

# French Collection Portraiture

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It is our desire to preemptively answer any questions you may have prior to the session. These are not hard and fast rules, but they are intended to show that we care about the clothing that you chose for the photography. We want you to have value in your investment with SKP. Remember, it's all about having fun and enjoying yourselves – and enjoying our time together.

## The French Collection Portrait Session

Included with your wedding package is our offer to create a series of casual portraits we call our “French Collection” series. We call it that because the French are known for their artistry and romance. This item is a **bonus!** The planning, photography and projection session are no charge. *Finished portraits of this session are priced in addition to your wedding package.*

The French Collection (FC) portraits have a few goals:

- 1) To get to know the two of you better. This helps us all to feel relaxed on your wedding day. You know what to expect of us as your photographer and we have a sense of who you are. Ultimately, we want to feel like friends!
- 2) To instill confidence in our process that will allow you to relax in front of the camera on your wedding day. We know that couples that have their FC portraits created have more confidence in the photography process and in how they will look in front of the camera. The things you learn during the FC portrait session help you to feel more comfortable and confident as you have your portraits created on your wedding day.



- 3) To create a series of casual portraits unlike anything else that we will be creating for you. The series of images can be added to your album; we can create a wall decor grouping or even develop a custom 'poster' for the two of you!

It is up to you to make the call to the studio to schedule a short planning meeting. At that time we will schedule the photography session, review your clothing and any questions you might have about your clothing. Some time after the photography session we will project the best images to you in the projection theatre.

With the purchase of a 5x7" or larger, one retouched digital file will be made available for invitations or wedding announcements in newspapers.

**The FC portrait session is a great way to go through the process of planning, photography, projection viewing and selection that is a great warm-up for your wedding experience!**

### Clothing for FC portraits



Your choice of clothing can heavily impact the photography direction and influence our photographers to be bolder and riskier. Taking charge of your clothing lets us know you are really serious about creating great images. Although you might end up with black and white images, dressing for color gives us additional options on the photography shoot.

#### **Clothing Categories:**

- i) Fashion – wow, fashionable here represents the cutting edge of clothing, what's hot and really eye catching. Pushing the envelope here would be costuming. Look in the latest magazines for clothing that inspires you. Clothing retailers that support this look include Ultimo Eurimoda  
([http://www.saskatoon.com/php/business\\_profile.php?id=429](http://www.saskatoon.com/php/business_profile.php?id=429))
- ii) Contemporary casual – The clothing most young people have in their wardrobes. It is not particularly trendy or fashionable, but is attractive and practical clothing choices. Clothing retailers that would support this look would be Eddie Bauer, Bluenotes, Bootlegger etc.

## **Choosing your clothing**

### **This might sound sexist – but ladies – It is really all about you!**

To the woman: start by pulling out your favorite 2 outfits. Of the two outfits, which one would you have the most fun with? Can you choose an outfit for him that would compliment this outfit? Do you want to start over for you with a shopping trip to get that outfit you have always wanted? How well does the chosen outfit fit you? Be careful with sweaters, they can add bulk where you do not want it. Now work on making his outfit compliment yours. Don't forget to accessorize both outfits with belts, shoes, jewelry etcetera. Is it the time of year that you can add a coat for layering and texture? Bring your clothing and options to the studio for the planning session for further clarification and that we might be able to answer some additional questions you might have. When picking clothing for your photo shoot it is important that they represent and reflect your personality and style.

A few additional tips on clothing choices:

- i) Layer your clothing whenever possible. Layering adds richness. Single layers like a golf shirt do not profile the subject very well.
- ii) Clothing for couples may have similar color/tone schemes. They do not have to match like the 'bobsy-twins' but try putting the clothing of choice on a neutral colored surface. Does anything stand out too much? Replace that item.
- iii) Avoid bold patterns, stripes and loud colors. The exception can be the people that will be dressing for high fashion.
- iv) Color is the strongest design element – use it carefully. Other design elements are line, texture, pattern, direction and size. Try going to the fashion magazines for clothing examples. Is there any photography you really like? Why? Bring those images with you to the planning meeting as well.
- v) Remember that clothing should really reflect your personality. Rules are great but should be tossed if they stand in the way of you wearing the coolest and most fashionable clothing. I remember photographing a hair stylist. He broke all the rules for clothing BUT he looked great because he was truly a fashion statement and it was suited his style.
- vi) Balance and Proportion: This means that if you are wearing a sleek fitted top, the bottom should match in silhouette terms. And for guys, no baggy tops with tight Levis.
- vii) Match Texture: an example of this is if you choose a flat finish blouse Made of cotton do not team it up with shiny nylon or silk.

## **Makeup**

It's the day of the photo shoot and you wake up only to find a huge pimple where your chin used to be. Don't panic. Instead of caking the makeup on to conceal things, relax and know that we can remove blemishes digitally once the photos have been taken. Makeup should be light and natural, unless you are looking to create a dramatic effect. If the night before was more fun than it ought to have been, we can also reduce eye redness and lid bags. Of course, nothing says fresh like a good night's sleep.

**Appointment Scheduling**

Please make your planning appointment after reading and responding to the information provided in this article. The appointment for the photography is generally limited to Tuesday through Friday during the day. Late day appointments are available starting at 4:00PM. The session needs to be completed by 5:40PM.

Rescheduling of the planning or photography time is not a problem. Please give us as much lead time as possible. Occasionally we get paid assignments that are booked AFTER your scheduled appointment. We reserve the right to reschedule your FC portrait session to accommodate these situations. We will provide as much lead time as possible. Thank-you for your consideration.