

SENIOR

welcome guide

ROSE QUARTZ PHOTOGRAPHY



ABOUT ME

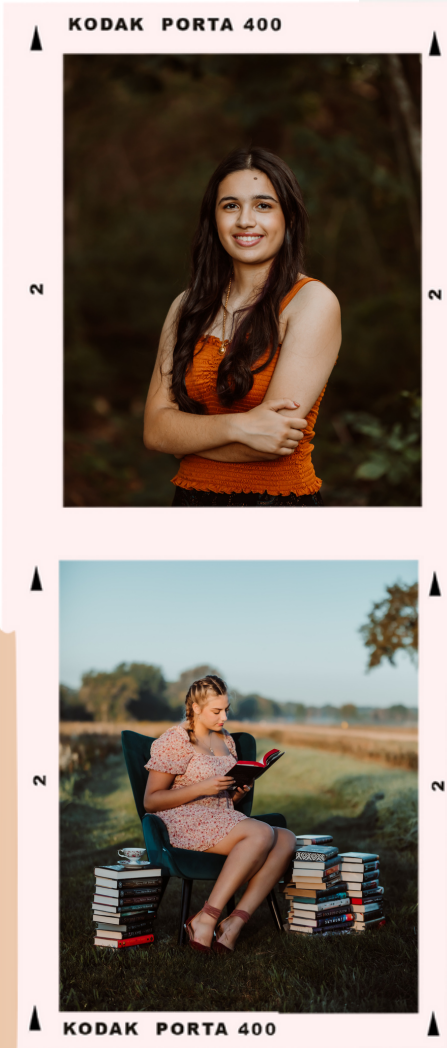
Hey! I'm Kayse! (Pronounced like Casey)

I am the owner and primary photographer at Rose Quartz Photography. I have been a professional photographer since 2012, but I got my start photographing and “modeling” with a friend in high school. The result was some really ridiculous, amateur hilarity that was taken very seriously at the time, inspired by America’s Next Top Model. #smize

My favorite sessions to photograph are couples that absolutely adore each other, senior graduates who love to showcase their passions, and women who need a little reminder of the beauty everyone else sees in them.

Some of my favorite things are my cat, having a garden that's too big to handle, and eating chips and guacamole while kayaking.

Kayse



Yay! You booked your session, now what?

Now you need to: Pick your location. Pick your outfits. Pick your props. Pick your hairstyle. Decide who's coming with you. Decide what time of year to do a session. Figure out how to apply fake lashes? Shop for shoes that go with multiple outfits. Practice your smile. Do you pop that pimple or not? Ahhhh!

Yeah, it's a lot! Let us help you begin. We'll give you a quick run down of what to expect, what to bring, and what the heck to wear.

WHAT TO *expect*

Our posing style incorporates both formal and informal, meaning there will be plenty of pictures for your grandma, along with those you'll want to post to Instagram. We normally try to start with the more formal poses. As you begin to warm up to the camera, we transition into the more fun, informal poses, such as blowing confetti, showing off your dance moves, or hitting a ball.

This is also when we will incorporate the poses you may have shared with us from Pinterest or elsewhere. With that being said, don't be worried if you cannot get your limbs to exactly match the model's in the photo - we may need to adjust it ever so slightly to make sure it flatters YOU!

HEY!

*Don't forget to send
us your Pinterest
board of inspo!*







WHAT TO WEAR

& how to prepare

Overwhelmed with colors? Pick a palette!



Start by picking a palette of 3-4 colors. When putting together your palette, think in terms of tones: choose neutrals (ex. grey, white, tan, etc.), jewel tones (ex. emerald green instead of kelly green), or muted colors (ex. mauve instead of neon pink). You know what looks best with your hair and skin tones, so plan towards whatever makes you the most confident! True reds often photograph really bold and can be distracting. Yellows will often bounce yellow shadows up under your chin, which is super unflattering.

Outfits

When planning your outfits, make sure that you have a variety of looks! Possible categories: casual, cozy, dressy, school-related, sports-related, preppy or edgy. I recommend choosing 2-3 of those categories and finding outfits accordingly. This provides an array of options during your senior portrait session, so each outfit showcases a different part of your style.

Patterns

You are welcome to wear whatever patterns you choose, but over the years, we have learned that certain ones photograph better than others. Here are our tips!

- Bold stripes don't photograph well, especially if they're black and white, red and white, or navy and white. However, thin stripes without much color contrast look just fine.
- Windowpane print can show off curvature, especially when on pants. Decide if you like this or not.
- Houndstooth tends to look pixelated when far away.
- Dainty florals photograph well, but bold florals with too many different colors are iffy. If you're going to wear a floral, try to make it one with fewer colors rather than more.
- Gingham colored black and white or red and white photograph as very busy.

Accessorize

- Transport pieces of jewelry in separate ziplock bags so they don't tangle together. Even better, hang them on the hanger of the outfit you'll pair them with to avoid losing them.
- If you like hats, bring one along. We love a good color-coordinated felt hat!
- Sunglasses are a favorite, too.

Trends

If you want to wear something trendy, plan for 1 trendy outfit per classic outfit. Mom jeans won't be in style forever, so it is nice to have some balance.

Flowy or boxy items: Our tip is to pair flowy tops with tighter pants, such as slim fit jeans or leggings, and vice versa. Boxy tops tucked into paper bag pants will likely photograph extra bulky.

Be comfortable.

If there are pieces in your closet that make you feel self-conscious or uncomfortable, don't include them in your senior portrait wardrobe! Additionally, we will most likely be sitting on the ground, laying down, walking and doing other things that could be difficult if your clothing is uncomfortable, too tight, too short, etc!

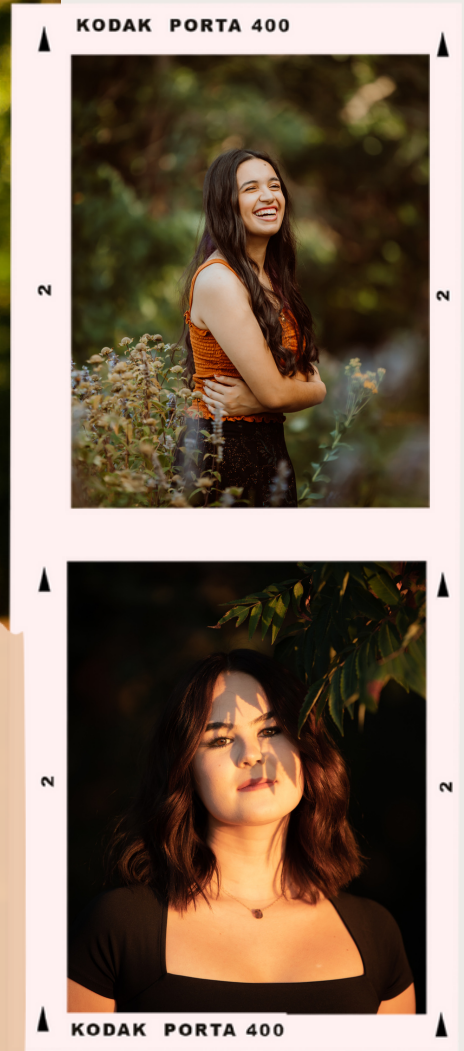
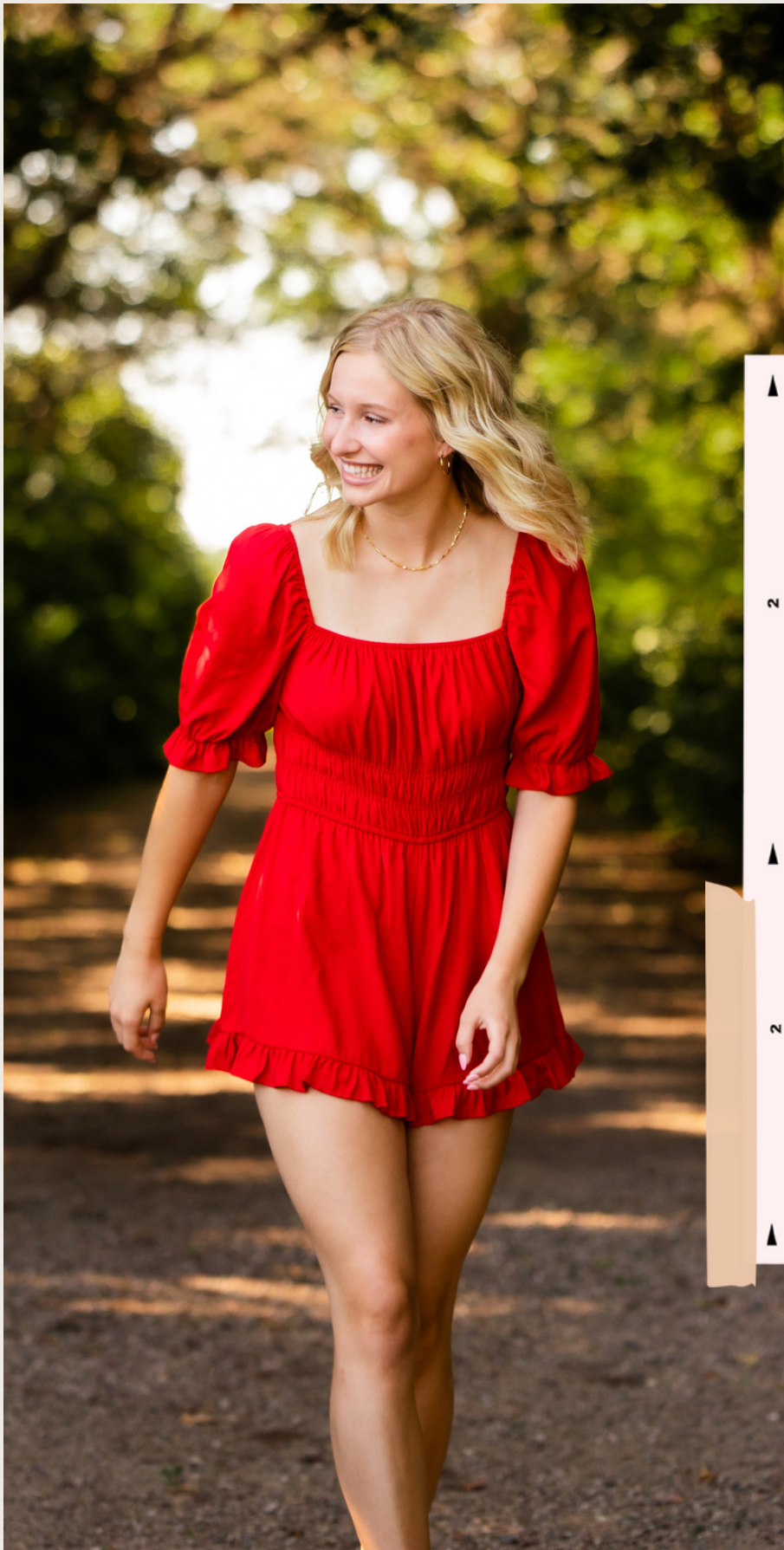
Hair & Makeup

If it fits your budget, hiring a professional for hair and makeup can really enhance your session. I've got a recommendation for a fantastic artist that would love to help! If you're doing your own hair and makeup, style yourself in a way that looks like you, just slightly enhanced - if you don't wear a lot of makeup, just add an extra coat of mascara and some neutral colored lip gloss. Your nails will show in images, so keep that in mind, too. If you're a hat wearer, and won't be wearing a hat for your session or for your whole session, avoid wearing your hat at all before your shoot.

Undergarments

Try outfits on with the undergarments you plan to wear - you do not want to realize too late that your underwear lines show up on the dress you love, or that you packed some socks that look dorky with your cropped jeans.





other tips

- Dress for the season and the weather.
- Try on your outfits before the shoot. This will ensure that you are confident and happy with your look for your session and help you to avoid any unwanted fashion emergencies. Squat, walk, sit in them.
- Remember this session is all about capturing your beautiful self and that one of a kind personality. Just be yourself. Everything else is just a guideline.
- If we're shooting in a nature area, dress accordingly. If you want to wear heels with your fit, bring Birks for walking from spot to spot.
- Be cautious when tanning prior to your session! You may have a noticeable red or orange tone in your portraits if you are sunburnt or have a heavy tan. Keep your tan lines in mind when trying on outfits, too.
- Do not worry if you have blemishes! All of your final portraits will be fully retouched. Be sure your nails are trimmed and polished to your liking.





THE SESSION

information

Consultation & Payment

If you've got a lot of questions, please ask! We can hop on the phone, zoom, or email back and forth about outfits, locations, and ideas. We love doing senior sessions and we are so excited to come up with a plan for a customized idea that's unique to you.

Location

When it comes to choosing a location, consider places that offer diverse backgrounds and lighting options. Working in full sun can be challenging, except during golden hour or sunrise, so we prefer locations with ample shade when the sun is shining.

Our go-to favorite locations are state and county parks, as they provide prairies, woods, and waterways. This variety ensures that your photos will have different scenic backgrounds, and we'll have options for capturing both shade and light.

However, we're open to incorporating places that hold special meaning to you. Whether it's a barn, family cabin, or any other location you have in mind, just let us know, and we'll do our best to accommodate it. We have some fantastic recommendations for locations in the St. Cloud area if you need assistance in making a decision.

Time of Day

For the most stunning light in your photos, we highly recommend scheduling your session within the 3-hour window before sunset or just after sunrise. The hour before sunset, known as the 'golden hour,' offers the most beautiful and flattering light—our absolute favorite! Additionally, the light one or two hours after sunrise also creates a lovely ambiance for your portraits.

On the other hand, midday is not ideal for portraits due to intense shadows and harsh sun rays. As a result, we never schedule sessions during this time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Before the session

Be sure all clothes are clean and pressed. Be sure you have any props ready that you want to be photographed with. This is also the time to be careful of your sun exposure. Sunburns and tan lines are often very difficult to edit after the session, so be sure to wear lots of sunscreen and limit your time in the sun.

The session day

First, know that everyone feels awkward at the beginning of any shoot. You're not the only one! Nobody ever knows where to put their hands. Sometimes we don't even know where to put your hands until you're sitting in a pose either. We come with plenty of ideas in mind, and we'll tell you if something looks a little awkward. Just be yourself and give us a few smiles.

Be sure to eat beforehand and drink plenty of water. You're welcome to bring a parent or a friend. We do not recommend bringing the whole fam, it's way too distracting. Remember to pack your props, some water, some lip balm, and a hair brush.

After the session

Within a few days after your session, you'll have your sneak peeks! Feel free to share on socials and update your profile pics. You'll receive your full gallery of portraits within 2-3 weeks, as a digital download, and a print release so you can print wherever you like.



FAQ

When should I book my session?

Most students take their senior portraits the summer between their junior and senior year, but book as soon as possible, because appointments fill up fast. Every school has a specific deadline for the last day you can be photographed for the yearbook. We recommend booking in July and August to make sure you beat yearbook deadlines. Autumn months are often booked solid for us with family photo sessions.

Can I bring someone to my session?

Feel free to bring a friend, parent, or a sibling. Sometimes it's nice to have someone come along to make you laugh and schlep your gear. We love when you have someone along for the fun! Note to parents: we often get the most natural sessions where your kiddo really looks like themselves when they come with a friend!

What should I bring to my session?

This session is about you, so bring anything that shows off your personality and interests. Props could include athletic uniforms and equipment, musical instruments, cars, and even pets.

In addition to your outfit changes, we suggest lip or haircare.

What if it rains?

The week before your session, I'll be watching the weather to make sure everything looks peachy. But if it looks like there's going to be inclement weather the day of your session, I'll reach out a few days in advance to start formulating a game plan. Typically, if the weather forecast calls for a 50% chance of rain or high winds our policy is to reschedule.

Should I get professional hair and makeup done?

It is not a must, by any means, but the impact that really well done hair and makeup has on your senior portraits is quite amazing! I have a hair and makeup artist that I can recommend.

How long does it take to get my photos?

Within a few days after your session, you'll have your sneak peeks! Feel free to share on socials and update your profile pics. You'll receive your full gallery of portraits within 2-3 weeks, as a digital download, and a print release so you can print wherever you like.

Do you offer printing services?

We have a print shop available via your Pixieset gallery - you can order image right from your digital gallery. You'll receive a print release so you can print wherever you like, as well.



THANK YOU

get in touch!

Graduating high school is a really big deal. You're being launched into the world to make your own decisions, live on your own, and blaze new trails for your future. Bring us your ideas and hobbies; we'd love to capture images that represent who you are. Let's make magic!

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