

Picture Perfect Holidays!

Who doesn't like to receive holiday greetings from friends and family? How often do you see a great family photo and think, "We should have done that"! Well, the time has come to heed my advice, and get your family act together! The first thing you'll need to do is decide on your theme, and then head to the Goodwill Retail Store & Donation Center nearest you. This can and should be a family adventure, and may well become a tradition at your house. There are so many looks or themes to choose from for your portrait. Here are just a few with for you to think about.



Classic: Everyone gets dressed up in his or her "Sunday Best". In other words, Dad would wear a shirt, tie and maybe a suit, Mom would wear a nice dress, and the children would wear appropriate attire as well. This picture would be one that could be kept up year round, so it should not appear "overly seasonal". This picture would almost be considered a "formal" family portrait! If you don't have dressier clothing, this might be a good time to start looking, as I am sure you will find many occasions during the holidays to put them to good use.



Sweaters: A more relaxed version of the "classic" picture. Think of nice sweaters in seasonal colors, over shirts and corduroy pants. It would be really fun if everyone had on the same tones like red, blue or green. Just keep in mind how all the colors will play off of each other if you decide to wear different colors. Cool tones will recede, and warm tones will move to the front visually. While at your local Goodwill Retail Store, you might want to also look for a few items to add a little holiday magic to the background as well. Have a good time putting together your family's "theme".



Outdoorsy: This could be fun for those of you who love being outside when the weather is chilly. Look for ski jackets, or other interesting and colorful outdoor sporting wear. If you already have jackets, you might also look for accessories to dress up your picture. Hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, boots, snowshoes, sled or ski equipment! Of course this would depend on the type of outdoor activity your family likes!



Funny: My favorite category, especially if you have small children. This theme lets the imaginations go wild and over the top! Finding the gaudiest "Holiday Themed" items you can, such as appliquéd sweaters and embellished anything. I have even seen sweatshirts that have a "lighted" tree on them! The idea here is to use your creativity and capture the fun your clan has together. You may also look for silly elf hats, Santa hats, or just plain crazy knit caps that look like they may fit the theme. Matching is not required here as each family member can have a great time finding his or her own "look". Don't forget to include your pets. This shopper has spied doggie sweaters and reindeer antlers on many occasions.



Last but not least, anyone with an infant should really look for cute seasonal wear for his or her own little angel. Not only will you find a great variety of looks, but also you'll be able to get them for just a few pennies on the dollar at the Goodwill Retail Store & Donation Center near you! Just think, your family can give everyone a great portrait and you can know that your purchase has just helped someone get a job in your community. Isn't this the time of giving after all?

