

Tips for Successful Photo Shoots

Behind the Scenes

The key to a successful photo shoot is preparation and *practice, practice, practice!*

Tips for Successful Photo Shoots

- Choose a theme or focus: current trends, contemporary, classic, avant-garde.
- Keep a file of references from current shoots by John Paul Mitchell Systems®, photo shoots that have inspired you, and magazines on art and fashion.
- Keep a record of the haircut, color formulation, style and finish methods, and products used.
- Create a storyboard of your thoughts and ideas.
- Meet with the photographer regarding the lighting, storyboard, and overall looks.
- Practice your styles and makeup.
- · Meet with your makeup artist and wardrobe stylist.
- Follow the rules and guidelines.
- Print your images on photo paper.
- Secure the appropriate release signatures from the model(s) and photographer.

Storyboarding

Include images of the mood, hair, makeup, wardrobe, model poses, background, and any aspect that will help to communicate the vision for the photo shoot.

What is a storyboard?

A storyboard is a collection of images that create the vision for the photo shoot. It is a key communication piece that helps guide the team to the desired outcome.

Why create a storyboard?

A storyboard is your road map for the photo shoot and an essential tool to ensure the team works toward the same vision.

How do you create a storyboard?

A storyboard can be created with poster board, adhesive, and magazine tears, or electronically in a Microsoft Word document or PowerPoint. Create a header for the following segments: *Background/Environment*, *Mood*, *Model Poses*, *Lighting*, *Haircut*, *Color and Style*, *Makeup*, and *Wardrobe*.

Then, add images for each section. Once complete, you will have a clearer picture of the look of your photo shoot. Be flexible with your vision and open to ideas and suggestions from your photographer.

Follow the Photo Shoot and Fashion Show Guidelines to prepare and execute an incredible fashion show.

Record your color formulation on the Formulation Worksheet.







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Performing a Technical Makeup Photo Breakdown

Work closely to assure the makeup does not overpower the hair or overall look. Practice the makeup inspiration prior to the photo shoot and take digital pictures as a three-dimensional face projects differently on a flat photo.

Using your inspiration photos or makeup tear sheets and a photo of your model, perform a technical makeup photo breakdown. Remember the importance that texture plays in makeup (matte, shimmer, shine, light, and dark) by asking questions, such as:

- Is the makeup a matte finish?
- Does the makeup contain shimmer? Shimmer can often cause "hot spots" or shiny areas in photos and must be used masterfully.
- Do you see a natural glow or shine? Which product would you use to achieve this effect?
- Where do you see light and dark?
- What is the shading or highlighting placement?
- What is the model's temperature: cool, warm, or neutral?
- · What is the model's contrast: low, medium, or high?
- Will the photo be in color, black and white, or both?
- Analyze the use and plan for the product choice and application steps for each area of makeup: eyebrows, foundation and concealer, eye shadow, eyeliner, eyelashes, lips, and cheeks.

Please Avoid:

- Avoid any aspect that detracts from the overall look.
- An avant-garde application can date a photo; limit its use.
- · Avoid feathers, rhinestones, flowers, and other objects.
- Remember this is a beauty shot; limit the use of models with tattoos and extreme piercings.
- Avoid piercing in the nose, face, cheeks, lips, and eyebrows.



