

# Commission a Portrait

Are you interested in commissioning a portrait to capture your family member at a special stage in life?

Or maybe you have lost a loved one and would like to get a portrait done to remember them.

I endeavour to make the commission process a stress free and pleasant experience. I'm happy to answer, without obligation, any queries or worries you may have.

## The Commission Process:

### Photo Reference

I work mainly from photos when creating a portrait. I will either require emailed photos or alternatively the subject can come for a photo session and quick sketches in my studio. I find meeting the subject helps me get an idea of their character and expressions. A photo shoot is not essential and in many cases, not possible for location reasons. This is not a problem and many of the portraits shown on this website have been created without ever meeting the subject.

For the initial consultation we will discuss whether a photo shoot will be required or if the provided photo reference is suitable to work from.

NB If the photo reference is not suitable to work from please see my tips below on 'How to take a good reference We will then agree on the size and medium for the portrait.

Sizes are usually: Oil portrait 16 x 20 inch canvas

Pastel and charcoal portraits 12 x 14 inch paper

These can be adjusted depending on the size of wall the portrait will hang on.

At this point a £30% deposit is required.

Once I have selected the photos that I feel would work best for the painting and they have been approved, the commission can commence.

### Completion Time

The completion time depends on the complexity of the commission and my workload at the time. Usually Oil portraits take between 3-8 weeks and charcoal portraits between 2-6 weeks.

When the portrait is completed I will email a photo of the finished piece and the balance will be required. The portrait is only finished when I am 100% happy with the outcome.

### Payment/Cost

The cost is based on the size, complexity and medium. Oil paintings take 3 times as long as charcoal and is naturally reflected in the price.

If the quote is outside the budget available then please get back to me and I'll see what I can do for you, there is usually always a solution

Payments are to be made by BACS bank transfer

Any significant changes that are requested after the commission is finished will be charged

at £50 per hour for the extra time.

I am extremely passionate about my work and it's important to me that the customer is delighted with the end result. I have painted many commissions over the years and am happy to say I have never had to give a refund. In the very unlikely event that the client is unhappy with their portrait then I will keep hold of the portrait and the deposit and the remaining balance will not be charged.

### **Delivery**

Unless the portrait can be hand collected I will package safely and send it Royal Mail Special Delivery insured and specialised insured couriers for overseas deliveries. The cost of delivery will be added to the final balance.

Framing can also be arranged if necessary