HAIR JUST BEFORE YOUR SESSION.**

Your hair plays an important role in your overall look and if you decide to get a haircut or try a new hairstyle too close to your senior session, you could end up with photos that you hate. If you will be cutting or changing your hair, rather do so at least a week before your shoot.

3 **SHAVING RIGHT BEFORE THE SESSION.**

Shaving can be rough on skin and can leave knicks. Try to shave at least 12-24 hours before your session (depending on the rate of hair growth). This will give your skin time to "calm down" and heel (if necessary) before your session.

4 GETTING TOO MUCH SUN BEFORE YOUR SESSION.

Having a summer glow is great, but don't overdue it by getting too tan or sunburned right before your senior session. Skin tone should look healthy and natural.

5 WRINKLES & STAINS.

Clothing that is wrinkled or stained is not recommended for photoshoot. You really want to present your best self. Please do not assume we will "photoshop" things that are avoidable (ie: wrinkles and stains). We actually don't photoshop wrinkles. An iron and a hanger will be your best bet.

INCORPORATE HIS PASSION

PROFESSIONAL

WHY HIRE A PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER FOR YOUR SENIOR SESSION?

THIS *is your senior year, which is a very special time in your life. And while you could probably get a friend or family member to take some photos of you, they simply won't be able to produce what a professional photographer can.*

When you work with a professional photographer, you get to benefit of years of training and experience, which includes knowing how to work with natural and studio lighting, how to read locations to produce amazing images, and how to color and compose great shots. Not to mention the fact that they're skilled editors and no one wants blemishes to live on via their senior pictures.

A professional will also know how to bring your unique style and personality through in each and every image and will be there to guide you on how to pose and smile in order to get the best photos..

The images we create together will last a lifetime. They are not going to get buried on your phone, they're going to be given as gifts and they're be the ones you look back on and share with your kids some day. (They'll probably make fun of your outfit).

You only get to be a senior once so don't miss the chance to have a professional capture some great photos of you, that you'll be proud of for years to come.

& ANOTHER THING:

MAKE IT YOURS

INCORPORATE PASSIONS.

If your teen has a passion, please feel free to bring something that represents that passion to his shoot (even if you have to sneak it into the car). Instruments, sporting equipment, a special car or animal (no snakes though). He may not be receptive to the idea, but sometimes they become more receptive once we get going.

GRAB A FAMILY PICTURE.

There is no additional cost to incorporate family pictures (or sibling, or that special someone) during your son's senior portrait session. In fact, it tends to get more difficult to get everyone together once they graduate, so this is a great time to make it happen!

INCLUDE THE FAMILY

THE EDITING PROCESS

Once we've captured some great shots, the editing will begin. During the editing process, we will touch up each photo and remove blemishes. In the case of severe acne we may offer additional editing options.

YOUR PHOTOS

Once we have processed your photos, we will load your images onto an online gallery where you can order them as prints or digital images. You'll recevied the gallery link via email within 14 days. There is a $50 fee for rush service (24-48 hours).

Most of our clients choose a digital image package so they can print images whenever they want, and use them in the future for gifts, holiday cards or graduation announcements.

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