

# WEATHER

What to consider with outdoor photo shoots.



## STYLE GUIDE 3

Take the stress out of planning what to wear, preparing the family ahead of time and all the details that go into getting ready for your family session. Always look confident, stylish and feeling great!

Best Location

Best Lighting Conditions

Practical Clothing



# Locations

## Where is the location?

So you have decided to have an outdoor photo session. Location sessions will be affected by weather. If you live in an area where weather can change and get bad quickly, always have a back up plan to have an in-home lifestyle session or a studio session. Having a back up will reduce stress so you can still get your photos taken and processed in a timely manner. If an outdoor session is the most desired, be prepared to postpone the shoot if the weather gets too bad.

**"Having a back up will reduce stress so you can still get your photos taken and processed in a timely manner"**

## Season of location

Another helpful tip for deciding on what to wear is the season in which you are having your session. It would look odd if you are in winter cloths on a summer day at the beach. For California, that isn't always an issue unless you are in the mountains. If there is still snow, dressing for cold weather would, of course, make the image more cohesive.

## Will the color theme go with the location?

Believe it or not, the location can affect or conflict with your color theme. Looking at photos of the location before hand can help you decided if your colors or theme will go with the location and see if you like the look or not. The photographer should also be looking for areas that will go with your outfits at your location of choice.





# Time of Session Matters

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## Best Light

Now that you have a location, it's time to choose what time of day the session will happen. Do you want a session in the morning, midday or afternoon/evening? Morning and evening light tends to be the best light and most people like their sessions in the evening with the golden light. Morning light is very nice, but with a cooler, blue look to the quality of light instead of golden. The quality of light for both is softer and not as 'contrasty' which will work with many different outfit styles.

## Midday Lighting

If for some reason you are not able to have your session during the morning or evening hours, you can still shoot during midday. Your photographer will still be able to capture great images of you and your family. Keep in mind that the light at midday is harsher and light colored or white clothing or highlights have a tendency to get blown out or overexposed showing no detail. Talk with your photographer about locations that will provide good shaded areas and trust they will shoot accordingly knowing the light conditions.

## Weather Conditions

Once you know where, what time and outfit ideas, it's a good idea to check what the forecast will be for the session date so you can be prepared in case you need additional clothing options. In SoCal, we have great beach weather, but during the summer we can get a marine layer that can come in around 4pm. If your session is between 5pm and 7pm you won't have the golden evening light to get the look you are hoping for. Another thing to check is when the tide comes in if you are taking a photo in or near the water. Your photographer should be knowledgeable about this as well.





## Dress for location and weather

If the session is at the beach, you may not want to wear shoes as it is harder to walk in them on the sand, plus a few shoots could be with the family walking in the water. Also with this same scenario, you may not want to wear pants or dresses unless you don't mind them getting wet or sandy.



## Will everyone be comfortable

Making sure everyone is comfortable in their clothing and that they are protected from the elements will make the session go much smoother. If people are uncomfortable for the weather being too hot or cold, they will have an unpleasant experience. This is most important with little ones.

## Does it go with the weather

This should go without saying, but choose your outfits by the weather. Make sure you have a few shoe options like rain boots in case it might rain and could possibly make the ground wet and muddy. Did it snow? Having bennies and/or mittens will make sure you are warm during your session. Being prepared with weather clothing options can help alleviate and potentially bad experiences.

*Practical clothing*