

■ Lighting is Everything

In most cases, the best shot involves facing directly at your light source, be it sunlight or a lamp. Shooting against the light source will put you in a full-face shadow. Big no-no.

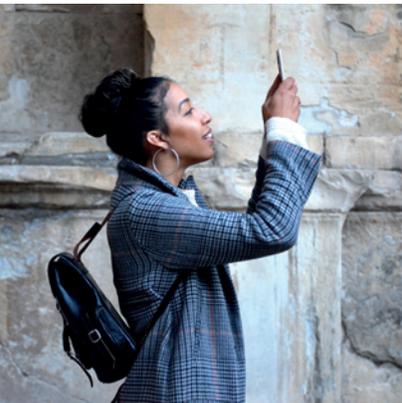


■ Mind Shadows and Reflections

Is half your face draped in shadow or can we see the camera reflected in your glasses? Make smart choices here.

■ Use the Timer

Many cameras come with a timer. Set up the shot you want and then set the timer. Give yourself at least 10 seconds to get in front of the camera and ready.



■ Turn the Flash Off

It's tempting to use a flash but this will almost always ruin the photo. Turn the flash off and rely on natural light.



■ Eye-Level Angle

Hold your phone up to eye level when taking the shot to avoid a photo of the inside of your nose. Try to level your shoulders to avoid bunching or creasing in your shirt or jacket.

Take A Better Portrait

You spend a ton of time developing your professional image, do the same for your professional profile photos. Here are 10 tips for how to take a better photo, even a selfie.



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■ Background Counts

Avoid distracting or embarrassing backgrounds. Solid color background is always a good choice. Make sure your clothing contrasts with the background.



■ Simple Tech Fixes

Make sure your lens is clean. Wipe it down with that microfiber cloth you use on your sunglasses.

■ Avoid Pixelation

Set your camera to the highest resolution. This will reduce pixelation. Min 72 DPI, or 400-600 pixels.



■ Turn on the Grid

Most cameras have a grid function you can turn on. Position yourself in the middle of this grid. And keep your eyes level.



■ Relax

Relax your eyes, mouth and cheeks. Give yourself a little pep talk, and give us an easy smile. Your self-confidence will burst right through the photo.