

## Photograph quality

### The photographs must be:

- no more than 6-months old
- 35–40mm in width
- close up of your head and top of your shoulders so that your face takes up 70–80% of the photograph
- in sharp focus and clear
- of high quality with no ink marks or creases



too close



too far away



blurred



ink marked/creased



looking away



unnatural skin tones



too dark



too light



washed out colour



pixelated



### The photographs must:

- show you looking directly at the camera
- show your skin tones naturally
- have appropriate brightness and contrast
- be printed on high quality paper, and at high resolution

Photographs taken with a digital camera must be high quality colour and printed on photo-quality paper.

## Style and lighting

### The photographs must:

- be colour neutral
- show your eyes open and clearly visible—no hair across your eyes
- show you facing square on to the camera, not looking over one shoulder (portrait style) or tilted, and showing both edges of your face clearly
- be taken with a plain light-coloured background
- be taken with uniform lighting and not show shadows or flash reflections on your face and no red eye



hair across eyes



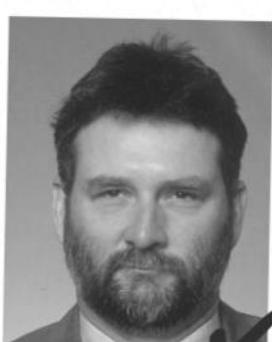
eyes closed



portrait style



eyes tilted



busy background



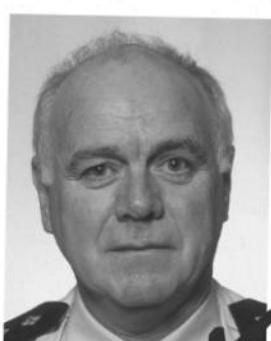
not centred



flash reflection on skin



redeye



shadows behind head



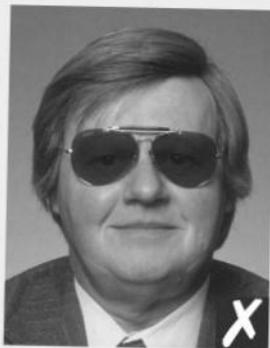
shadows across face



## Glasses and head covers

### If you wear glasses:

- the photograph must show your eyes clearly with no flash reflection off the glasses, and no tinted lenses (if possible, avoid heavy frames—wear lighter framed glasses if you have them)
- make sure that the frames do not cover any part of your eyes.



dark tinted lenses



flash reflection on lenses



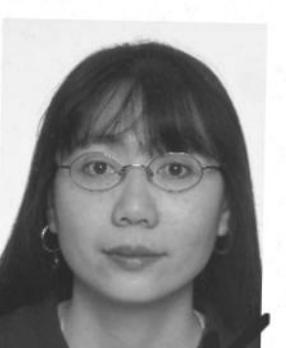
✓



frames too heavy



frames covering eyes



wearing a hat



wearing a cap



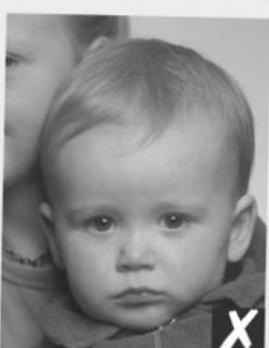
face covered



shadows across face



✓



shows another person



mouth open and toy  
too close to face

## Expression and frame

### Your photographs must:

- show you alone (no chair backs, toys or other people visible), looking at the camera with a neutral expression and your mouth closed.



✓