

Pet Portrait Photo Checklist

Get the best results for your custom Conté portrait

Prepared by Laura-Lee Kelley - artist - petportrait.info

Lighting is Everything

- DO: Use soft, natural light. Outdoor shade or a bright room near a window works best.
- DON'T: Use a camera flash. It creates "red-eye" (or green-eye in pets) and flattens their features, hiding the fur texture.

Get on Their Level

- DO: Crouch or lie down so the camera is at eye level with your pet. This creates an intimate, soulful connection in the final painting.
- DON'T: Take the photo from standing up looking down. It makes their head look large and their legs look tiny (unless that's the "look" you want!).

Focus on The Eyes

1. DO: Ensure the eyes are sharp and in focus. The "soul" of the portrait lives in the eyes.
2. PRO TIP: Hold a treat or a squeaky toy right above the camera lens to get that alert, curious expression.

Resolution Matters

1. DO: Send the original file. Screenshots or photos saved from social media are often "compressed" and lose the fine detail of the whiskers and fur.
2. DON'T: Zoom in digitally. If you need a close-up, physically move the phone closer to the pet.

True-To-Life Color

1. DO: Make sure the fur color in the photo looks like it does in real life.
2. DON'T: Use heavy artistic filters (like those on Instagram or TikTok) before sending the photo to the artist.