Professional Profile Pictures

When networking through social media it is important to present yourself in a professional manner.

Use a head shot
- Use a photo with your head and shoulders that highlights your face
- Do not use photos of you at parties, making weird faces, etc.

Your photo should be flattering
- Use a color photo
- Do not use artsy photos or glamour shots

Your face should be the focus, not the background
- Keep your face in focus; do not use blurry images
- Do not use photos with another person or object in the picture
- Other body parts (biceps, deltoids, cleavage, etc.) should be left unseen

Be fully-clothed
- Remember your profile picture is seen by everyone
- Do not use risqué photos

Do not make any funny faces
- A simple smile is best
- Do not frown, scowl, or use suggestive expressions

Keep your photo current
- Make sure your photo actually looks like you

Find a photographer
- Pay or find a friend or student to take your photo
- Photo studios charge a small sitting fee
- Having a professional shot is worth the effort
- Do not use webcam shots or mirrored self-portraits

Don't Use Photos

Dressed or posed inappropriately

Use Photos

Professional background

Professional dress

Casual, with pets or hobbies

At a party or with a group of people

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