Karen Hartnell - Pet Portrait and Wildlife Artist

portraitsofpets.co.uk email: karen@portraitsofpets.co.uk or portraitspets@aol.com

Portrait Commissions Price Guide

The prices shown on pg 2 are a guide and can vary depending on the commission required and the work involved.

To help me to give you a quotation, please provide as much information as possible, ideally:

- Medium required (watercolour, graphite pencil, or acrylics)
- Head-only portrait or full-body
- Backgrounds: extra background work will increase the price accordingly.
- Paper size
- Date required (if applicable, and subject to waiting list space)
- If you have the photos to hand, I will be happy to look at these.

If you have a fixed budget I can advise on the kind of commission I can produce for that price.

Important Information and Terms

Once you are happy with your quotation, a 50% deposit is required to secure your booking and to allow me to start the work - bookings are not held until this has been paid. The balance will be due upon final approval of the portrait. I have had to implement a deposit system to protect my business due to non-payers and time wasters.

The cost for postage and packing is £7.99 (this cost is not included in the price guides). Artwork is sent by Royal Mail's Special Delivery next-day, fully insured service (guaranteed to arrive by 1pm* next-day Mon-Fri), in a board-back envelope or similar, with extra board inserted for rigidity, and will need to be signed for. I will provide you with tracking information which you can then view on Royal Mail's website. A guaranteed next-day Saturday delivery option is available at extra cost, if required. Overseas commission postage is charged at the applicable rates for sending to your destination by a similar service.

*Coronavirus pandemic: the 1pm guaranteed delivery time has temporarily changed to 'by 4pm'.

Commissions are supplied unmounted and unframed.

Cancelling a commission: If cancelling before I have started the work, please could you let me know as soon as possible and your deposit will be refunded. If you cancel after I have started work, your deposit will not be refunded.

I will contact you before commencing your portrait to make sure that you are happy for me to start at that particular time.

If you have a portrait booked and can no longer go ahead with it for any reason, please let me know as soon as possible. I have to plan my work, and could end up turning people away that I might otherwise be able to fit in.

Commissioned art work is custom-made, therefore, refunds cannot be given once you have given final approval.

Price Guide

The following prices are a guide for pet portraits, based on a head portrait, plain background, excluding the postage cost. I can tailor a quote to your specific requirements, such as full body portraits, additional background work.

Popular sizes are listed below. I can quote for other sizes and number of pets. Prices are in GBP £. International commission quotations are calculated based on the current exchange rate at xe.com

Watercolour Painting or Graphite Pencil				
Paper Size	1 Pet £	2 Pets £	3 Pets £	
A5 8.3" x 5.8" / 210 x 148 mm	105	130	160	
A4 11.7" x 8.3" / 297 x 210 mm	140	180	225	
14" x 10" 356 x 254 mm	165	210	260	
A3 16.5" x 11.7" / 420 x 297 mm	200	255	315	
A2 16.5" x 23.4" / 420 x 594mm	290	355	425	

Acrylic Painting				
Paper size	1 Pet £	2 Pets £	3 Pets £	
A5 8.3" x 5.8" / 210 x 148 mm	115	145	175	
A4 11.7" x 8.3" / 297 x 210 mm	170	240	310	
14" x 10" 356 x 254 mm	220	290	360	
A3 16.5" x 11.7" / 420 x 297 mm	270	340	410	
A2 16.5" x 23.4" / 420 x 594mm	370	440	510	

Acrylic paintings are painted on heavyweight watercolour paper (535gsm). I don't currently offer canvas options.

The Commission Process

Please give me as much notice as you can if the portrait is needed in time for a specific date, and I will confirm if this is achievable. I can sometimes fit in last minute work, but this does depend on my current work load.

I will email you a quotation based on your portrait requirements. If you wish to go ahead with a booking, a 50% deposit secures a space for you and enables me to begin the work in due course. If the portrait isn't required for a specific date, I will give you an estimate of when I think I will likely be able to have it underway and I will update you closer to the time to confirm this.

Once the art work is ready for approval, a scan/photo of it will be emailed to you. If you require any adjustments to the work, these will be made, and a revised scan/photo emailed to you for re-approval. When approved, payment of the balance outstanding will be required. See 'Payment Methods'. Art work is only dispatched once payment has been received in full.

Photo Requirements

I only have a photo to work from to capture your pet in their portrait, as the majority of pets I paint I have never met, so here are some helpful points regarding photographs for me to capture the best likeness of your pet.

The higher photo quality, the more details I can put into your portrait.

The main features for detail are eyes as this is usually the first thing that draws you in. Ideally, they need to be visible in images rather than just a dark area when the light is poor.

Photos should be clear and in focus.

Try and avoid using a flash. A natural light source on the pet's face shows up detail and colour better. Take photos outside rather than indoors on an overcast day - especially is using a Smart Phone camera. The larger resolution photo size you have, the better. This shows up the finer details when enlarging. Low resolution images and cropped small photos are not the best to work from as resolution is often poor when enlarged to a workable size, losing important detail. If this is the only photo you have, then I will do my best from the image provided. I will be happy to offer any advice.

How to Send Your Photos

Please email me any images you wish me to look at. I can advise which would be the best to work from if you have a selection.

I will always confirm when I have received photos. These can be emailed to me, but if sending a lot of large file sized images, WeTransfer.com is a better alternative.

Two or More Pets in a Painting

If you want a painting with two or more pets in it, then separate similar images can be put together to create a portrait, either as 'floating' headshots or side-by-side. Unless you have pets that are really good and all look at the camera together and are happy to sit for a photo!

Payment Methods

Payment for the deposit and balance can be made securely online by credit/debit card (via Paypal), Paypal or bank transfer. Cheque is also accepted for UK payments.

Paypal is the company I use to handle my online card payment transactions, it is free for you to use, secure, and you don't need to have a Paypal account. The invoice has details of how to pay and a link will be emailed to you for you to access this online, for both deposit and balance payments.

If you are new to paying using a credit or debit card with Paypal, the easy-to follow instructions will guide you through the check-out process, similar to any online store.

Overseas Addresses

I am happy to accept overseas commissions. Please contact me for a quotation, which will be calculated based on airmail costs and the current exchange rate. Online payment can only be accepted for non-UK orders which is handled securely through Paypal.