



Taking a good photo is the first step to creating a natural looking dental simulation. Remember the following easy but important tips:

1. **Stand 3-5 feet away from the patient.** Do not take the photo up close as you may do with an intra oral photo. Use ZOOM so that the photo starts from just above the top of the patient's head to just below their chin.
2. **Stand directly in front of the patient.** The angle from the camera should be straight, you may need to reposition yourself or ask the patient to turn their head.
3. **Hold your camera level about the height of the nose.** This means the photo should be taken straight on and not from a higher position (aimed downward to see top of the nose) or a lower position (aimed upward to see into nostrils). If taken at the wrong angle you may not match the natural curve in their smile.
4. **Always use FLASH** to make sure there are no shadows and for a better color match. Most cameras allow you to **force the flash on**. Check your user guide to program this setting if needed.
5. Tell the patient to show a big NATURAL smile-not huge and over-exaggerated.
 - a. Don't be afraid to coach your patients into a great photo.
 - b. Tip: Best to show part of the top teeth and lower teeth if possible.
 - c. Take a few and pick the best one.

Portrait Photos Only. No photos using lip retractors or focused only on the patient's' teeth.

Hint: Slowly press the shutter button part way down until the rectangle appears to show that you are focused. Slowly press the rest of the way down until the camera takes the photo. Make sure the flash went off.

Hint: You can take the photo with the patient right in the treatment chair. Just make sure they are sitting up and using tips from above.