

Portrait Photography – Facial View & Angles

Facial view is the portion or angle of the face that is showing towards the camera.

How the subject's face is turned, or angled, relative to the lens/camera.

Your **camera angle** is where you place your camera, in relation to the subject.

The height and distance from the subject and the angle to the subject's face.

Portrait Photography – Facial View & Angles

There are 4 basic facial views

Full face is where your subject's nose is pointing directly towards the lens. You see equal amounts of both sides of their face.



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3/4 view is where your subject turns their face just slightly in one direction until you cannot see the far ear any more.



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2/3 view is where the subject has continued to turn their head until the line of the nose is almost touching the outline of their cheek on the far side.

Be careful not to turn them past that point so the nose breaks the line of the cheek. This is not nearly as flattering a look !



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There are 4 basic facial views

Profile is where the subject's face is turned almost exactly 90 degrees from front, basically their nose is pointing sideways.

You should only be able to see one side of their face and not the eye on the far side, in a true profile.



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There are lots of different camera angles, but essentially 3 types

Camera is at Eye Level



Camera is above Eye Level



Camera is below Eye Level



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Eye Level

Placing the camera at the subject's eye level results in an image that is balanced and proportionate between head and body.

It also allows the subject to look directly into the lens, which creates an emotional connection between the viewer and the portrait.

This is a flattering camera angle for most people.



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High Camera Angle – Above Eye Level

With this angle, the focus is on the face rather than the body and can be a very slimming angle for adults. It also emphasizes childlike qualities (makes the subject look vulnerable).

Parents tend to really enjoy photographs of their children taken from a high camera angle because they see their children like this in their day-to-day life, so it feels very natural.

Shooting from this angle makes it really easy to achieve good catch lights in the eyes and it can also help to camouflage a less than desirable background.



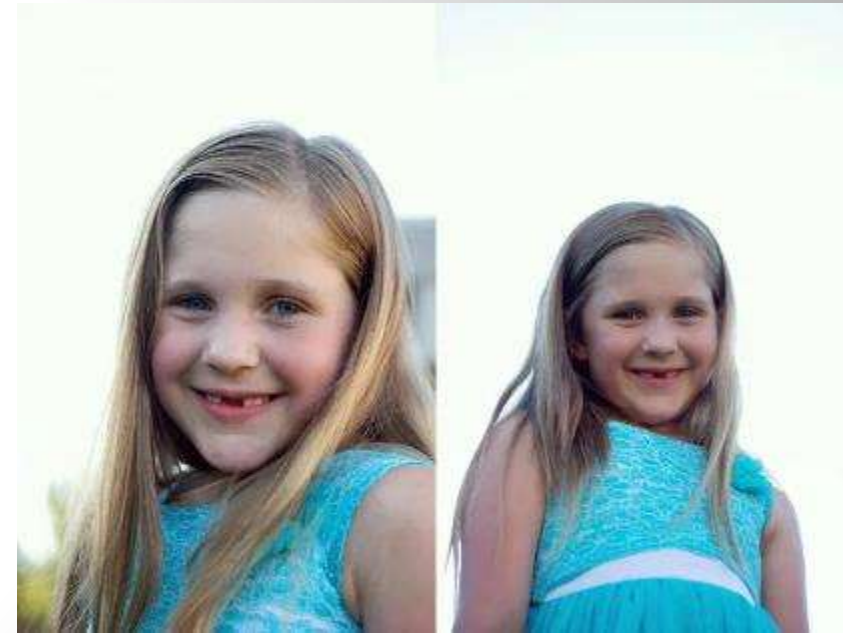
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Low Camera Angle – Below Eye Level

Shooting from a low camera angle can make people seem tall and authoritative, but it can also make people look larger than they really are, which is not very flattering for most people.

You must be careful not to use a camera angle that is too low. It can result in a prominent nose or the chin being overly-emphasized, and the subject will not be able to open his or her eyes widely when looking down at the camera.

This is usually not the most flattering angle for portraits.



Portrait Video - 10 tips for Outdoor Portraits

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xdFQzYpq8nE&t=72s>