Homestead Session Preparation Guide

I love shooting documentary style photography, it might be my favorite of all styles. I just like to remind families that this type of session isn't super posed or directed by me, I'm capturing your life just as it is.

Before the Session

- Please identify the rooms with the most NATURAL light (windows) those will be the rooms we'll need to shoot in.
- Please have your house decluttered (or not if it doesn't bother you!) I will not edit out anything in a Homestead Session. It is recommended to have random water bottles and cups picked up, cords hidden, trash cans or diaper pails hidden. No need to deep clean, just have it tidy.
- Choose clothing that doesn't clash with your decor, I prefer light-colored, simple clothing for in-home sessions. If you're not normally in heels or a blazer at home, you shouldn't be for your session either. Bare feet or cozy socks or slippers are best, you'll be doing a lot of playing and snuggling, and shoes look out of place.
- For newborn sessions, I recommend neutral snug fitting sleepers or onesies for your baby, and possibly a swaddle or receiving blanket for some wrapped shots. I do not use any props or do any intricate posing for Homestead Newborn Sessions.
- Please remove all smart watches and hair ties from wrists, and anything bulky from pockets.
- Have children well-rested and fed, I'm happy to pause for a snack break, but also don't want to rush because kids are ready for lunch.
- Identify some things you like to do as a family - play games, wrestle, read books, bake - I want to capture your everyday activities. Some other ideas for Homestead Sessions: bath time, nursing, bedtime/naptime routine - it's your session, I want to preserve whatever memories are most important to you.
- I recommend no screen time for at least 30 min. before the session. If my arrival is the reason devices get taken away or tv gets turned off, it'll take them much longer to warm up to me.

During the Session

- Plan on spending 60-90 minutes with me. I like to take my time with these sessions. I want your children to warm up to me and for things to happen organically, not forced.
- Please don't worry if your kids are acting like kids and not sitting still for pictures, these are supposed to be fun, and I promise you I've seen it all! I will always get what I need to fill your gallery.
- Don't look at the camera unless I ask you to, I want you engaged with your family.

After the Session

- I may post a teaser on social media within a few days of our session, but it is not guaranteed.
- You will receive a proofing gallery within 1-week to choose your images. Once you finalize your selections, your fully edited gallery will be delivered within 3 weeks. Rush editing is available for an additional charge.
- You are welcome to share your online gallery with friends and family or post on social media - word of mouth is my best advertising.
- Please do not alter the photos in your gallery in any way. If you have a specific request, please email me and I will see if I can accommodate, you may incur an extra charge.
- Print your pictures! You spent good money on these photos, be sure to print them and display them.