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 consultant at our licensed firm before you submit it — is a paid service. Start it from the guide page above.