

CAREER TRANSFORMATION ACADEMY

AI Professional Headshot Generator Guide

Studio-quality headshots without the studio. No photographer. No expensive session.

FREE — No Sign-In Required

CTA COACHING NOTE:

LinkedIn research shows profiles with a professional headshot receive 21x more profile views and 9x more connection requests.

A bad headshot costs you opportunities before anyone reads a single word of your resume. Fix this first.

AI headshots have reached a quality level where most people cannot distinguish them from professional photography — when done correctly.

This guide walks you through choosing the right tool, taking the right photos, and getting results worth using.

21x More profile views	9x More connection requests	40x More InMail messages	\$29–\$49 Average AI headshot cost
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Step 1: Before You Upload — How to Take the Right Source Photos

The quality of your AI headshot is directly determined by the quality of photos you upload. Most tools need 10–20 photos. Here is exactly what to take.

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DO THIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use natural daylight — face a window for soft, even lighting • Take photos at different angles: straight-on, slight left, slight right • Include close-up (face + shoulders) AND medium shots (chest up) • Wear a variety of tops — solid colors work best (navy, white, gray, black) • Take some smiling and some neutral expression — variety helps the AI • Use a clean, uncluttered background — white walls, outdoors, or plain rooms 	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AVOID THIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flash photography — it flattens features and creates harsh shadows • Sunglasses, hats, or anything covering your face • Group photos or photos with other people in them • Blurry, low-resolution, or heavily filtered images • Heavy Instagram-style filters or beauty smoothing • Photos where your face is very small in the frame
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- Take 20–30 photos total — give the AI options to work with
- Use your phone camera in good lighting — no special equipment needed
- Bathroom selfies or low-light environments
- Photos more than 2 years old — AI learns your current appearance

Step 2: The Tools — Compared Side by Side

All four tools below produce professional results. Choose based on your budget, timeline, and the number of headshots you need.

Aragon AI <https://www.aragon.ai>
Starting at \$29 — 40 headshots | ~1 hour turnaround

Best For: Best overall quality and most natural-looking results. Ideal for LinkedIn, resumes, and executive profiles.

How to Use It:

- Upload 12–20 photos using the variety guidelines above
- Select your preferred style: business professional, business casual, or creative
- Choose background options: white, gradient, office, or outdoor
- Download in high resolution — LinkedIn and print-ready

Strengths

- Consistently highest quality outputs
- Natural skin tones and lighting
- Fast turnaround — usually under 2 hours
- Multiple background and style options

Watch For

- Costs more than budget alternatives
- Quality varies if source photos are poor

HeadshotPro <https://www.headshotpro.com>
Starting at \$39 — 120 headshots | ~2 hour turnaround

Best For: Best for volume. Produces the most headshots per order — great for trying many styles and backgrounds.

How to Use It:

- Upload 10–15 photos with good variety
- Select multiple styles in one order — professional, creative, casual
- 120 outputs gives you plenty to choose from across styles
- Team plans available if you are managing headshots for a group

Strengths

- Highest volume output — 120 headshots per order
- Strong variety across styles and backgrounds
- Team and group ordering available
- Consistent professional quality

Watch For

- Interface slightly less intuitive than Aragon
- Some outputs need editing to remove AI artifacts

ProfilePicture.ai <https://www.profilepicture.ai>
 Starting at \$12 — 50+ headshots | ~30 minute turnaround

Best For: Best budget option. Fastest turnaround. Good for a quick, cost-effective headshot when you need one today.

How to Use It:

- Upload 10 photos minimum — more produces better results
- Select your preferred style and background from the menu
- Results typically ready in under 30 minutes
- Download your favorites — best for LinkedIn profile photo use

Strengths

- Most affordable option
- Fastest turnaround of any platform
- Good for quick updates or testing new looks
- Simple interface — easy to use

Watch For

- Quality is slightly below Aragon at the top tier
- Less background variety than competitors

Try It On AI <https://www.tryitonai.com>
 Starting at \$25 — 40 headshots | ~1 hour turnaround

Best For: Best for experimenting with professional styles. Lets you see yourself in different attire and settings before committing.

How to Use It:

- Upload 10–20 source photos
- Experiment with different outfit styles the AI applies virtually
- Great for testing looks across industries — corporate, tech, creative
- Download and compare before choosing your final headshot

Strengths

- Unique virtual outfit styling feature
- Good for career changers testing new professional identities
- Clean, professional output quality
- Good variety of background and style options

Watch For

- Virtual outfits can occasionally look slightly unnatural
- Less refined at the highest quality tier vs. Aragon

Step 3: After Your Headshots — How to Choose and Use Them

You will receive dozens of headshots. Here is how to evaluate them with a professional eye.

The 5-Second Eye Test

Look at each headshot for exactly 5 seconds. Ask: 'Would I trust this person with a senior leadership role?' If the answer is yes immediately — that is your candidate.

- Eyes: Sharp, engaged, and looking directly at the camera or just slightly off-center
- Expression: Confident and approachable — a slight smile edges out full smiles for executive profiles

- Lighting: Even, no harsh shadows across the face or neck
- Background: Clean and undistracting — your face should be the only focal point
- Attire: Visible clothing should match your target industry standard

Where to Use Your Headshot

Platform	Specifications & Notes
LinkedIn Profile Photo	400×400px minimum. Square crop. LinkedIn recommends 800×800px for best quality. Use your most approachable, professional photo.
Resume Header	Circular or square crop, typically 1–2 inches. Only include a photo if industry-appropriate (common in executive, creative, and international contexts).
Executive Bio	Used in speaking program bios, board profiles, and company websites. Use your sharpest, most formal photo from the set.
Email Signature	60–80px square. Should be high enough resolution to appear crisp on retina displays. Use the same photo as LinkedIn for consistency.
Conference / Speaker Profiles	Usually 500×500px or larger. Check specific requirements. Use the most polished, camera-facing photo.
Company Website / Team Page	Size varies — download in highest resolution available and let your web team resize. Consistency with LinkedIn photo builds brand trust.

CTA COACHING NOTE:

CONSISTENCY MATTERS: Use the same headshot across LinkedIn, your resume, email signature, and any professional platform. Consistency builds recognition and professionalism.

UPDATE ANNUALLY: If your appearance has changed significantly — new hairstyle, significant weight change, aging — update your headshot. A headshot that no longer looks like you creates confusion at in-person meetings.

AFTER YOUR HEADSHOT: Visit ctagsps.com for AI-powered LinkedIn profile optimization that gets the most out of your new professional image.

Quick Links — All Four AI Headshot Tools

Aragon AI (Best Overall): <https://www.aragon.ai>
 HeadshotPro (Best for Volume): <https://www.headshotpro.com>
 ProfilePicture.ai (Best Budget): <https://www.profilepicture.ai>
 Try It On AI (Best for Style Variety): <https://www.tryitonai.com>