Free Photography Guide

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Hi! Nice to meet you!

I'm Natarsha March, photographer and mum. Most people call me Tarsh. Yes that means I have a rhyming name. I know, kind of cringey and a little bit funny. By the way, thats me and my family below.

Since launching in 2011 I have photographed hundreds of babies and families from all over Brisbane. It is such an honor to capture these special times for families and I love that I am able to create such beatuiful memories for you.

WHY CHOOSE ME?

I specialise in family and newborn photography. If you want beautiful, timeless photos of your family, I am the photographer for you.

I am fully insured and registered and have taken courses in newborn posing safety.

We can discuss over email what you would like from your family session. For newborns I will consult with you on the day of your booking about what props and colours you like from my collection to create unique images just for your family.

Your photos are delivered as jpeg files on USB or downloaded from the online gallery. This means you can easily share your photos with overseas or interstate family. I also offer pro-lab prints at great prices.

So if you have been considering a family photo shoot or have a new baby on the way, please get in touch, I would love to hear from you!







..... TOP TEN TIPS

FOR PHOTOGRAPHING KIDS

1 SAY ANYTHING BUT "CHEESE"

We all know the face that our kids pull when they say cheese - and it is <u>not</u> the photo we want to remember them by! Get them to say anything else - a funny or rude word will make them smile, or saying anything with a long vowel at the end, like "Pasta" will work too.



2 CHECK THE BACKGROUND

A bright background will make it hard for your camera to focus on someone in the shade. Where possible, turn people around so the background behind them is darker than where they are standing. Also, check there is nothing distracting behind them, like the overflowing washing basket or the dog. For some reason, the dog will always be looking at you when they photo-bomb.

3 SITTING STILL

I have a couple of tricks for this. Firstly, for younger children I give them somwhere particular to sit. You will only get about 30 seconds to get your photo with younger kids so make sure everything else is ready to go first! For older children I find bribes work well. You know your kids currency so pick something they want and use it to your advantage!

4 ANGLES

Get down to your childrens' level, or lower. You would be surprised how much more intersting the world is from down there. Also, standing straight on is always tempting but if you can get the kids to turn their shoulders a little you will have a more interesting angle of them. By the way, this is also slimming for adults

5 STEP AWAY FROM THE WALL

It is so tempting to get the kids to stand right up against a wall - it stops them running off right? Well if you can get them to take a few steps away (around a metre or two) the wall should go a little out-of-focus which will make your kids more in focus!

6 STAND IN THE SHADE

It is much better to stand all of your subjects in the shade than to be in the bright sunlight. You will be able to see faces better when there isn't sun blasting onto foreheads and noses!

7 GET CLOSER

Try to avoid using the zoom on your camera. Photos look so much better if you move closer to the subject instead of zooming in.

8 NO FLASH

Whenever possible, I try to avoid using the flash as it can take away the contours of a face. Also, some make-up will reflect in the light giving a white "vampire" look. Additional tip, if someone is taking your photo with a flash, don't be the face at the front - thats the one that goes white!



9 FILL FLASH

Sometimes adding a flash to an outdoor photo can help make your subject as bright as the background. If you are shooting with a bright background (like sitting under an umbrella at the beach) you might find the photo looks better with a flash. You will have to turn it on manually in this situation.

10 THE RULE OF THIRDS

Imagine there are two lines horizontal and two lines vertically through your screen, dividing it into 9 squares. When taking photos, if you can line up things onto those imaginary lines the photo will be more pleasing. For example, line up the horizon on the bottom or top line, not through the middle.

BOOK A PROFESSIONAL FAMILY SHOOT

Sometimes it is much harder to photograph your *own* children. Trust me - I have tried. This is just one of the reasons people choose to hire a photographer to do all the hard work for them! Capture your family in a professional photography shoot from just \$199. Full details and package prices can all be found on the website

www.nmarchphotography.com.au



YOUR SMART-PHONE CAMERA

anytime, anywhere

WE HAVE OUR PHONES ON US MOST OF THE TIME, SO IT MAKES SENSE THAT WE USE THEM TO TAKE THE MAJORITY OF PHOTOS OF OUR FAMILIES. BE SURE YOU ARE GETTING THE BEST PHOTOS POSSIBLE FROM YOUR PHONE BY FOLLOWING THESE TIPS

CLEAN YOUR LENS

You would not believe how dirty your phone lens gets, which means blurry murky photos.

TAP THE GOOD STUFF

Before you snap your shot, tap the part of your photo that is most important. Your phone will make sure it is in focus and correctly exposed for where you tap.

HOLD STILL

Phone cameras take their best photos when you can keep them still. Place your phone on a table or lean against a tree to stabilise your hand.

USE FILTERS RESPONSIBLY

If at all! Filters can distract from the real reason you took the photo, so if you choose to add a filter, try to keep it light.

PHONES ARE NOT EQUAL

Some phone cameras are better than others. If your phone camera is not high quality then consider using a point-and-shoot for your photos. I always have mine in my bag. It might make it harder to share on social media but your family memories should be kept forever and worth more than just a facebook share.





TIPS FOR PHOTOGRAPHING

Newborns and Babies Photos to take at home and when to book a professional



SHOOT DOWN THE NOSE

One of the hardest thing about photographing newborns is getting the angle right. Try and remember to take the photo looking down the baby's face and not up the nose.

ZENSURE THEY ARE COMFORTABLE

The best photos of babies and newborns are when they are snuggly and comfortable. If they are propped awkwardly on something its not good and its not safe.

SAFETY FIRST

Speaking of propping babies on things - please don't. If you have been on Pinterest you will have seen babies on tonka trucks or wrapped in fairy lights at Christmas. These are very unsafe things to do with your precious new baby. The photos of babies balanced on things or dangling from tree branches are done with in photoshop so that the baby is never in an unsafe position. These images are for saftey-trianed professionals to create and not to be tried at home. As a newborn specialist photographer I know to capture these photos safely for you!

4 GET IN THE PHOTO

Make sure you have photos of you with your baby. I know this can be hard becasue we don't usually feel so great ourselves at this time, but it is a once in a lifetime chance to capture your bond with your new baby, so please do.

CAPTURE THE LITTLE THINGS

Take photos of your baby's tiny hands and feet, eyelashes and all the other sweet details that are so perfect and precious.

GET THE SHEETS OUT

A great photo to take at home is as simple as laying a sheet on the floor behind your baby. This is best done from around 4 months when they can lift their heads and smile. This example is finished in photoshop by painting white over the corners.















MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR DSLR

IF YOU OWN A DSLR BUT HAVE BEEN TOO SCARED TO MOVE TO MANUAL MODE, HERE IS A QUICK CHEAT SHEET ON HOW THE FUNCTIONS WORK

F STOP

Like the iris in your eye the more open it is (the lower the number) the more light gets in. But be careful as the lower the number the less will be in focus. I usually don't go lower than 2.8 for a single portrait and for groups set it to the number of people in the photo.

SHUTTER SPEED

The higher the number the faster the click. Slow speeds will blur, high speeds will capture things like water droplets in mid-air.

ISO

This makes the photo brighter. I usually set this last, but ideally you want it as low as possible as it adds noise/grain to the photo.

LENSES

I highly recommend purchasing a 50mm lens. This is my favourite lens for photographing children and the entry level model starts from around \$100!



