Photo Guidelines and Examples

We only accept high-quality photos that meet international standards for biometric matching. This helps protect you against identity fraud. It also helps you to pass system more easily.

This is what we require:

- Good quality colour digital photo, less than six months old
- No retouching of any kind (including removal of background, moles, wrinkles or scars)
- Clear, focused image with no marks or 'red eye'
- Plain white or light grey background that contrasts with your face
- Uniform lighting (no shadows or reflections), with appropriate brightness and contrast to show natural skin tone
- Face centred and looking at the camera straight on; not tilted in any direction
- Hair off your face, so that the edges of your face are visible
- Eyes open, mouth closed
- Neutral expression (not smiling, laughing or frowning)Photo examples

Photo examples

Acceptable

Side on to camera

Hair obscuring face

Acceptable

Insufficient contrast

Background not plain

Acceptable

Background too dark

Eyes/edges of face obscured

Acceptable

Eyes not open/toy visible

Parent visible

Acceptable

No glasses

Shadows on image and background