

STYLE GUIDE



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HEY

I am so excited to meet you and celebrate your graduation year! I know when planning for your senior session it can be so exciting but also nerve wrecking! What to bring, what to wear, makeup, hair, what locations should I choose- basically it can be overwhelming.

This guide is to help you get the most out of your session and truly make you prepared so you feel like a confident sassy Queen walking into your shoot. After 6 years of focusing on just Seniors I have added tips and tricks every single year so I promise you when I say this guide is jam packed!

I highly recommend reading the entire guide but if there is a certain section you are struggling on, always feel free to go back to the table of contents so you know what section to look over.

I am here to answer any questions you have so feel free to email me after reviewing this guide.

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IT IS VERY
IMPORTANT
THAT YOU
STAY TRUE TO
YOURSELF.

MELANIE MARTY

”



OFFICIALLY BOOKED

You officially booked! Now you will receive a questionnaire to fill out so we can work together on creating the perfect session day.

CUSTOM TIMELINE

Once the questionnaire is submitted, I will be touching base with a custom timeline that overviews the locations that fit best with your questionnaire.

STYLE CONSULT

A month before your session we will meet in the studio for your Style Consultation. This is where you will bring the outfits you are wanting to wear so we have an idea of the perfect locations and you will have the option to try anything on from the client closet!

TIMELINE

WEEK OF CHECK IN

I will touch base a week before to make sure you are all set and the details if we get rained out(no worries, I have rain dates!)

SESSION DAY

Session day is here! We will meet at the studio to start with hair and makeup then head to our first location and party!

GALLERY REVEAL

Within 48 hours you will receive sneak peeks then shortly after you will see your entire gallery and choose your favorites to print and display.

OUTFIT PREP

The beauty about senior photos is that the experience is all about YOU. A big part of that is reflecting your vibe! This is the time to embrace your style and choose looks that reflect the real you. The more confident you feel in your clothing, the better you'll look in your photos. There is no rule that says you can't have it all. You just need to define and claim it.





COLORS
AND
STYLES
F.A.Q

Colors & Styles

QUESTIONS AND TIPS

Q. How many looks should I bring?

A. I recommend 3 to 4 unique looks total. Complete with scarves, hats, sunglasses, jewelry, and jackets. This will give you variety to play with the looks and create a different look with each outfit without using up too much of our time changing.

Q. What should I wear in a nature setting?

A. I recommend flowing fabrics and bold colors that will stand out against the greenery. I try to go for more pastels in the spring, a mixture of bold and fun in the summer and vibrant in the fall.

Q. What should I wear in an urban setting?

A. An urban setting calls for edgier clothing. Often darker and more tailored so your wardrobe doesn't clash with graffiti or buildings. Graphic tees, sheek black jumpsuits, combat boots and the classic chic dress is always amazing for downtown vibes.

Q. Where will your photos be displayed?

A. If you are opting for a family photo, I recommend planning for one outfit to match/compliment your home's decor and colors so your family photo works perfectly in your home.

“Fashion is what you buy. Style is what you do with it.”



WHAT TO WEAR AND AVOID



WHAT TO WEAR

- Pressed, Hanged clothing
- Add Layers that can be taken on and off
- Oversized tops paired with tailored bottoms
- Tailored bottoms with oversized tops
- Clothes that accentuate your favorite features
- Nude/Neutral undergarments
- Accessories

GORG



THE

WHAT TO AVOID

- Wrinkled Clothing
- Small, Busy Patterns
- A tight outfit with no wiggle room
- Too- Short Dresses
- Logos
- Bright Distracting Undergarments
- Dirty Shoes
- Strapped bras on strapless clothing



PREPPING

Your Clothes For Success

It probably sounds crazy that you need to prep your clothes for your session but just these few tips will help your images look so much better the day of!

1. Iron/Steam your clothes and hang them in a garment bag
2. Clean any pre-worn shoes
3. Trim any loose strings or tags off your clothing
4. Double check you have the correct undergarments

FAMILY PORTRAITS

If you opt in for an updated family portrait, you will be taking an updated family photo the last 15 minutes of your session. This is wonderful because we get to spend the entire session together and the rest of the family can meet us at the last location for a quick few photos!

When it comes to outfits for the family portrait, I recommend basing the color scheme off of one of your senior outfits. For men/boys I recommend khakis or jeans and the coordinating color you are mainly wearing. For women/girls, I recommend a solid color that matches, white also is always a safe choice. I try to stick with only two people at most wearing patterns so it breaks up the image but you all look put together.



A woman with long, wavy brown hair is standing in a white, sleeveless jumpsuit. She is positioned in the center of the frame, looking slightly to her right. The background features a brick building with a red awning and a white building with arched windows. The sky is blue with light clouds. The text 'WHERE TO SHOP' is overlaid in large, black, serif font.

**WHERE
TO
SHOP**



Outfits by Shop Ginny bird located on Main St, Dallas Ga

Below is a list of some of the most popular styles and my personal favorite stores with those looks. If you are shopping and want to look for the perfect outfit check out these gems:

URBAN

Pacsun
Forever 21
Zara
Urban Outfitters
Shein

CHIC/PREPPY:

Francesca's
American Eagle
Dried Goods
Forever 21
Pink Lily
Shop Ginny bird for a local option

BOHO:

Altar'd State
3 Birds Nest
Free People
Anthropologie

VINTAGE:

Madewell
Modcloth
Free People





A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a white and beige plaid dress, stands on a wooden porch. She is smiling and looking to her right, with her left hand raised towards a tree branch. The porch has a wooden railing and is set against a brick wall. A large, semi-transparent dark rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'POSING TIPS AND TRICKS' in white, serif, all-caps font. The background is filled with green and reddish-brown foliage, suggesting an autumn setting.

POSING
TIPS
AND
TRICKS

I don't know how many times I get told- "I am not photogenic." I am going to tell you right now, everyone learns their best angles and poses they feel comfortable in over time and maybe you just haven't found the poses for you yet! But you do not need to worry, because the posing Queen is here.

I LOVE posing and coming up with creative ways to flaunt your best self so if you just follow the tips below you will be off to a great start heading into the shoot and just leave the rest to me.

Please never forget that I will 100% pose you and give you all the direction you need. Between even slight head tilts to clothing bunching up with a weird pose- my eye is truly trained to see all of it so don't stress and leave all your concerns up to me because I really have dealt with it all and if I can somehow make my stiff husband look fab in a photo, then I sure as heck will have no problem with you queen!

STRIKE A POSE





1

Accessories help elevate all poses. When you have accessories you have more opportunities to create unique images. Between slightly taking your jacket off to throwing your jacket to adjusting your necklace to holding your hat. Your accessories give you options for movement and variety so use them!

2

Adding movement helps an image look more natural. When I feel stiff in a pose I always recommend moving. Whether it is taking one step forward, swaying your hips or letting your hands hang loose while you twirl. This helps create natural reactions and loosens the posture in a good way.

3

Avoid looking square by slightly turning to accentuate your natural curves. Now this is not a deal breaker depending on your body but most of the time turning slightly can help you see the natural curvature of your body and is more appealing to the human eye (for real it's a science thing). So any pose you get into just make sure you are slightly turned and you will notice a real difference in your images.

4

Use your hands in a natural way. Think about when you lean against the door frame while chatting with your parents in the kitchen. Arms are maybe folded or in your pockets. Or think about what you do with your hands on a daily basis. Maybe tucking your hair behind your ear, resting your hand on your chin and more. I will always tell you what to do but when in doubt go back to your comfort zone. Because natural reactions look just like that- natural.



A young woman with long, curly blonde hair is sitting on a dark wooden fence. She is wearing a white, sleeveless, floor-length dress with a blue floral pattern and white platform sandals. She is looking off to the side with a slight smile. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with green foliage and sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a bokeh effect. The text 'SESSION DAY CHECKLIST' is overlaid in white, serif font on a semi-transparent dark rectangular background.

SESSION
DAY
CHECKLIST

-
- Bring all clothes and accessories organized and in hangers- make sure they are ironed.
 - Dress in comfy clothes that can easily be pulled over your head- to not mess with your hair. You will change after you are picture ready.
 - Bring mosquito/ tick spray if we are going to any sort of field.
 - Makeup bag for touch ups
 - Snacks and water to stay hydrated
 - A garment bag to keep clothes unwrinkled
 - A strapless bra if you are wearing anything strapless
 - A pair of comfy shoes to walk between locations
-

HAVE QUESTIONS?



Still have questions this guide did not answer? Please reach out to me via email and I am happy to answer any questions you have! This is a special day that is all about you so I want to make sure you are feeling every bit of confidence when your session arrives. I am so unbelievably honored to be photographing such a special moment in your life and I cannot wait to have an amazing session with you!

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