



# *Family Session*

## PREP GUIDE



*Hello!*

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LET'S MAKE SOME MAGIC TOGETHER

I'm so glad you chose me as your family photographer!!

By taking this first step, you have invested in your family legacy by creating memories that will be cherished for generations to come.

This guide will address everything you need to know to make this family session a low-stress and enjoyable experience for you and your whole family. Because making memories shouldn't produce frown-lines!

I can't wait to showcase the unique story of **your** family.

*with love, Gisele Becker*





# Your Family Session

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## S U & F A M I L Y

**Date:** November, 3rd

**Place:** Philips Academy

7 Chapel Ave, Andover, MA 01810

**Time:** 4:00pm

Your Family Session - "Petit" will begin promptly at 4:00pm and will last approximately 30/45 min.

### - The Petit Session

The "The Petit Session" includes 10 edited photos delivered digitally. The total cost is \$195, which must be paid at the time of booking.

Additional photos can be purchased, if desired, for \$15.00 each. You also have the option to upgrade to the Classic or Premium package, if you're interested.

### - When will I receive my photos?

A proof gallery will be delivered within 24 hours after your session. You will have 48 hours to select your photos and pay for any additional images if desired. The edited images will be delivered by **November 17**, giving you plenty of time to send out Thanksgiving and Christmas cards! The sooner you select your photos, the faster you will receive your gallery.

### - How will I receive my photos?

Your proof gallery will be sent to your email with a watermark and low resolution. You will not be able to download these photos. After you select your favorite images, I will edit them and send you a link for high-resolution downloads. It is your responsibility to download your photos within 90 days.







# What to wear

## COORDINATE, DON'T MATCH

Choose a palette of about 4 coordinating colors that are represented across all of the family's outfits.

Your photos should look timeless and classic, so start with one or two neutral shades (think white, cream, gray, beige), and then add some pops of color. Consider:

- the session location - you don't want to blend into the background
- the season - deeper hues for fall/winter, lighter colours for spring/summer
- your decor - your wall art should fit the room where it is displayed

Start your planning process with an outfit that Mom feels fabulous in, and then build the outfits of the rest of the family around that. Above all, choose outfits that are comfortable and will allow you the freedom to move and play.



# Color Palettes

IDEAS FOR EVERY SEASON

## SPRING



## SUMMER



## FALL



## WINTER





## SAY *yes*

- Earthy, muted colors
- Solid colors
- One outfit with a pattern
- Boots, sandals and sneakers
- Comfortable fits

## SAY *no*

- Neon colors
- Logos, words or characters on shirts
- More than 1 busy pattern
- Athletic runners and ballcaps
- Too tight
- Animal prints



IT'S ALL IN THE

# Details



## SHOES

Don't forget that shoes are part of your outfit! Forego the runners and heels, and choose boots, sandals and sneakers that are both practical and matches the setting.

## LAYERS + TEXTURES

For women, long dresses with light textures like voile are perfect for outdoor settings! Layers such as jackets, cardigans, and vests add depth. When used together, it's a winning combination!

## ACCESSORIES

Complete your look by adding hats, beanies, headbands, jewellery, scarves, belts, etc. It's a great way to show off your personality, without taking over the focus.

## HAIR + MAKEUP

Get haircuts at least a week before, and keep makeup natural. Better yet, get your hair and makeup done professionally. The confidence boost and no-stress is worth it!

## HANDS AND NAILS

Your hands will be holding, hugging and gently stroking in many of your photos, so make sure everyone has clean and trimmed nails with no chipped nail polish.





# What to expect

## LOVE, LAUGHTER AND CONNECTION

My goal is to capture your family as it is in this moment, whether it's during a Christmas photography shoot, mini sessions for the family, or just a day filled with joy, connection, and love ... and yes, even a bit of the chaos!

I want you to remember how you felt about each other in this time of your life. And so our session will be focused on doing things that will allow for these feelings to show. I will ask you to play, to hug, to joke, to chase, to tickle, to laugh. And as your love for each other plays across your faces, I will be there to capture the magic.

Although it may seem unposed, I will guide you every step of the way by positioning you in flattering light, and with gentle prompts to get the candid interactions started. And of course, we will get a few formal family photos for the holiday card as well.

And because these sessions are relaxed, play-based and very focused on your kids, they will hardly realize they are having their pictures taken!



# Activity Ideas

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## ADDING A SPRINKLE OF FUN

- A picnic on the beach or at the park
- Building a sandcastle and wading into the water
- Gathering wildflowers or looking for bugs in a field
- A walk in the rain, complete with umbrellas, boots and splashing in puddles
- Blowing bubbles
- Playing at a kids' play park
- Snowball fight
- S'mores and hot chocolate around a campfire
- A visit to a seasonal attraction (pumpkin patch, apple orchard, tulip fields)
- Cuddling and reading favourite books on a blanket





# Let them be kids

GO EASY ON THEM (JUST FOR THE DAY)



I'm sure you want for your children to be on their best behaviour. But that often leads to stern words, which in turn lead to tension, frowning faces and even tears.

Let your kids get away with a little more than usual, just for our session. While we always want them to be safe, it is also fine to let them run and climb a bit, or be a little silly, or act a little cheeky. Because those lead to natural expressions, authentic smiles and giggles, and real family connections, which is always what I aim to capture.





# Get Ready!

## WHAT TO DO

- Leave enough time to get ready, and navigate traffic, without rushing and stressing.
- Try to make sure everyone is rested - an extra nap (for adults too!) can go a long way.
- Come with full bellies - hungry kids are unhappy kids. But don't leave dinner for the car ride over and have to clean up kids in the parking lot.
- Plan a special treat for sometime after the session - ice cream, a toy, or a special outing can keep everyone motivated to keep going!

## WHAT TO BRING

- Lots of mess-free snacks that won't stain mouths or spill on clothes
- Water for everyone
- A brush, hairspray and/or gel
- Makeup for touch-ups
- A change of clothing, especially for kids
- Jackets/sweaters for when temperatures drop later on
- Bug spray
- PJs for the car ride home (they may fall asleep!)
- A relaxed, playful and come-what-may attitude. It will show in your photos!





# Print your photos

## PRINTING GIVES LIFE TO YOUR IMAGES

While capturing these emotion-filled moments with your family and viewing them on a phone or computer is enjoyable, there's nothing like tracing your fingers over a printed image of the smiles and faces that are so dear to you.

Hard drives fail and digital images can be forgotten. The best way to make these memories something you can cherish every day is to keep them where you can connect with them daily—display them on your walls, make prints to share or frame, and flip through an album filled with moments that make up your family's story.



### PRINTS

Prints are a perfect way to display a bunch of your favourite images, whether you pass them around or show them in small frames around the house. If your package includes printed photos, you will receive them in a beautiful box.



### WALL ART

IA beautiful modern canvas to take your breath away every time you pass by. It can be added to your package, talk to me.



### ALBUMS

Heirloom albums are designed to be passed down from one generation to the next. The album pages are printed and rich in color, perfect for little hands to flip through year after year as they follow the unfolding family story. It can be added to your package, talk to me.



# Frequently Asked

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## WHAT IF IT RAINS?

Unless there is a major storm or an out-of-season snowstorm, the mini sessions will continue as planned. In case of storms or snow, the sessions will be rescheduled to the following Saturday, so please keep that day available.

## WHAT ABOUT BEDTIMES?

The most flattering light for photos, and the light that is represented in my portfolio, all happen during the hour before sunset, or the hour after sunrise, when the sun is low enough in the sky to not cause harsh shadows on your faces, and you are bathed in soft, warm, golden light.

In the summer, this means that our session will probably start close or even after your children's bedtimes. In order to accommodate the late start, most of my clients adjust the day's schedule a bit to include an extra late-afternoon nap. Because our sessions are fun and kids will be kept busy being active outdoors, they won't even notice bedtimes passing (but they will pass out on the car ride home for sure!).

If you can't extend their bedtimes for this one day, please consider booking a sunrise session, or a late fall or spring session when the sun sets earlier.

## WHAT IF MY CHILD IS SHY?

It is perfectly normal for children to feel a bit apprehensive when meeting a stranger. Framing the photo session as a fun adventure with a friend who will be taking the photos will greatly help ease any anxiety.

I am a mother of four children of varying ages and understand well how to handle different stages of childhood. Rest assured!

At the session, there is no expectation for the children to "perform." They can take as much time as they need to warm up, and if they want to stay in your arms the entire time, that's fine too! I will be my extra silly self throughout, and it's likely that they will relax and be smiling in no time!









# a little love

## KIND WORDS FROM KIND FOLK



Gi, I have no words to thank you for the care you showed to our family. Everything was perfect; the light and relaxed atmosphere of the moment was excellent! I loved your idea of bringing the bouquet and shells, thinking of every detail. Thank you for your patience and care with our children. We felt taken care of as part of your family! That was the feeling! Now the most challenging part: choosing the photos... haha. It's impossible!! They all turned out beautiful and captured unique moments that we will never forget. Thank you for capturing every detail!

Family Dayer - Family Shoot



I loved Gisele's work; it was simply amazing! Her photos captured our family perfectly. Her creativity, professionalism, seriousness, and lightness in each shot turned our photo session into a unique family moment. The natural way she guided us made the photo time joyful, light, and fun, and that really showed in the pictures. I can only thank Gisele. Her punctuality in delivering the photos is also worth mentioning. In short, Gisele, you know how to capture the perfect moments and make the most of the beauty of nature. You were extraordinary!

Tolentino Family - Family Shoot





# a little love

## KIND WORDS FROM KIND FOLK

My family and I had a photo session with Gisele Becker, and we couldn't be more pleased with the result. The photos turned out absolutely stunning, perfectly capturing the essence of the memorable moment we shared at the beautiful natural setting chosen by Gisele, with the perfect sunset light. From the beginning, we were treated with great attention and professionalism. The photographer was extremely careful and dedicated, making the entire process enjoyable and fun for all of us. She had a keen eye for detail and an incredible sensitivity in capturing each child's personality. Besides the photos themselves, the experience was delightful. The photographer made us feel comfortable, guiding us with patience and creativity. We felt she genuinely cared about ensuring that every shot was perfect. We are extremely happy with the final result and the quality of the service provided. We highly recommend Gisele Becker's services to anyone looking to capture special moments in a unique and unforgettable way. Thank you very much for immortalizing these moments for our family!

Luz Fassarela Family - Family Shoot



We experienced the joy of being photographed through your lenses, by your perspective, and received so much care from you. I love these photos! (I still want the others and many more that we can take!)

Amado Family - Family Shoot





"Love is like a golden tie that binds the  
hearts of those who love and those  
who are loved"

St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori



*Get in touch*

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