

*plan your*  
PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION

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WAYS TO MAKE IT WORK

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# WELCOME



I'm Sue Kennedy a professional photographer based in Harlow, Essex and I have specialised in baby and child portraiture for the past 10 years. As a parent myself, I understand the importance of memories, and the role photography plays in capturing these precious memories as your family grows.

Along the way I have learnt a few things that help to make sessions run smoothly, but of course when dealing with children anything can happen!

Sue Kennedy

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# Be Calm & Patient

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# 1



Both ahead & during the session, then your baby/child will be too. I appreciate it's a new experience for everyone, but go with the flow. Young children won't take direction, but after photographing 500+ babies I know what works. Sometimes they don't want to play along and that's fine, there is always something else to try.



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## *Don't put it off*

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They change really fast – you’ve probably noticed this yourself. If I had a £1 for everyone who looked back on their newborn baby photographs when they are a toddler and said, “I’d forgotten how small ...” Well that’s just the point really; in the mist of too little sleep & the joy of parenting we forget how fast they have changed. Of course do reschedule if baby is poorly you know when they are not right.

Scratches can be airbrushed as can snot. It’s part of childhood!

*Timing is*

KEY

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It's helpful to time your session so we're not fighting sleep or food needs. The session will last for as long as the child is engaged for; talking, playing and having fun will produce natural smiles and real personality.

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# 4 *other* USEFUL THINGS



## COSTUME CHANGE

3 outfits max! And only if your child loves being dressed and undressed, otherwise stick to one. Formal, cute, or casual, but it must fit well. Babies under 6 months old, I would generally just photograph in a nappy (with cover) or plain vest.

## PERSONALISE WITH KEEPSAKES

Add to the memories by including favourite toys or other keepsakes. If there is something that has been in the family forever, bring it along.

## TOP TIP AFTER THE SESSION

Have a snack/drink ready (but hidden) for after their session; they will need it!

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## WHAT SHOULD MUM & DAD WEAR?

Wear a plain top yourself, as some shots are of baby on your shoulder or in Dad's hands.

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## KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY

Keepsakes are great in baby photos, but so are ones that have been handed down for generations - add it to the session for posterity!

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*Sue Kennedy*  
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