### The First Year



















### "Imagine the wizard who makes time stand still. That's Melissa."

#### MEMORIES. KEEPSAKES. PHOTOS.

sweetness. personified.

they grow up so fast. you wish you could keep them small permanently. you never want to forget this time. let's get together. we'll bottle this age for keeps











#### THOSE FIRST MOMENTS GO BY IN A BLUR. Let's put some of them in focus.

















## Helpful Hints

- First and foremost please trust me! I've been caring for newborns since I was 3 1/2 and my brother was born. My mother used to wake up startled she'd slept in, only to find me in my brother's crib, with a bottle, his diaper changed and playing happily. I have patience and experience. Most clients call me the baby whisperer and ask if I can come back at 2 am. In a nutshell I love babies. They're my zen.
- A newborn session generally takes between 1-2 hours, ideally at your home. Do NOT stress over the 'condition of your house' or the 'lack of photography area' or any such nonsense. It always works out. A little clean floor space by a window works well. Nurseries, playrooms, beds, and couches work great too!
- Stay calm. Little ones know what's up particularly if it's your blood pressure. If you're stressed out they'll pick up on that. This should really be a good experience for everyone so don't worry about all the little details!
- Crying babies happen. and they don't bother me. in fact, I love to rock them. Feel free to take a catnap - or a shower.

- Comfortable, fun clothes, or naked baby bottoms. It's all fantastic. Extra diapers on hand are a must. If you have more than one outfit in mind, I recommend you start with the 'most important' outfit first. just in case. If you are looking for the 'au natural' look, try and remember to keep elastic waisted clothes and diapers loose for a few hours before the shoot to decrease the imprints left by them! It's quite helpful to have the house, or at least the rooms we'll be shooting in, warm so naked baby snoozes at peace without feeling cold. A space heater or a heating pad can be an asset, too.
- Older siblings are always welcome!
  Generally, we start with some family photos it's a mix of playing, being silly, and capturing them being themselves and asking them to sit with their new sibling too. still relaxed and sometimes full of a lot of 'NO' and that's ok (in this situation at least). No need for strife, off to the next idea! Once we get a few shots with the older siblings they can be excused from the remainder of the session, but they're welcome to watch and 'help' too if that's what they're up for. I'm happy to work with your fur babies too!
- The session is a relaxed process and usually involves a lot of patience, waiting, feeding, and inevitably, I get peed on, or otherwise, and that's ok! Newborn sessions are my favorite, and with mine grown past 6' and moved out, I relish in every nuance or your squishy bundle of love!





- Pacifiers for newborns are helpful. The sucking sensation keeps them sleepier and can be carefully plucked after positioning for a few shots. A pinky finger works too, but it's much harder to position the baby and the person belonging to the pinky at the same time without losing the sucking connection.
- I have a few posing props but anything that is special to you is much better than my stock items. I have all the know-how and padding to try and make what you'd like to use safe and cozy for your little one, but any trucks or wagons or baskets you see in my images are provided by the family personal & awesome!





## Packages:

All sessions include digital files

Baby Mine | 500 Up to two-hour session \$150 product credit 50% at booking/50% at session

It Was A Very Good Year | 850

any intervals you want 3 sessions in 12 calendar mos. payment schedule: \$225 booking, \$225 session 1, \$225 session 2, \$175 session 3

The Perfect Year | 1025 any intervals you want 4 sessions in 12 calendar mos. payment schedule: \$225 booking, \$225 session 1, \$225 session 2, \$175 session 3, \$175 session 4

> Add-Ons: Mini-Maternity Sessions | 175 8 x 8 Album | 250

> > Product Pricing Basics 8×10 print | 25 5×7 print | 15

custom cards, canvas, and other products available from the online gallery.



# **however you do it...** MAKE SURE YOU HAVE FUN WITH IT!



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