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YOUR PHOTOS

Expression Guide

The Monalisa & Manalisa and more...

A guide to getting the most out of your photoshoot.



As a professional photographer in the San Francisco Bay Area, I specialize in profile pictures and professional portraits. I bring my extensive background in fine art and graphic design to each photoshoot, creating natural looking photos that can be used for dating as well as other social media sites including Facebook, LinkedIn and more. To view my corporate work visit www.neuwirth-photography.com

As a professional photographer, I love creating happy, natural, relaxed-looking photos that make you look great.

I am driven by my passion for giving men and woman their best shot at finding love. (No pun intended). The first step begins with getting an awesome set of dating profile photos...in focus, flattering lighting, with you looking happy, sexy, flirtatious, or whatever your goal is...that's where I come in.

During our shoot, I will capture the spark in your eye, the quirk in your smile, and your unique energy. I want your potential love interest to feel like s/he is looking into your eyes and gets your true character.

I did some research on expressions and smiles and here is what I discovered... There are many different kinds of smiles. Looking into the camera or looking slightly away, showing teeth or not.. Read this guide to find out how to make the most of your photoshoot.

To smile or not to smile..

That is one of the questions we cover during our shoot. The smile I'm talking about is not about that grammar school picture day smile. There are many different kinds of smiles. But overall, smiling makes you inviting, approachable and irresistible.

During our photoshoot, I will guide you to show me different expressions, "smile" can mean a lot of different things. One of my favorite smiles I call the MonaLisa or Manalisa for the guys. It's an inviting smile that says so much.

Mouth open, mouth closed, a little grin, a flirtatious look. Smiling with your eyes, is another thing I'll cover in the photoshoot. Sounds hard, but it's an internal experience that shows on the outside.

There is more power in a smile than you may have ever contemplated.

90% of responses are based on your online dating profile photo, especially the profile picture.



Fact

If you smile, even if you're in a bad mood, it will immediately improve your mood, because the simple action of thinking about the smiling and using the muscles is enough to trigger happy chemicals in the brain



The science and psychology behind smiling and laughing is amazing.

Thich Nhat Han, the famous says smiling can change your life. It allows your smile to naturally open you to all those corresponding layers of being: calmness, happiness, peacefulness. He teaches people a meditation to help work with breathing to reach a natural smiling state, which can be experienced as fast-acting and extremely calming.

In a 2011 study at the Face Research Laboratory at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, subjects were asked to rate smiling and attractiveness. They found that both men and women were more attracted to images of people who made eye contact and smiled than those who did not. If you don't believe me, see how many looks you get when you walk outside with that smile your wearing right now.

But wait, we're talking about profile picture, how does all this relate? Simple, a smile will attract into your life what you want – and that is especially true for dating. A smile not only brings out your best look, but projects a fun, happy, sexy and captivating person. The kind of person you want to meet, right?

You may wonder why people don't smile more?

Some people don't like their smile. They may not have straight, white teeth or were forced as children to "say cheese". Here's the key: smiling, or some variation of a small hint of a smile, is critical for connection. It makes us feel safe. It makes us likeable. It makes you popular online and in life, too.



No. 1

The natural smile, the new “Say Cheese”

Many of us began our photo experience with our parents or grandparents or the elementary school photo day. Maybe the Sears photo shoot?

The problem with “say cheese” is it creates a fake “cheesy” smile that looks contrived and unnatural. What do you do instead? Simple.

Imagine someone or something you love. Is it your favorite pair of nieces at the pool razzing you? Is it your puppy at the beach? Is it devouring a slice of chocolate cake? Who or what puts a smile on your face? Is it your mischievous son? Is it passing the bar exam? Your favorite sports team winning the Superbowl? Just recall that memory and it will show up on your face.

No. 2

The Flirtatious aka Meooooow!

The flirtatious smile

You get to define what dating profile look you want. Sexy is an attitude. You can say that in a smile. How do you do that? It mainly in the eyes. So how do you convey happiness, groundedness or sex appeal without it being forced? Ask yourself, what do you like about a woman’s or man’s personality and physique? For physique, maybe it’s his chest and back muscles. All you need to do is IMAGINE a male Olympic swimmer stretching before he dives into swim the 800-meter freestyle or maybe Chris Hemsworth shirtless. Or, what do you like about a woman’s body? Then, when you are looking into the camera think let your face express that feeling with your eyes and a smile.



No. 3

The Big Laugh

It can make for a really great picture. You look irresistible because it looks like you are having the best time in the world. What it says: That person knows how to have fun and I want to know this person.

So, how do you get that shot? Be open to laughing and being silly. In one shoot, a bird pooped on my client's shirt. I can't explain why, but we couldn't stop laughing for like 10 minutes. (Let's hope the bird thing doesn't happen too often), but let's have fun... It's not just for the smile killer shot. It's also to enjoy the experience of the moment.



No. 4

The Manalisa, Classic Portrait Smile

There's a reason that La Joconde (The Mona Lisa) is the most talked about, the most visited, the most known painting in the world. Is she smiling or is she not? What matters is that she is intriguing. There's something provocative about her.

This photo is what I call the "Manalisa". It's the male version. What we are going after in this photo is a look that piques a person's curiosity about you! It says, "There's something about him. I don't know what it is but I want to get to know him more." Or, "He seems cool. Real. Genuine. I want to know more about him." It's a smile where you don't show any teeth, or show very little teeth. You're a bit neutral and relaxed.



No. 5

Playful, relaxed smile

Sometimes it's nice to have an expression that isn't too intense. You can just show yourself in a natural environment, looking happy and relaxed. This type of expression works very well for both men and women.



No. 6

I'm listening

This expression can vary because it's really about looking people in the eyes. The smile can be very faint, more like a hint of a smile, showing you projecting strength, intensity and a sense of purpose. It is ideal for the savvy professional who knows what she or he is doing – and enjoys it. The smile projects confidence, experience and accomplishment, without being boastful.



No. 7

***The looking
away from the
camera smile***

It conveys confidence and character which is not intimidating and gives a great creative tone to your profile. A friendly, playful smile is sexy and appealing, while at the same time coming across as warm and friendly.

As a portrait photographer in San Francisco, Oakland and throughout the Bay Area, I'm always looking for creative ideas to photograph clients. There is a lot of research out that women respond very favorably to a man's profile photos when he is looking away from the camera.

**Contact me to find out more about how I can help you with
online dating photos!**

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