

SENIOR SESSION

PREPARATION GUIDE

Professional graduation photos that capture your heart and celebrate your journey.



Smilestones Photography

ssphototx.com | nathan@ssphototx.com

Look your best. Feel like yourself. Let us capture what matters.

This guide is designed to help you get the most out of your senior portrait session—from what to wear, to what to bring, to how to relax and enjoy the moment. Whether you are graduating high school or college, this is your time to shine.



Style + Hair and Makeup Tips

What to Wear

Style tips that photograph beautifully

- Bring 2–3 outfits: casual, dressy, and one that reflects your personality (sports gear, school shirt, etc.).
- Stick to neutrals, denim, pastels, and texture. Avoid neon, thin stripes, or loud logos.
- Dress for the season: lightweight fabrics in summer, layers in fall.
- Do not forget accessories: rings, hats, sunglasses, jewelry.



Hair and Makeup

Confident, not overdone.

- Go natural but polished. Use matte products and avoid SPF-heavy foundation.
- Oil blotting sheets > reapplying powder.
- Bring a touch-up kit: brush, bobby pins, lip gloss, comb, hairspray.
- If using a pro artist: schedule to finish 30 minutes before your session.



Locations & Checklist

Location Vibes

Your style, your setting.

Let me help you choose a location that reflects who you are:

- **Rustic** – fields, trails, lakes
- **Urban** – murals, rooftops, alleyways
- **Classic** – arches, columns, gardens
- **Personalized** – school, gym, favorite hangout

Day-of Checklist

- ✓ **Outfits (organized + wrinkle-free)**
- ✓ **Shoes for each outfit**
- ✓ **Accessories & undergarments**
- ✓ **Water + snack**
- ✓ **Hair & makeup supplies**
- ✓ **Props (pet leash, instrument, letter jacket)**
- ✓ **Bug spray (outdoors)**

Tip: Flip-flops are your best friend between walking shots!

Accessories & Styling

Accessories should enhance, not distract. A meaningful necklace or ring, a class pin, or statement earrings can complete your look without taking over.

If you are including props, choose ones that reflect you:

- Letterman jacket
- Graduation stole
- Instrument
- Book or camera
- Pet!



4–5 Days Before Your Session

- Try on all the outfits and make sure they fit well
- Iron or steam clothes and hang them neatly
- Check that shoes are clean and ready
- Get your haircut or trimmed if needed
- Confirm your session date and time
- Hydrate and get good sleep the night before!



Final Prep + Tips

- Wear clothing that breathes and moves with you
 - Bring a touch-up kit: hairbrush, bobby pins, lip gloss, blotting paper
 - Stay cool — bring water, a snack, and take breaks if needed
 - Trust me to guide you through poses and locations
 - Do not chase perfection — show up as yourself



Want to Make It Extra Special?

- Cap & Gown shots
- College tee or gear
- Sports uniform or prop
- Pet portraits
- Confetti, bubbles, or champagne
- Split-season sessions (summer + fall)
- Add a best friend or sibling for a few frames!

Make your session uniquely yours.

