

# Phena 8 FAQ

## **Do I have to get naked for a boudoir session??**

No, you do not have to get naked for your boudoir session, although you may be surprised at your comfort level and change your mind half-way through! A boudoir is a 'woman's sitting room' where she is welcome to be herself in her own space. This experience is about reconnecting to your sensuality and getting in touch with yourself in a way that brings you joy and in some cases a beautiful, new revelation of "self". You'll see all of the options in the guide. The choice is yours.

## **Will my photos be on the internet?**

Not unless you want them to be! Many women do not want to share their photos with the world and that's perfectly fine! There are also many women who are excited to show the world a more intimate side of themselves and sign a release for me to use their photos. Sometimes they prefer "anonymous" photos where their face isn't recognizable. Know that many of the women on my website are incredible models that have helped me develop my photography and posing skills. Every client and model I feature on my Facebook page, website or group has given me written permission to post her images.

## **I have cellulite/stretch marks/acne. Can you get rid of that?**

In most cases, yes, to varying degrees. I can reduce the visual appearance of acne, acne scarring, stretch-marks, and cellulite as part of the retouching process. What I don't do is put your face on someone else's body or 'take off' 30lbs. If there is something you feel self-conscious about, we can use posing and lighting to emphasize your best features instead. Basic editing for all shoots includes 3 - 10% skin smoothing, blemish and spot removal, minimal teeth and eye brightening, slight alterations to adjust for camera angles. Color adjustments to clothing, nails, shoes etc are not included in basic editing and are considered elevated editing which has an additional charge.

## **I'm older than (or not as thin as) the girls on your website, can I still book a session?**

Yesssss gurl yesss!!! I had my first personal boudoir shoot at 42 and loved it! There aren't any comparisons. This is your experience on your terms. Women of all ages, stages, and sizes are interested in taking this self-love journey. Milestones like marriages, 3rd child, birthdays like your Fabulous 40th or 50th, sassy 60th or even celebrating a divorce are great reasons to document how far you've come! Not everyone is comfortable with their photos being in my online portfolio so I can't show a lot of examples. What I can promise is that I will create images to flatter YOU and best show your personality. I believe every woman is beautiful and it's my job to show you just how gorgeous you are.

## **Do I bring my own lingerie or outfits, or do you provide?**

You will need to bring your own lingerie or outfits to the photo shoot. Select outfits that suit your personality, body shape, and complement your skin tone. You'll see lots of options in the prep guide as well as the lingerie guide. I have many, many examples on my Phena 8 pinterest boards from faux fur to body chains.

# Phena & FAQ

## **What about hair and makeup, do I do it myself?**

I want to provide an experience that makes you feel beautiful and pampered, and images that will help you appreciate the true beauty you possess! Make-up and hair can accentuate parts of you that could otherwise get lost in an image. There are plenty of Muah (make-up and hair) artists online. Search FB and Instagram in your area. I can also recommend artists for you, but the contract is kept separate and you are responsible for telling the artist if you are unhappy with anything BEFORE the shoot. Editing the photos later because you weren't happy with another artist's application is never the responsibility of the photographer, however they want you to be happy as well and will go out of their way to help you achieve the results that you're looking for.

## **Can I bring a friend to my shoot?**

Generally, I prefer to work one on one with my clients, simply because sometimes an 'audience' can make you feel more self-conscious. If you must bring someone for moral support, I limit it to one person and fair warning—I will put them to work as an unpaid assistant holding reflectors while they cheer you on!

## **I can't make my shoot date, can I reschedule?**

Absolutely. Things come up and sometimes a date no longer works, so we're happy to make the changes for you. However, if you contact us to reschedule less than 72 hours before your shoot, you forget about your appointment or you reschedule more than once, your retainer is not transferable. When you sign your contract, we block off those hours to shoot with you, thus turning away people interested in shooting that day.

## **What is your pricing and refund policy?**

Price lists are available upon request. Due to the custom nature of photography, the session price and any products ordered are non-refundable. You have final say on the basic or elevated retouching and any custom album design. Nothing goes to print without your approval.

**Where do the sessions take place?** I shoot on location. Meaning, I can come to your home, a beautiful hotel, an Air B&B, preferably with lots of light. I do have small studio space in Westminster MD.

**I'm ready to book a shoot. What's next?** We both get really, really, excited next, because this is going to be a great self-love journey for you and tons of fun! Contact me to set up your session fee, which locks in your date. Then we start to plan your shoot!

# I'm Ready to Book, Now What?

## **BEFORE - Your contract and session retainer, choosing style and outfits**

You've already received the pre-consult questions or met with me in person. You have your prep guide, lingerie guide, and posing tips. Next we'll discuss pricing and the products available. Then we'll choose a date and I'll collect the \$399 retainer, which covers your *personal services only*: 30 min consultation, a 2-3 hour photography session, retouching of artist selected images and an in person Ordering Appointment. Your session retainer is *due upon time of booking to secure the session date / time and is non-refundable*. I will email you or bring your session contract to an in-person consult so you can look it over and sign it.

### **Choosing your outfits and following the prep guide**

Between the prep guide, Pinterest boards, and shopping with friends you'll bring 5 to 6 outfits so we can choose the top 3 to wear for the shoot. Bring something meaningful to you or your significant other; this serves as a great way to personalize your session. It may be a special gift or piece of jewelry given to you, maybe something you bought for yourself for achieving a goal, or a hobby you may have.

## **DURING - The Easy Part!**

Come to your session at least 30 mins early or an hour earlier if you are getting make-up and hair. We can go over the session plan, the layout of the room and lighting. Pick your music and change into your first outfit. No worries! I will be posing you from head to toe. The session will last about 2 hours. Breathe. Smile. Laugh. Let your personality shine through!

## **AFTER - Reveal / Ordering appointment**

We will meet again in person 1-2 weeks later for your reveal / ordering appointment. It is of the utmost importance that anyone whose decision is necessary for this investment to be present at the appointment. This is definitely the best part of the entire process, watching your portraits come to life on the screen. Your ordering appointment will take about an hour and a half. We'll start with a ROUND ONE WISH LIST where you simply say yes to any images that you like without thinking about cost or packages. Round 2 and 3 will whittle them down to fit your package selection.

We have found the highest quality professional print labs across the country that are equipped to produce archival quality products. Your product order must be paid in full during this appointment so I can order from the labs. All sales are final due to the custom nature of the products. Payment plans are available Your custom products will be hand crafted using only the finest materials. We can't wait to present your final products in 5-6 weeks or less.

\*For clients that come in with body image issues... While I would love to say that this session is going to change the way you see yourself, I need to prepare you for the fact that it might not. A boudoir and lifestyle session is a great way to help women on their journey to achieving self love, but to expect anyone to undo 25+ years of negative self talk in one day is a very tall order. What I CAN promise you is that I will take good care of you, do what I do best and help you every step of the way - before, during, and after your session. If you go into this already hating your photos before we've even taken them, then it will be a struggle for you to see the beauty in front of you as others do. Try to view your photos as if you were seeing a friend's session. Allow yourself to speak kindly and embrace the beautiful, bad-ass woman in those photos that showed up and allowed herself to reconnect to her individuality and sensuality through this experience. - *We got this!* ~ Chelle