Portrait photography: Techniques and tips
Portraits photography: definition

Portraits photography or portraiture is photography of a person or group of people that displays the expression, personality, and mood of the subject. Like other types of portraiture, the focus of the photograph is usually the person’s face, although the entire body and the background or context may be included.

– wikipedia
Light is key

Without good light, the best composed portrait will fail. A mediocre photo of a person can pop with the right kind of light.
Some lighting equipment/modifiers
Key concepts and tips:

• Keep the composition as simple as possible and as complicated as necessary.
• (almost) Never shoot the subject straight on to the camera
• Environmental portraits include the background
• In a traditional portrait try to separate out the subject from the background as much as possible
Basic lighting setup

• 1 main light, using soft, diffused light, such as a window with a curtain, or north facing window
• 1 secondary light source, which can be another light or a reflector
(Com)Posing tips:

- Subject can face towards or away from the light source (broad or narrow lighting)
- Subject should usually be angled away from camera
- Subject should usually have close shoulder lower than far shoulder
- Shooting subject from slight higher than shoulders is better
- Subjects weight should be distributed 70/30 on feet
- Photos should not be cropped through joints, hands or chins
- Except for artistic purposes, don’t shoot subject right against walls (lighting is key)