US Passport photo

U.S. passport — paper application (DS-11) / mail-in renewal (DS-82), printed photo

Print size	2×2 in (51×51 mm)
Head size	The size of your head in the printed photo must be between 1 -1 3/8 inches (25 - 35 mm) from the bottom of the chin to the top of the head.
Background	Background must be white or off-white, free of shadows, and plain without texture, objects, or lines.
Glasses	Take off any eyeglasses, sunglasses, or tinted glasses. Do not rest them on your head for the photo. If you cannot remove your glasses for medical reasons, please include a signed note from your doctor.
Head covering	Take off your hat or head covering. Religious (signed statement, worn daily in public) or medical (signed doctor's statement) exceptions; full face visible, no shadows, one color, no patterns or small holes.
Expression	Avoid exaggerated facial expressions. You can smile in your photo. Just make sure your eyes are open and your mouth is closed.
Taken within	6 months

Official wording

“Submit the original, unchanged photo. Do not change your photo using computer software, phone apps or filters, or artificial intelligence.”

Sources (checked 2026-11-07):

https://web.archive.org/web/20260710161749/https://travel.state.gov/en/passports/apply/help/photos.html
https://web.archive.org/web/20260524155455/https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply/photos.html
https://web.archive.org/web/20260709203317/https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/photos.html

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