

Portrait Commissions Price Guide

The prices on the following page are a guide and can vary depending on the commission required and the work involved.

To help me to give you a quotation, please provide as much information as possible, ideally:

- Medium required (watercolour, graphite pencil, acrylic or sketch)
- Head-only portrait or full-body
- Backgrounds: extra background work will increase the price accordingly.
- Paper size
- Date required (if applicable, and subject to waiting list space)
- If you have the photos to hand, I will be happy to look at these.

If you have a fixed budget I can advise on the kind of commission I can produce for that price. Sometimes you may have a photo where an ear or a paw may have been cut out of shot, and I can add these into the portrait if sufficient reference photos are provided.

Important Information and Terms

Once you are happy with your quotation, a 50% deposit is required to secure your booking and to allow me to start the work - bookings are not held until this has been paid. The balance will be due upon final approval of the portrait. I have had to implement a deposit system to protect my business due to non-payers and time wasters.

The cost for postage and packing is £7.50 (this cost is not included in the price guides). Over the last two years I haven't increased my postage and packing fees, despite Royal Mail's price hikes each year on the cost of using the Special Delivery insured option, but I have had to finally increase this in line with the current postal charges. All portraits are sent by Royal Mail's Special Delivery next-day, fully insured service (guaranteed to arrive by 1pm next-day Mon-Fri), in a board-back envelope or similar and will need to be signed for. I will provide you with the tracking information as soon as I have posted the portrait, which you can track via Royal Mail's website. A guaranteed next-day Saturday delivery option is available at extra cost, if required. Overseas commission postage is charged at the applicable rates for sending to your destination by a similar service.

Commissions are supplied unmounted and unframed.

Cancelling a commission: If cancelling before I have started the work, please could you let me know as soon as possible and your deposit will be refunded. If you cancel after I have started work, your deposit will not be refunded.

I will contact you before commencing your portrait to make sure that you are happy for me to start at that particular time.

If you have a portrait booked and can no longer go ahead with it for any reason, please let me know as soon as possible. I have to plan my work, and could end up turning people away that I might otherwise be able to fit in.

Commissioned art work is custom-made, therefore, refunds cannot be given once you have given final approval.

Email portraitspets@aol.com for a no-obligation quotation

Price Guides

The following prices are a guide for pet portraits, based on a head portrait, plain background. I can tailor a quote to your specific requirements such as full body portraits, additional background work, etc. I do undertake Wildlife commissions also.

The most popular sizes are listed below, but I am happy to quote other sizes on request.

Watercolour Painting or Graphite Pencil			
Paper Size	1 Pet	2 Pets	3 Pets
A5 (8.3" x 5.8" / 210 x 148 mm)	£80	£100	-
A4 (11.7" x 8.3" / 297 x 210 mm)	£125	£150	£175
14" x 10"	£150	£180	£210
A3 (16.5" x 11.7" / 420 x 297 mm)	£185	£225	£265
A2 (16.5" x 23.4" / 420 x 594mm)	£275	£325	£375

A new option for pet portrait commissions from 2016 is acrylic painting. I've previously restricted this medium to my non-commissioned work, which you can see on my website; mainly in the White-tailed Eagle Gallery, as well as Wildlife and Horses. My acrylic paintings are painted on either heavyweight watercolour paper (535gsm) or canvas board; canvas boards are flat and ridged, making them ideal for posting. I aim to expand the range of canvas sizes in the future, current options listed below.

Acrylic Painting			
Watercolour paper size	Canvas board size	1 Pet	2 Pets
A5 (8.3" x 5.8" / 210 x 148 mm)	8" x 6" / 203 x 152mm	£85	
A4 (11.7" x 8.3" / 297 x 210 mm)	12" x 10" / 304 x 254mm	£150	£200
14" x 10"	-	£200	£250
A3 (16.5" x 11.7" / 420 x 297 mm)	16" x 12" / 406 x 308mm	£250	£300
A2 (16.5" x 23.4" / 420 x 594mm)	-	£350	£400
<i>Please specify watercolour paper or canvas board when requesting a quotation.</i>			

Sketches are an ideal budget option. The portraits are less detailed and completed in the darker soft graphite grades only, as opposed to a full range of various pencil grades.

Sketch		
Paper Size	1 Pet	2 Pets
A5 (8.3" x 5.8" / 210 x 148 mm)	£55	£75
A4 (11.7" x 8.3" / 297 x 210 mm)	£80	£100
A3 (16.5" x 11.7" / 420 x 297 mm)	£120	£150
Maximum size A3		

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The Commission Process

Ideally, please give me as much notice as you can if you require a portrait by a specific date, and I will confirm at the time of providing a quotation if this time frame is achievable. I can sometimes fit in last-minute work, but this does depend on my current work load.

I will email you a quotation based on your portrait needs. Once you have received your quotation, if you wish to go ahead with a booking, a 50% deposit is required. This will secure your booking and enable me to start the work. If the work isn't required for a specific date, I will give you an estimate of when I think I will likely be able to start the portrait and I will update you closer to the time to confirm this, so that you will have an idea of when it will be ready.

Once the art work is ready for approval, a scan/photo of it will be emailed to you. If you require any adjustments to the work, these will be done and then a revised scan/photo emailed to you for re-approval.

Once approved, payment of the balance outstanding will be required. See 'Payment Methods' below.

Art work is only dispatched once payment has been received.

Your deposit will only be refunded if you cancel your booking before I have started work on your portrait.

Photo Requirements

To best capture the subject matter, there are a few pointers regarding photographs. I can only paint what I can see on the photo provided, so the better the photo quality, the more details I can get into your portrait.

The main features for detail are the eyes, the windows of the soul! Ideally, they should be clearly visible in images.

The photo should be clear and in focus. A natural light source on the pet's face shows up detail and colour better than photos taken using a flash. Ideally, take the photos outside rather than indoors.

The larger the photo size you have, the better, so that the photo can be printed at a good size to work from and will show up the finer details.

Low resolution images and cropped photos are not the best to work from as the image can be very small once printed out and/or pixelated, losing important detail in the eyes, etc. If this is the only photo you may have, then I will obviously do my best from the image provided.

Mobile phone cameras: the camera sensor is not as good as an actual camera, and mobile phones (even the top of the range!) do not produce the best clarity or sharpest images, particularly indoors or in poor light source, where the subject can appear very dark/flat, with very little in the way of contrast and details. I do try and get as much detail as I can if this is the only source of photos you have. I am happy to have a look at photos and advise which would be the best to work from.

Please remember that I only have the photo to work from, I don't know the pet so, for example, if the eye area looks black on the photo that is all I will be able to see.

How to Send Your Photos

Please email me any images you wish me to look at. I am more than happy to have a look at several photos and advise which would be the best to work from. I will always confirm when I have received photos, so if you don't hear back from me I've likely not received them - this can happen when sending large file sizes by email. Alternatively, you can send photos via WeTransfer <https://www.wetransfer.com> an easy to use site for sending large file sizes / multiple large files. You will usually receive an email notification when the files have been successfully uploaded and again when they have been downloaded by myself.

Hard copy photos can also be posted to me and these will be returned when sending the art work.

Two or More Pets in a Painting

If you want a painting with two or more pets in it, then don't worry too much about trying to get them to sit together for a photograph. Two separate similar images can be put together to create a portrait, either as 'floating' headshots or side-by-side.

Payment Methods

Payment for the deposit and balance can be made by cheque, credit/debit card (via Paypal) or Paypal. Paypal is the company I use to handle my online card payment transactions, it is a free and secure service and you don't need to have a Paypal account. The invoice has details of how to pay, and will be emailed to you via Paypal for both deposit and balance payments.

If you are new to paying using a credit or debit card with Paypal, the easy-to follow instructions will guide you through the check-out process, similar to any online store.

Overseas Addresses

I am happy to accept overseas commissions. Please contact me for a quotation, which will be calculated based on airmail costs and the current exchange rate. Payment via Paypal only, in either US Dollars or £s sterling.

**If you have any other questions about the commission process, please let me know portraitspets@aol.com
www.portraitsofpets.co.uk**