

Modelling Definitions

You are advised to be aware of the following definitions used to classify types of photography. Make sure you know what each definition means and decide where your personal limits end.

Be careful not to agree to a US Magazine shoot thinking it will involve fashion modelling for a magazine in the USA!

Fashion

This type of modelling is self explanatory. The clothes are the main subject and it is the models job to show them off.

However, fashion can include both lingerie, swimwear and revealing items that verge on clothed or topless work – consider this prospect within the scope of fashion photography.

Clothed Glamour/Lingerie

The basic start point for Glamour modelling is where the model is photographed in glamorous clothing, or in poses that reveal or display underwear. No nudity as such is involved, although some lingerie and perhaps sheer materials can be see-through - it's the model's choice where to draw the line.

Photography such as Up-skirt and Down-blouse come under this heading - so the model must decide whether they want to be glamorous, sexy or both.

Photographic requirements range from 'exotic' lingerie – basque/stockings/suspenders, to everyday bra & pants - they all have their own appeal.

Implied Topless

The model is clearly under-dressed from the waist upwards, but her nipples are hidden, either by props, the model's hands or the pose.

Implied Nude

The model is clearly naked, her nipples & bottom may or may not be visible, but her genitals are definitely hidden.

Clearly, whenever agreeing a shoot at an 'implied' level, the model should specify exactly what can & can't be visible in the pictures.

Bear in mind that the photographer is likely to see more than can be seen in the pictures!

Topless

Absolutely self explanatory - the model's breasts and nipples are visible.

Artistic/Figure Nude

Artistic Nude uses imaginative lighting to record the body form and shape in an artistic way.

Figure Nude presents the female form in a very natural way. This may require the model to be completely naked, but she should agree what parts of her body will be visible. Some figure nude can be explicit, but not in a sexual context.

The difference between 'nude' & 'adult' can be difficult to identify and is likely to be with the viewer of the image.

Adult UK/US Magazine + Continental

UK censorship rules have relaxed and there is now little difference between these definitions. They are however still used to classify certain levels of exposure by the model.

UK Magazine - the model is naked, with genitals visible

US Magazine - the model is naked, with genitals visible, and the labial lips held open

Continental - all of the above, but involving insertion of either a dildo or the model's fingers.

Adult+' or XXX

Adult hardcore involves posing with others, either female or male, in Girl/Girl or Boy/Girl, either of which can be 'Soft' or 'Hard'. Soft is pretending, Hard is the real thing. Normally models will indicate their choice of partners, and sexual health certification is required.