

# 'Custom Cartoon' Guidance & Hints.



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

## **1. So, what do I need to know 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 40<sup>th</sup> etc.)
- Funny catchphrase, funny quote/saying? ..... "You plonker, Rodney!"
- Also, if important and not obvious from the photos....How tall, hair colour, etc.

## 2. What size of cartoon is best?

I can advise on this. 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.

## 3. 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.

There are many examples of my cartoon work on my webpages so if you haven't already seen them, please visit first [www.landars.co.uk/gallery/](http://www.landars.co.uk/gallery/) 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.

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

Here's some good examples – send a few of each.



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

but I also need.....

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



## **AVOID at ALL costs.....**



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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