

DEAN AGAR | PHOTOGRAPHY

Planning your  
Headshot photography session

For Men & Women



Outfit ideas, planning, preparation, tips and do's & dont's.

PUT YOUR BEST IMAGE FORWARD

with  
*Headshots*  
by Dean & Karen Agar

**Please use this link for our prices and to book your headshot session.**

Dean and I are so excited that you are considering booking an actors or personal branding headshot session with us. This handy guide will take you through outfit ideas, do's & don'ts and how to prepare for your experience with us.

There is so much competition out there these days that you must have the best headshot possible. This applies to both actors and to corporate branding headshots. Your headshot must be up to date and it needs to show your personality and to be able to connect with your audience & ideal client straight away.

This guide will give you some inspiration and I hope it will put some concerns to bed for you. If you have any questions at all, I am a phone call away on 0402 230 669 or email me at karen@deanagar.com.au.

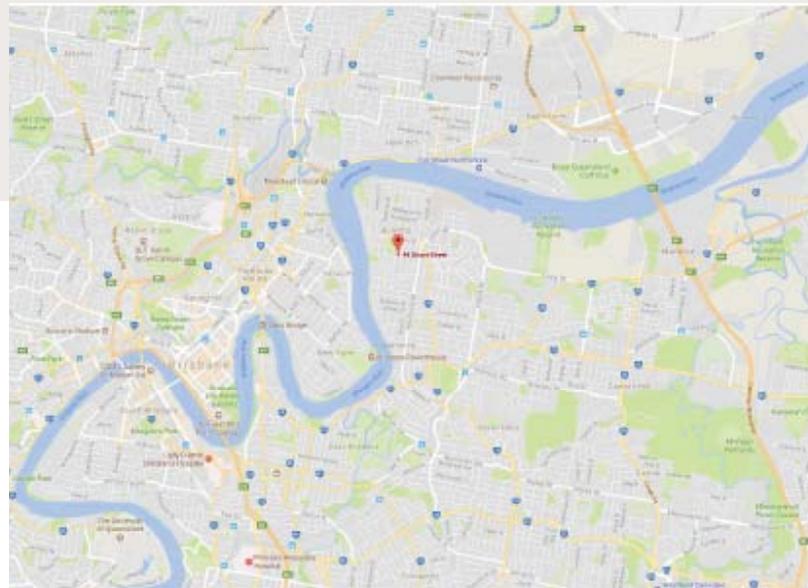
Dean and I look forward to meeting you and giving you photographs that will help you to put your best image forward.

All photographs used have been created by Dean & Karen Agar and used with the kind permission of our wonderful clients.

# FAQ

## **Where are we located?**

Our studio is conveniently situated in Stuart Street, Bulimba. We are 10 mins from the CBD, 8 mins from the Gateway Motorway by Lytton Road and 10 mins from the M1 Pacific Highway. We are happy to collect you from the Bulimba Ferry/City Cat terminal or from the Morningside train station. There is free on-street parking available on both Stuart Street and Smallman Street, close to the studio. Sessions are by appointment only.



## **How long will your session take?**

We know that your time is very valuable so we will not take any longer than necessary to get the best images possible. If you are using our professional hair and makeup service you can expect that to take an hour before we start on photographs.

The photographs and the viewing will be mostly done within an hour unless you are wanting more than 6 final images and have more than 3 changes, in which case you may be with us for around 1.5hrs. We are very fast though as we have had years to perfect our methods and have a very well organised studio space. We view the images right after the session so that you do not have to return for viewing.

## **Do we backup and archive the session afterwards?**

**ABSOLUTELY YES!** We keep backup copies of every session, with a full copy at the studio and another copy safely backed up offsite in case we have a studio disaster. We do not delete the images that you don't purchase which means that you can come back and purchase more in the future if you wish. We will also have a copy of your images if you ever lose your copies.

## **Do you edit the final images?**

We will colour correct and edit the final images and we will also discuss with you at the time of the viewing exactly how much editing you want. For acting headshots we cannot edit permanent features as that will not represent honestly. We do edit skin blemishes and suntan marks. For corporate images we will do more editing. Men do not usually need much editing other than skin blemishes and a little trimming if they request it. For the ladies we would smooth skin and trim if needed or if desired. Once again, we will discuss this at the time of viewing.

## **Do you photograph teams or groups?**

Yes, we are happy to photograph your office team in our studio where we can control the lighting and ensure that all of the images match. You can car pool or arrive a few at a time or you can come to see us on separate days to suit each person and we will make sure that the lighting setup matches for each person. This is especially handy for offices that have a high staff turnover and need photographs throughout the year.

# *Posing? Let us worry about this!*

Most people will fret about posing. They think that a session will be like it is in the movies. A model jumping from one pose to another and the photographer machine gunning shots in rapid succession. This is as far from reality as you can get, unless, of course you are a professional model.

We take our sessions slowly and we perfect each pose before we move onto another. We pose you perfectly according to the style of session, your body shape and taking your personal concerns into account. We aim to achieve the most flattering pose possible in the very best lighting possible for you.

We have been photographing men and women now for the past 10 years and we know the best way to pose all body shapes and all ages for the most flattering results. We use both flash photography and natural light and we know the best lighting to use for the best results for each individual regardless of size, age or skin colour.

Dean is always perfecting the pose for you and Karen is watching at all times for any issues like costume malfunctions, creases, hair problems etc so that your images are as close to perfect for you as possible, straight out of camera.



We will gently guide you at all times so that we avoid nasties like a double chin & to minimise any problem areas that you may be concerned about.

It doesn't matter whether you are wanting headshots for acting, modelling, performing, social media or for corporate branding. Or whether you are wanting formal or casual headshots or a bit of each, we have the expertise to get the best results possible for you.

We have perfected many poses over our 10 years that are flattering to most body types so relax in the session and let us do the work with the posing. As long as you follow our instructions, relax and trust us, we **will** get awesome results for you.



# Preparation

A great headshot session starts with the right preparation. I have put together a list of do's & don't's to make things easier for you.

## FOR WOMEN WHO ARE USING OUR HAIR AND MAKEUP SERVICE.

### The day before:

- Be sure to get a good nights sleep the night before so that you are not tired and washed out.
- Wash your hair the night before and let it dry naturally without product. Don't straighten it or it may not curl if you want loose curls for your session. Just leave it natural.
- Pack your outfits and any accessories the night before so that you are not throwing a bag together at the last minute. This will avoid forgetting things. Hang your outfits to avoid creasing.

### On the day:

- Please arrive at the studio with clean, dry hair. You may apply moisturiser to your face, but don't apply any makeup. We will have one of our awesome makeup artists here waiting for your arrival for the perfect hair style and makeup.

## WOMEN DOING THEIR OWN HAIR & MAKEUP AND FOR MEN.

- Be sure to get a good nights sleep the night before so that you are not tired and washed out.
- Ladies arrive with makeup done and clean, styled hair.
- Pack your outfits and any accessories the night before so that you are not throwing a bag together at the last minute. This will avoid forgetting things. Hang your clothes to avoid creasing.
- Men please arrive groomed and ready to shoot. If you like you can arrive un-shaven for a few images with facial hair and then shave part way through the session for a clean look.

The most important thing is not to overthink about the session. Don't let it get into your head to the point that you are stressed and fretting over it. If you have packed your things the night before and done your



### What we can & can't fix for you.

There are a number of things we can fix in photoshop but there are also some things that we cannot fix so it is good to know in advance. If you are unsure about something please ask in advance.

### We can fix:

Bruises  
Small tattoos around 20 - 40mm in size  
Stretch marks  
Thin up thighs, tummies, upper arms  
Scars  
Pimples  
Small birth marks

### We cannot fix:

Tattoos over 40mm in size  
Large birth marks  
Bad suntan marks  
If you have a tattoo that you do not want seen in your photos we will work around posing to avoid showing it.

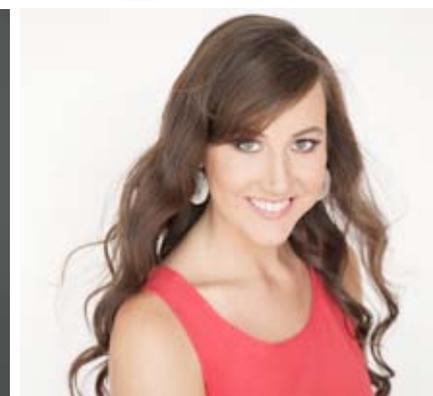
For actors headshots we cannot do a lot of photoshop work. We will correct pimples and bruises but we cannot photoshop things that are permanent features as it will not be a true representation of you for castings. We have a bit more latitude with editing for corporate branding images.

# *What to wear - Women*

Please try to avoid busy patterns like stripes, spots, large patterns or large logos. Solid plain colours are best. We want the focus to be on your face rather than being distracted by a busy top or dress. Neutral colours like black, white and grey are great but you can also include some bright colours for a change. Just please avoid busy patterns.

For headshots bring in a few different tops so that we can pick the best. Bring in jeans, trousers or skirts to go with the tops. A nice dress will work also but avoid anything busy and also avoid tent style dresses as they will make you look larger than you are. Something that fits well and gives you a nice waist line is great.

For a formal business look bring a shirt and a jacket and you can also vamp up a plain top with a colourful scarf. Handy hint: Don't over complicate your image.



# *What to wear - Women*



# *Sitting - women*

Sitting poses will give a more relaxed, casual look to your headshots. Great for actors and casual corporate.



# What to wear - Men

Please try to avoid busy patterns like stripes, spots, large patterns or large logos. Solid plain colours are best. We want the focus to be on your face rather than being distracted by a shirt. Neutral colours like black, white and grey are great but you can also include some bright colours for a change. Just please avoid busy patterns.

For headshots bring in a few different shirts so that we can pick the best. Bring in jeans or trousers and if you are wanting a formal look, a dark suit & a few ties. For shirts bring in long sleeves if possible plus a few short sleeve t-shirts if you are going for some casual shots. Just avoid large t-shirt logos and please avoid striped or check shirts.

For actors & social media shots, leather jackets look pretty cool in photos if you have one.



# Teams & groups



If you are part of a business team we can provide team images along with individual images. If you are a performing group we can help you with this also. Be sure to co-ordinate your outfits, especially for corporate teams so that you look like a team.



# Backgrounds

Our backgrounds are white, grey, green, black, burgundy plus 2 different bricks, cream and a black wallpaper plus a timber background. We also use our large window with sheer curtain for a soft feminine background using natural light particularly for the ladies.

For corporate headshots we would prefer to keep the background quite neutral. We would use the bricks for actors or personal social media images for something different.



# Props

For sitting poses we have a brown leather chair, rustic timber chair, white chair, black & white stool, Beige ottoman, rustic metal chest, cane chair, ornate chair & white chaise.



# Lighting

## Natural light

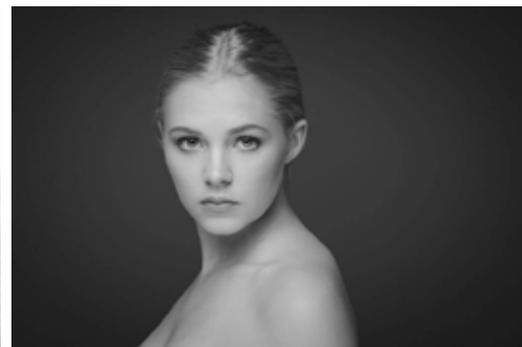
## Flash

We use both natural light and flash for our headshot sessions. The choice of light will depend upon the kind of images that you are ultimately wanting, but our aim is to get the very best results for you, so we will adjust our lighting according to that goal.

We are experienced with lighting both dark and light skin tones for both men and women and our makeup artists are also experienced with all skin types and all ages.

Flash lighting gives a more dynamic finish whilst natural light gives a softer, more natural finish. We will usually use flash for men and for younger women.

We prefer to use natural light with a small amount of flash fill for mature women, or people with problem skin as it gives a much smoother and more flattering finish. Flash light accentuates lines and skin problems while natural light tends to fill them in to a certain extent.





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Please use this link for our prices and to book a session.

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