

## Photo guidance

### ✔ Get it right

- You need to send two identical photos – don't attach them to the form.
- You must have one photo certified if you are applying:
  - for a first British passport (adult or child)
  - to replace a lost, stolen or damaged passport (adult or child)
  - to renew a child passport (if the child is aged 11 or under)
  - to renew a passport (adult, or child aged 12 to 15 years) if you cannot be recognised from the photograph in your current passport, or
  - to extend a passport.
- For all other applications, you do not need to have a photo certified unless your appearance has significantly changed since your current passport was issued.

Passport photos are a vital part of your application. If the photos you supply are not suitable, your passport will be delayed.

Please follow the instructions below carefully so you can get it right first time.

### Photo style

#### The photo must be of the applicant:

- facing forward and looking straight at the camera
- in close-up of their face, head and shoulders with a recommended head height (the distance between the bottom of the chin and the crown of the head) of between 29 and 34 millimetres
- with a neutral expression and with the mouth closed (no smiling, frowning or raised eyebrows)
- with their eyes open and clearly visible (no sunglasses or tinted glasses and no hair across the eyes)
- free from reflection or glare on glasses, and frames must not cover eyes (we recommend that, if possible, glasses are removed for the photo)

- showing their full head, without any head covering, unless they wear one for religious beliefs or medical reasons
- with no other objects or people in the photo (this also applies to a photo of a baby or young child and babies should not have toys or a dummy in the photo)
- without shadows on the picture
- without anything covering the face – nothing should cover the outline of the eyes, nose or mouth, and
- not showing any 'red-eye'.

### Photo size must:

- be the size of a standard passport photograph taken in a photo booth or studio, 45 millimetres high x 35 millimetres wide, and
- **not** be trimmed or cut down from a larger photograph to the size of a standard passport photograph.

### Photo quality must:

- be taken against a plain cream or plain light-grey background
- be printed to a high quality, such as photos printed by a booth or studio (photographs printed at home are unlikely to be of a high enough quality)
- be clear and in sharp focus
- be taken within the last month
- be in colour on plain white photographic paper
- **not** be torn, creased, or marked, and
- **not** have any writing on the front or back – except when one of the photos needs to be certified.

### Children

Children aged five and under do not need to have a neutral expression or to look directly at the camera. Babies under one don't need to have their eyes open. If the baby's head needs to be supported, the supporting hand must not be seen. All other photograph standards must be met.

**Get more advice at**  
[www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports](http://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports)

