PHOTOGRAPHING MEN

There are a number of important factors to consider when creating portraits of men. A key consideration is posing. You may have perfect light and a perfect exposure, however, if the pose is awkward, you'll have an unhappy subject.

SHARP ANGLES

Unlike female subjects, when working with a male model, it is recommended to emphasize lines and sharp angles (jaw, back, arms, etc).

JAW LINE

Have the subject push their chin out and angled down slightly. This helps by stretching the neck in a subtle way. Avoid pulling the chin back, as this can create the effect of a "double chin".

SHOULDERS

Ask your subject to stand tall, and square the shoulders by pushing up slightly and leaning towards the camera . The subject should keep their core tight, by breathing slowly and relaxing.

LEGS

The subject should not be standing with his legs completely straight. Ask him to place more weight on one leg and bend and relax the other.

HAND PLACEMENT

Good hand placement helps show confidence. It also makes the subject feel at ease. Ask him to try putting his whole hand in his pockets or leaving just the thumbs out. Watch out for "stiff hands".

LEANING

This pose helps the subject relax, and creates strong visual leading lines.

SITTING / ARMS

Ask your subject to extend one arm (or both), rest it on one leg while relaxing the other arm, and lean towards the camera. This helps by stretching the body, and it's a great pose to show clothing.

ONE LEG UP

This pose can be done in a sitting or standing position. If standing have your subject rest the bending leg on a wall.