

Passport Photos for Schengen Visa — Exact Specifications

What an officer checks in this document — and what gets it refused.

What this document must contain

Size: 35mm × 45mm

Background: Plain WHITE (not off-white, cream, or light blue)

Head size: 32-36mm from chin to crown

Face: Neutral expression, mouth closed, eyes open

No glasses, no head covering (except religious — must not hide face)

Printed on photo paper, matte finish preferred

Quantity: 2 identical photos

Date: Taken within 3 months

Do

- 35x45mm exactly (not 4x6 inch)
- White background only
- Face fills 70-80% of photo
- Taken within 3 months
- Professional matte photo paper

Do not

- Don't wear spectacles with glare
- Don't smile or show teeth
- Don't wear white shirt against white background (disappears)
- Don't use selfies printed at home
- Don't accept off-white or cream backgrounds

Mistakes that get this document refused

- Wrong size (passport size 4x6 instead of Schengen 35x45)
- Off-white background
- Hair covering ears/face
- Photo taken over 3 months ago

The finished document

A sample of this passport photographs is on the guide page, free to read:

<https://www.sureshotvisa.com/documents/passport-photos-schengen-visa>

The version filled in with your own details — and read by a licensed consultant before you submit it — is a paid service. Start it from the guide page above.