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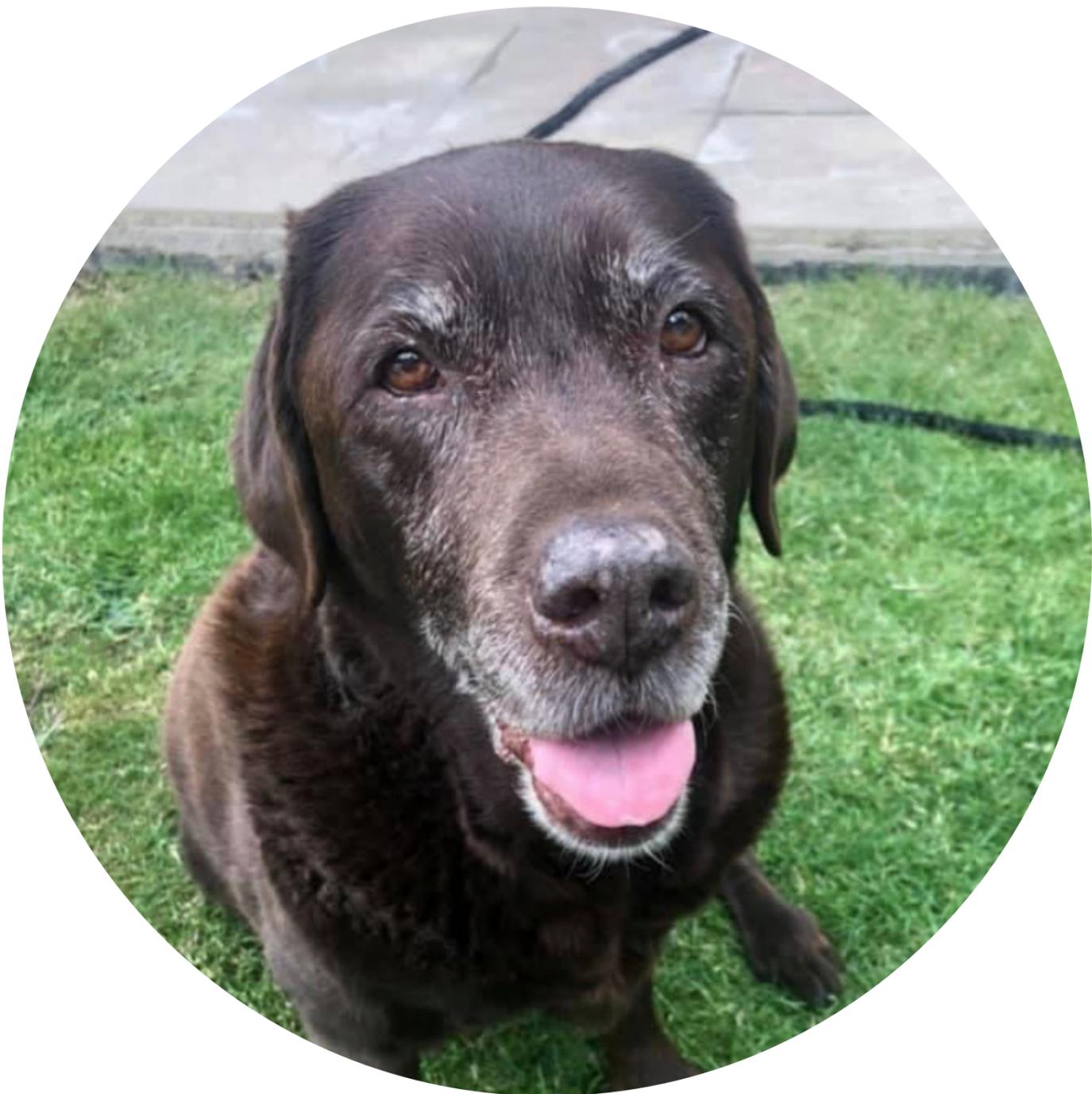
A black and white dog with long, wavy ears is sitting on a green lawn. The dog is looking directly at the camera with a calm expression. The background is a soft-focus green lawn.

Your Portrait
Photography
Guide

LYNSEY PEACOCK *Art*

What Makes a Good Reference Photo?

Your reference photo should be clear, well lit and show the whole of the subject (Full Head or Full Body).



The clearer the photo the more detail I will be able to put into the portrait and it also helps me capture the character of the subject.

The better the photo, the better the portrait - it really is that simple .



I recommended you to take any photos outside and have the photographer stand with the sun behind them.

When photographing a pet get someone to help you by standing by your side and holding a treat to keep their attention.

If you are wanting two or more subjects in your portrait you can use separate photographs which I will bring together or you can send a photograph that features them both. As long as they are good quality with the subjects in similar poses either will be fine.

Composition

The subject should fill the frame of the photograph. If you want a head only portrait just focus the photo on that area.

If you are taking a full body photo please bare in mind distance. Keep your subject as close as possible.

Photo quality can be lost if I have to zoom in or crop photos leading to a blurry finish and less detail.



It all in the Detail

When taking your photo the main thing to focus on is...THE FOCUS!



Your photo can be taken on a phone or a camera, just ensure its in focus so I can really capture all those lovely details.

If using a camera half press your shutter button to get a better focus and if using a phone tap the screen on the area you want to focus in on.



Sit & Stay!

When taking a photo of your pet it can be best to get down on their level. This ensures you will not only capture the detail of their eyes and features but also enables you to try and get your pet to focus forward rather than looking up.

A photo taken on your pets level at a slight angle or with their gaze just off to the side works really well for pet portraits..

Your Photography Checklist

- Good Lighting - Is your photo well lit allowing me to see the subject clearly?
- Does the photo look like your subject? Is skin tone, hair colour and fur colour accurate. Does the position of their face look correct?
- Eye Colour - Are the eyes clear at bright - not just black?
- Are the subjects positioned the way you want them in the portrait - please keep in mind I paint exactly what I see.
- Visible fur direction - If painting your pet can you see the direction the fur lies in?
- Distance - does your subject fill the frame without me having to zoom or crop the photo?
- Accessories - take a good look at the photo do you want collars included on pets or jewellery on human subjects?

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