

HOW TO TAKE THE BEST PHOTOS OF YOUR PETS: DO'S AND DON'TS

You don't have to be a pro-photographer to capture the perfect snapshot of your beloved pet. Most cell phones have powerful cameras and these simple tips are all you need to fill your camera roll with endless pet portraits.

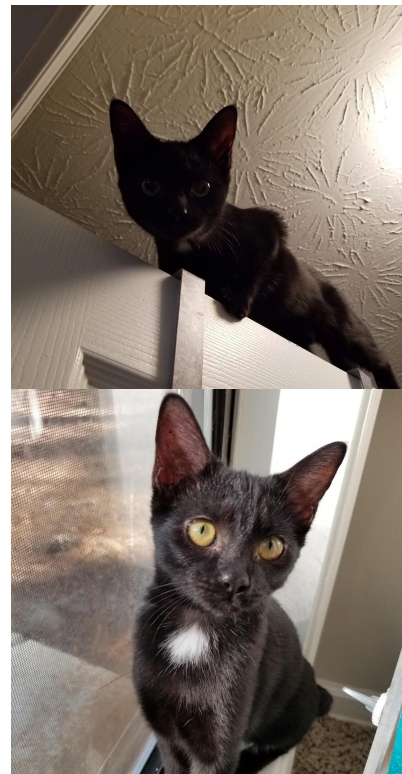
LIGHTING IS KEY

DON'T photograph in direct sunlight. Bright sunlight can create harsh shadows and squinty eyes! Same goes for direct interior lighting like lamps or severe overhead fixtures

DO get enough light. Too little light can be just as bad as too much. Without enough light, your photo could lose a lot of detail. Keep in mind, indoors at night is typically too dim to capture a clear photo.

The absolute best lighting is natural lighting either near a window or outside on an overcast day.

Have you heard of the golden hour? This is near sunset (and sunrise, but I'm not getting up that early) when the sun is low and the light is warmer and softer. Natural lighting will also reduce the need to use a flash. Just like direct sunlight, a flash can create unwanted shadows, glares, or scary red eyes!



WATCH YOUR ANGLES

DON'T stand above your pet to snap a picture. You'll likely lose a lot of their best features and their body could end up in an odd position. Your pet's personality comes through in their facial features, so make them the focal point.

DO get on their level. Try to align your camera to their eye level and do whatever you can to direct their gaze to your camera. I imagine most, if not all, pet owners have a magic word to perk up those ears!

While you're down with your pet (and before you stay down to play with them) snap photos from all sides. Symmetrical and straight on. Side profile. A sweet $\frac{3}{4}$ head turn. This will give you options and more opportunity to capture their personality!

DIDN'T I SAY SIMPLE?

Whether you're filling your social media feed or commissioning a pet portrait, I can guarantee awesome results with these pet photography pointers. Implement these tips and don't forget to share your photos!

