

Tips on Taking a Headshot at Home

1) Grab a friend or a tripod, or something to prop your camera on

- Selfies don't make for the best headshots, use your front-facing camera on your phone when possible.
- Finding a friend to take the photo is a time-saver and can ensure a good angle
- If you're using a tripod or propping your phone, use the self-timer on your phone.

2) Pick a location with good lighting and a simple backdrop.

- The best headshot location is away from direct sunlight, and in front of a simple background. A white wall, an organized bookshelf, some greenery, etc. all make for a great backdrop. Make sure the background isn't over-exposed.
- Getting the lighting right is the hardest part, so take some extra time finding a good spot that doesn't have sunlight coming in through a window right onto you. Direct sunlight is harsh and might make you squint.
- Photos in the early morning or early evening generally provide great lighting because the sun isn't high in the sky to create harsh shadows.

3) Pick something simple to wear

- Solid colors work great for a top. You don't need to worry about bottoms and shoes, as headshots won't show below your mid-chest.
- Avoid overly bright colors, but don't wear all black or all white either.
- Avoid distracting, "busy" textures on your top, especially stripes or small patterns.
- Don't wear anything with a logo on it to stay neutral.

4.) Frame the photo

- Make sure there is space on all sides of your face and take the photo in "portrait." This means straight up and down rather than horizontally in landscape.
- Have the camera parallel to your face, you don't want the camera looking down or up at you.