

# What your profile photo says about you

Choosing a profile photo is a serious business. It will be the first thing old school friends, jealous exes, and even potential bosses see when they search for you online. Your image depends entirely on your choice of photo. Here are the most common types of profile photo on social media. Is yours one of them? And if so, what does it say about you?



## A The portrait

A clear, close-up photo.

**What it says about you** You are quite boring. If it's a selfie, you are quite annoying.



## B The childhood photo

A cute picture of you as a baby.

**What it says about you** You are the type of person who thinks that everything used to be better than it is now. You still listen

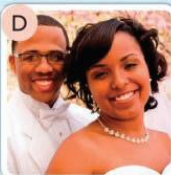
to the same music, wear the same clothes, and love the same things you did at school, and you'll probably never change.



## C The pet

Your pet looking adorable.

**What it says about you** It depends on what kind of animal it is. Cat: You are a woman without a boyfriend. Dog: You are a man without a girlfriend. Snake: You are a teenage boy or death metal fan.



## D The wedding photo

Man, woman, dress, suit – you know, the usual.

**What it says about you** You want everyone to think that you are a grown-up. You don't go out and have a good time any more. No, you are married! Also, you don't feel you exist as an individual any more, and don't have any friends of your own.



## E The family photo

A photo of your children / baby.

**What it says about you** The main thing you have accomplished in your adult life is having children. You used to be fun and fabulous and have a lot of friends, but now all you talk about is nappies and children's TV.



## F The popular culture reference

A picture of a cartoon character, a movie poster, a book cover, a musical act, a celebrity, etc.

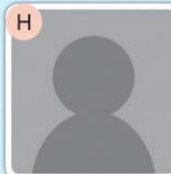
**What it says about you** You have no personality of your own. Your identity depends on your entertainment choices – television, music, sci-fi, literary, or other. You own at least two T-shirts with stupid slogans on them.



## G The party photo

You, often with other people, enjoying yourself at a party.

**What it says about you** You are young and stupid, and will be fired from at least one job for something you posted on Facebook. One day, you might regret this picture and replace it with a wedding picture, and then photos of your children.



## H No photo at all

An icon, not a photo.

**What it says about you** You are technologically incompetent and don't know what a jpeg is; or you think you're too busy to find a photo; or you think not having a photo is 'cool'. Having no profile photo is annoying for everybody else. Get a photo.



Colin Drury and Danish Sheikh

In the 21st century, *charisma* is the quality that people in all fields of life, from business to politics, would most like to have. But can you learn it? The man I have just met thinks so. His name is Danish Sheikh, and he is a charisma coach. He has worked with Microsoft, Yahoo, and the BBC, and he thinks he can turn anyone into George Clooney. He charges £150 an hour, and plenty of people are paying. And for two days, I'm going to be his student.

Yesterday, he followed me everywhere and watched how I behaved with people – in shops, in the hairdresser's, and in work meetings. His impressions of me are not good – for example, I can't make conversation, I have negative body language, and I don't smile enough. I also seem bored when I'm talking to people.

'But don't worry!' Sheikh says, cheerfully. 'We're going to fix all this.'