

Baby of Mine

# DIY Photo Shoot



## **WANT TO SHOOT LIKE A PRO?**

You can take great-looking photos at home with a do-it-yourself photo shoot that consists of lighting, a nice backdrop and your baby. Here's how it's done.

## **HANG A BACKDROP**

Use a large piece of fabric (a solid light-colored bed sheet works well). Hang the fabric from the wall and down to the floor so it fills the entire camera frame. Keep your baby a good distance from the backdrop so that the sheet's creases are out of focus.

## **LIGHT THE SHOOT**

Light is one of the most important elements in a good photo, and natural light reduces the need to use your camera's harsh flash. Find a room that receives a lot of natural light. If that light isn't sufficient, supplement it with non-florescent lighting such as high-wattage reading lamps.

The light source should be in front of, not behind where you plan on setting up. For a more dramatic effect, shoot with light flooding your baby's face from one side.

## **GETTING READY**

Choose an appropriate time to shoot; babies tend to be in better moods after a feeding or nap. Get set up in advance and make sure your baby's comfortable. Find something soft for her to lie on and keep the room warm.

Place your camera on a flat, steady surface and take dozens of shots. That'll guarantee you'll get at least a few great photos. Photograph more than just your baby's face; shoot close-ups of her feet and hands.

Work quickly, especially if your baby can crawl. If she can't sit on her own, pose her so she's in a supported position. Don't hide behind your camera—make sure your baby sees and hears you singing and making faces. If she's fussy, stop the shoot and try again later when she's in a better mood.

**Shutterfly**

shutterfly.com