

Technical Requirements:

Photos must be at least **800 x 600** pixels wide and 150 dpi. This will ensure that your photos look good on the small and big screen.

Place photos in the order you would like them to appear.

Label using this naming protocol **BabyName_01, BabyName_02 etc**

Uploading is made more efficient by placing all of your pics into a folder. You can also do a batch rename that way too ;-)

Birth Announcements:

Before the big day: Get to know your camera.

Take video & photos of the belly - the belly is a beautiful thing!

Take a minute to talk about your feelings about baby. Probably won't use but nice to have.

Make sure your camera has a tape and a fresh battery in the hospital bag.

The Big Day: Remember to bring your camera. Appoint someone else to remember it!

Suggested Shot List: Simple - Your new baby from head to toe! Close ups & full length.

Don't forget those fingers and toes. Holding parents fingers, Dad's wedding ring etc.

Baby with Mom, Dad and both

Baby with siblings

Baby with grandparents

Nursery shots - baby in nursery through window, name on bassinet

Hospital or birth center shots, room number, flowers, card from someone special.

First nursing or first bottle homecoming and baby's new room

Take better shots - Video & Still cameras

Check the light- Sometimes shutting the flash off makes for a much better photo.† Check the light in the room shut off the flash and see for yourself.

Hold the shot- for at least 10 seconds, but we don't need a minute. (Obviously this is for video only :-)

Get close up - don't use the zoom when you could just take a few steps forward. Zoom mode will accentuate camera shake in video and create graininess in still pics. Just get up close and personal with your new baby. You can do that - she's yours!

Slow down - if you do use the zoom do it s l o w l y. Same thing goes for panning (side to side movement). Unless you want your birth announcement to have an NYPD Blue feel.

Keep quiet - if you want us to hear the baby or anyone else on the other side of the camera you must be quiet. Sneak up - don't let your subject see you coming or know you're filming (unless you think she's going to get mad then you should ask.) Get down - get down on the level of your child. If baby is in Nana's arms in a chair, crouch down and take the shot head on as well as from above.

Crying's ok - not everything in life is happy. A crying baby is ok - at this point you have never heard a sweeter sound.

Got your back - check out what's going on in the background of your shot. Please move the bedpan.

Slightly off - put your subject slightly off center. It is a more visually interesting shot than dead center.

Turn offs - turn off the date stamp, record light, and remember to turn the camera off when you put it on the table!