



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

VETERANS' Health Week

Photo Hints and Tips

Simple hints and tips can take your photos from ordinary to stunning and more likely to be used for DVA publications.

Bright sunny days

Use your flash. Using a flash for photos on a bright sunny day will take away the harsh black shadows on objects and people's faces.

Backgrounds

Be careful what is in your background. A computer monitor may be showing sensitive information, so check what is showing. Look through the viewfinder and make sure poles, trees etc are not growing out of people's heads. Also look horizontally to make sure items are not protruding from ears. Be aware of offensive billboards or graffiti in the background when taking your photos. Don't put people inside in front of a window or they will be 'backlit' and appear dark. You can overcome this by using a flash.

Clean your lens

Whether you are using a camera or mobile phone, keep your lens clean by wiping with a soft, lint free cloth or you will see marks on your images.

Make the image show the story

Lining up people in a row doesn't show the story whereas if you have them doing something in relation to the event or activity, you are doing, your image will tell the story. For example – for a kayaking event – get a shot of participants on the water in their kayaks or people about to board their kayak. Check out the featured image (right). This was for a VHW pizza making day.

Different perspectives

Most people shoot images standing straight, in a neutral standing position. Try crouching down and looking up or get somewhere high and look down on your scene. This will create more engaging and interesting images.

Alcohol

DVA will not publish photos depicting alcohol or tobacco products or advertising. If the people in your photo are holding glasses or cigarettes, ask them to put them out of sight for the photo. Check there are no bottles, glasses or ashtrays on the table in front of people.

File Size

The minimum file size that can be accepted for use in DVA publications is 500kb.

File Names

If you can name your image files using the following method, this will help us match consent forms to images.

Year month day_Title of event_people in photo from L to R_001 etc.

Eg 20221001_KayakingDay_SueVeteran JohnVeteran_008

Share your photos

You can share your photos with DVA by emailing them to vhw@dva.gov.au. If you have a social media page, make sure to post the photos from your event and use the hashtag **#VeteransHealthWeek**



#VeteransHealthWeek



DVAAus



DVATVAus



dvaausgov