



Half Steps Photography



WHAT TO EXPECT





WHAT TO EXPECT

Here you'll find the condensed version of Half Steps Photography's "What to Expect" guide. You will receive the full version in your Welcome Pack upon expressing interest in a date.

Before the session

Scheduling

Equestrian Lifestyle sessions will be scheduled for "golden hour". This lighting is the most flattering for you and your horse. Sunset is preferable to sunrise as this allows adequate time to prepare your horse, arrive early and tour the location. It also usually results in the best shots - you get more comfortable as the session goes on and the lighting gets better.



The scheduled time of arrival will allow for 30 minutes to tour the property and get to know each other. If your desired locations on your property are some distance apart, please let me know so I may allow 45 minutes.

Fine Art sessions will take place in a shaded location such as a stable breezeway or shed. These can be taken at any time of the day, and so will take place first if you have booked a Premium session. For these sessions, I will arrive 45-60 minutes early to set up my backdrop, get to know you and your horse, and allow your horse time to relax and feel comfortable in front of the backdrop.

If you have selected a Premium session, we can arrange extended session time if you would like your horse to be plaited for your fine art images in a glamour theme and unplaited and casual for your outdoor images. Extra time may allow you to take out braids and quickly shampoo and dry your horse's mane.



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Travel

Portrait sessions include 30 minutes of travel in each direction. Where possible, travel will be arranged on days that I am in the area. For travel significantly out of area, accomodation charges may apply. Any travel from Schofields NSW (2762) is charged at 30c/kilometre or \$30/hour - whichever is greater.

Helping hands

Please be reminded that having an assistant at a session is compulsory. An assistant must be physically up to the task of shaking objects for the duration of the session and willing to comply with all of the photographer's requests to keep you safe.



For example, the assistant will be very close to the horse during any images in which the rider is on the horse without a helmet - in many cases the assistant's limbs may need to be edited out of the shot. Assistants must be up to the task of handling and soothing the horse. On occasion, I may ask the assistant to hold an item (such as when setting up the backdrop).

If you don't have someone able to help you, that is okay! I can source a helper at \$25/hour. That said, having friends at the session makes it much more fun, so is highly recommended!

Let's talk

We will discuss your ideas for the shoot (e.g. any ideas or inspiration you've seen on Instagram, Pinterest, etc), you and your horse's personality, and more! This will ensure that the shoot is everything you've dreamed of – if you have a vision, I want to support you in achieving it. You can message me at any time with your ideas for outfits, poses, or just to shake off some nerves!





WHAT TO EXPECT

On the day

Get the sillies out!

It is recommended that all horses are worked in some way before the session, whether they're a 3 year old spicy warmblood or a 20 year old placid stockhorse! A horse who has been adequately worked down in advance will be far more consistent in their behaviour and allow you to get the most out of your session.



However, horses are horses, and even the best work down may still end up with a fidgety horse. We will get you great shots, regardless – so relax; breathe. Ignore them and smile!



The meet up and set up

The first 30-45 minutes of your session will be us getting to know each other, any setting up, introductions, and a tour.

For fine art sessions, I will also I will set up the backdrop and give your horse time to feel comfortable in the space. Backdrops reduce editing time (and therefore turnaround time for you). These can be done in a snaffle, double bridle, shanked bit or 'tackless' - we'll discuss how!

Want to know more about preparing for the session? The Preparation Guide in your Welcome Pack will include for tips on selecting your location and preparing you and your horse.



WHAT TO EXPECT

The session

We will head to some of the spots we have chosen and discussed on our tour of your location and we will begin our session. Our shoot will be a mix of candid and prepared moments. I will be there to guide you. Prepared poses will involve the session assistant directing the horse's attention or directing their head with treats or inquisitive objects. However, candid moments often look the best - this is why having a friend at your session is so great; it allows for more genuine moments.



After the session

Debrief



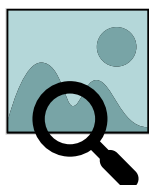
Immediately after the session we will have a little debrief and say goodnight to your horse. We can discuss if there are any features, e.g. scars, on your horse or yourself which you would like removed.

I will be able to provide an estimate of turnaround time based on my schedule at the time (varies between 1-4 weeks), although *this may change if you order additional photos a la carte.*

I will show you some samples of products that you can touch and feel so that when it comes time to select products, you know what I'm talking about! If you like, you can show me where you are thinking of hanging products so that I can best advise you on what will match your home's mood and space. Alternatively, we can arrange a video call or in person showing to help you with products.



WHAT TO EXPECT



Initial gallery preview

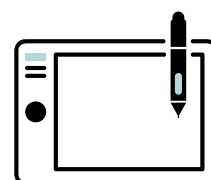
Within the next 1-4 weeks you will receive a link to a password protected online gallery. All of these images will have had a basic edit and adjustment to colour, lighting, contrast and clarity.

Equestrian Lifestyle images will have already received any required ear or closed eye adjustments. Fine art images will have a roughly drawn black or white background around the horse to help you visualise the final outcome. Upon purchase, these will receive a significant edit to accentuate your horse's features, and lead rope, rein or chain removal.

At this stage of the process, you will be able to select which images will be included as part of your selected package. You will also have the option to select extra digital images a la carte. I will be able to advise on your print choices through an optional videocall or in person session to run through the options.

Final edits

Once you have selected your images and products, I will provide you an invoice for any additional images not included in your session and prints, and will complete the final edits.



Products



Once you have confirmed you are happy with the images, I will write up a blog post and create an online video for you to share with your friends and family.

When the full balance of your print order is paid, I will place your print order. Products will be delivered to my address and personally inspected. If I identify any issues with the products, these will be returned and a replacement provided and inspected again. Once these have undertaken a quality inspection, they will be able for pick up and ready for display in your home!



WANT TO KNOW MORE?



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TESTIMONIALS

This was my first time having a photoshoot done with my horse, and I cannot speak highly enough about the experience. Lexi was prompt, professional and clearly comfortable and familiar with horses. My horse is notoriously bad for photos, but her impressive bag of tricks and commitment to getting some amazing shots made all the difference. At no point did I feel like I would be put in a position that I felt unsafe or uncomfortable and Lexi was respectful of my wishes and determined to get the best out of my horse. She did a great job in less than ideal circumstances and absolutely made the most of the time we had to work together. I highly recommend Lexi's services for anyone who wants to capture some special memories with their horse!

-Emma & Bob at Londonderry

