

SPENCER IMBROCK PHOTOGRAPHY

Preparing for your Headshot Session

You reached out, signed the contract, paid the deposit....*now what?* Here are a few basic questions that come up next. Have a question about something that's not listed? Please get in touch!

What do I wear/bring?

Dress comfortably and for the part. If you're an actor who knows your roles, bring the clothes and accessories accordingly. If it's for a corporate position, dress for the role you want or have. I suggest actors and performers bring 2-3 looks. For business headshots, A suit jacket, sport coat, or sweater to throw on, and accessories, such as a necklace or tie, that you might normally wear at work are perfect. Depending on the package/rate, consider bringing something dark, light, fun or whimsical, and serious. Don't worry about bottoms or shoes unless you're getting full body shots, and you can change into your choice wardrobe in our client restroom/changing room. I also have lint rollers, a hand steamer, and a large mirror in the photo space to check angles, creases, and hair accordingly.

Should I do my own make-up and hair?

You have options for in-studio, on-location, and in-office sessions. Please feel welcome to do your own make if you're comfortable, or if you have a stylist or friend you trust and who can do it for you prior to session. I also have a Broadway make-up artist with whom I partner if you prefer to have it done by a specialist in house. Her services are an additional \$100 per hour and include make-up and hair dressing before the shoot and touch-ups during the session to assure you're looking your best throughout the experience.

Other personal tips as you prepare include:

- Avoid picking at (anything on) your face.
- Exfoliate a few days before the session, but not too soon before.
- If you get a haircut, go with a style and length that is familiar.



- Shave facial hair the day before, not the day of, to give your skin a day to rest and refresh.
- Bring chapstick if you have it. It's helpful to moisturize and to make your lips look more full.

Do I smile? How do I pose?

Most people dislike having their picture taken. Don't let that cause undue stress or affect your zen. You're in good company. Just relax. We both want your photos to be *great* and to reflect who you are. If you're not a smiler, don't force it. The images should reflect *you* and your role. We'll talk during the session and use posing and expressions that are indicative of your expectations. You'll see the images on a screen as we shoot and I'll provide some direction on angles as we shoot. We're not in a rush.

What are my background options?

I have an always-growing collection of solid studio backdrops from [Savage Universal](#), an industry leader in seamless paper backdrops. Some of my in-studio staples from Savage include:

- 66 Pure White 
- 12 Studio Gray 
- 27 Thunder Gray 
- 34 Olive Green 
- 76 Mocha 
- 08 Primary Red 
- 67 Ruby 
- 24 Orange 
- 71 Deep Yellow 
- 46 Tech Green 
- 41 Blue Mist 

If you'd like one of these (or another Savage backdrop) for in-office sessions, please let me know. Note that there is a transportation fee for studio equipment used on location, backdrops included.

The sky is the limit for outdoor headshot sessions. If you have a place in mind ahead of time, please let me know as I may want to scout the location as well to visualize ahead of the session.



Should I come with image samples or ideas?

Yes, please do! If you have an exact lighting style or theme you're wanting to produce or emulate and find some images on Google, or Pinterest that you like, please save them to your phone or email them to me. If you're looking to do some experimental shots, I also have creative lighting gels that might help bring your vision to life.

Can anyone come with me?

If you feel comfortable with a friend or family member, absolutely! **Note:** For any headshots or commercial shots of minors, a guardian *must* be present and an adolescent photo release must be signed.

Does COVID-19 affect a photo session?

Yes and no. With vaccine availability, the photoshoot is experience follows the same standards you would find in a store in which you would shop. As the shop owner, I wear a mask and social distance the usual amount of space. I sanitize the surfaces used regularly and I provide hand sanitizer and gloves to customers as desired. I am fully vaccinated and take my temperature ahead of every client interaction. If you or I have a fever ahead of a session, we will reschedule the session out of an abundance of caution.

After a Shoot

What is the turnaround time on the images?

This depends on the studio package or number of employees for an in-office session. Generally, if it is package 1 or 2, your private proofing gallery will be delivered via email the same day. Return time for your *edited* images varies from package to package or on the number of people photographed. For package-specific timelines, visit spencerimbrockphotography.com/headshots or refer to your contract, which will include the delivery timeline in clause 1, *Session Details and Scope of Work*. For other common questions, you may also visit the FAQ sections on the "about" and "contact" pages on spencerimbrockphotography.com.

For multiple-employee corporate sessions, I'm able to provide the most clarity on turnaround time according to answers provided via the form on spencerimbrockphotography.com/corporateform.