

'Custom Cartoon' Guidance & Hints.



Thank you for your commission enquiry – I hope you find the following information helpful in preparing your ideas.

- **Tell me about your subject.**

The more ideas I have to choose from, the funnier I can make your cartoon.

- Hobbies? (Book reader, Skiing, Fishing, Cooking, etc.)
- Typical clothing worn (any odd or funny favourite garment?)
- Habits? (Drinks Wine, Coffee, Guinness, Sausage rolls, etc.)
- Pastimes? (Gardening, Cross Stitch, Morris dancing, Plays instrument, Artist model etc.)
- Loves? (Pet, Houseplants, Car, Coronation St, Tik-Tok, Quizes, Chocolate
- Hates? (People whistling, Loud music, DIY, Soap operas, politicians, etc.)
- Signage? (Workplace logo, Client logo, etc.)
- Sport? (Supports Spurs, Plays hockey, Cycling, Cricket,)
- Is well known for..... (Repairing radios,)
- Faults? (careful with this one) Eats Garlic, McDonalds, Money management, Time keeping
- Favourite places? (Local pub, Costa, Spain, Shed, etc.)
- Funny incident? (Workplace, Home accident, Sporting calamity, Joke gone wrong, etc.)
- Caption? (Simply the best! Happy 40th etc.)
- Funny catchphrase, funny quote/saying? "You plonker, Rodney!"
- Also, if important and not obvious from the photos....How tall, hair colour, etc.

- **What size of cartoon is best?**

The size of your cartoon is normally based on how many ideas you wish to include. Generally, a busy cartoon works great in A3 size. If you prefer a smaller A4 size then fewer things going on will not cram the cartoon too much. If you are not sure, give me a call.

- **What about photos?** [\(please read carefully\)](#)

Firstly, please understand these are **CARTOON** likenesses and NOT **photo realistic** images. If it is a photo-illustration you need please speak to me first as it may not be a cartoonist you require but a fine artist/Illustrator.

If you haven't already visited www.landings.co.uk/gallery/ there are many examples of my cartoon work to see, to ensure the style is what you are looking for.

So, having got that out of the way, the photos you send me are really important.

Check the size of your photos. 'Low resolution' social media shots can be really problematic. Please carefully check this before sending.

Remember, I do not know your subject, so to achieve a great cartoon likeness I am going to need some good facial information from your photos.

Here are some good examples – please send a few of each.



Side profile is good. I can see facial contours, the shape of the nose and the style of the hair.

but I also need.....

¼ side profile. This give me additional reference for the shape of the face.



Photos to avoid.....



Unfortunately, this type of shot is of no use. The hat is shading the face, I can't see the hair, sunglasses hide the face and a 'face-on' shot hides facial contours. No thanks!!!!

Remember also.....

Is your photo current? "Erm, her hair isn't that short or that colour anymore!" "Oh, he hasn't got that beard anymore!"

Some photos show a true likeness, some do not!

If I have to guess the likeness, I am very likely to get it wrong. So please take an objective look at your photos before sending and ask yourself this 1 question: ***"Does this photo look like our person?"***

(Hope this gives you a chuckle!)

It will take me a long time to forget about this shot that a customer sent to give me an idea of what the subject looks like!!!



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