

VESSA STUDIO · FREE GUIDE

Do Your References *Agree*

The ten-minute check that saves a wasted model or a weak pack.

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VESSA
STUDIO · ONE OF A KIND

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00 Do Your References Agree?

A ten-minute side-by-side check that tells you, before you train a model or build a pack, whether your influencer's reference photos all show the same person, and what to remake first if they don't.

Results vary and nothing in this course is a promise of income, followers or views. Tool names, prices and features change; check each tool's website. This course is general education, not legal, tax or financial advice. Every Vessa influencer is an adult, and Vessa content is never nude or explicit. Always label AI content and paid partnerships.



PART 00

Do Your References Agree?

A ten-minute side-by-side check that tells you, before you train a model or build a pack, whether your influencer's reference photos all show the same person, and what to remake first if they don't.

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00.1 · Why one wrong photo costs so much

Your influencer's reference photos are the pictures every tool copies her face from. The same goes for a training set, the 16 to 20 photos a personal model learns from. Whatever is in those photos comes back out, good and bad.

Here is the trap. If your references disagree, even a little, the tool doesn't pick the best one. It **learns an average**. Say two photos show a slightly different nose. The model learns a nose halfway between. Do that across the jaw, the eyes and the lips, and you get a softer, blurrier face that looks a little like each photo and exactly like none.

The same happens when you attach references in an app without training. Two front faces from different shoots can blend into a third face that isn't quite either.

> **Watch out:** Retries can't fix this later. Making three pictures and keeping the best finds the best picture a model can make. It can't add a face the model never learned. A face-fix edit over a weak model's pictures can even make faces worse. If her face is soft or "nearly her" in almost every shot, whatever the prompt, the references are the cause.

In the book's own work, the characters whose reference views disagreed most ended up with the weakest models. The ones whose views agreed closely gave the best. Ten minutes of checking now saves a retrain later.

00.2 · Start from one master face

Everything gets checked against one picture: the **master face**. This is a straight-on, head-and-shoulders portrait in soft, even light, with a calm expression.

1. **Write the face in words.** Face shape and bone structure, eye shape and colour, brows, nose, lips, skin tone and undertone, marks, and hair colour, length and texture. Be specific: "warm light-golden skin with a peachy-rose flush across the cheeks and nose" beats "tan skin".
2. **State the adult age**, for example "25-year-old adult woman". Without it, faces often read younger than you meant.
3. **Describe the expression.** "Soft, calm, relaxed brows, not stern, not frowning."

4. **Match the light to the skin.** White-studio prompts push skin pale and flat. If the skin is warm, ask for warm, flattering light.
5. **Make several candidates** and pick the one closest to the person you have in mind.
6. **Check one-sided features.** If there is one beauty mark on the right cheek, make sure no second mark appears on the other side.
7. **Lock it.** Save it as `face-master.png` and write every fixed feature in a notes file.

Before you lock it, make sure the face isn't a real person. If it strongly reminds you of a celebrity or someone you know, start again. Also make sure it doesn't look like your other characters. Image tools tend to drift toward one "default" face, so give each character a distinct bone structure in words.

> **Vessa tip:** Write the side of every one-sided feature two ways: her side and the picture's side. "Beauty mark on her right cheek, which is the left side of the picture in a front photo." Left and right are a model's weakest point.

00.3 · The reference shot list

These are the views the check covers. Shoot them on a plain light-grey background, in soft even light, wearing a fitted plain top (with plain shorts or leggings for body views). No logos, and no jewellery you don't want copied.

#	Shot	Shape	What it shows
1	Face, front	4:5 chest-up	Looking at the camera, calm expression
2	Face, three-quarter left	4:5	Head turned about 35 degrees, both eyes visible
3	Face, three-quarter right	4:5	The other way

#	Shot	Shape	What it shows
4	Face, profile	4:5	Full side view
5	Face, looking down	4:5	Whole head tilted about 30 degrees, not just the eyes
6 to 9	Body: front, left side, back, right side	2:3 full length	Head to toe, standing naturally
10	Smile	4:5	Same face, natural smile
11 to 14	Close-ups	1:1	One eye, lips, cheek skin texture, the signature mark

The front, three-quarter and looking-down faces are the backbone. They are the ones that must agree most closely.

> **Watch out:** Everything in a reference can be copied. A café behind the face, a printed tee, a hard shadow across the cheek: all of them turn up in later pictures. Keep references plain.

00.4 · The side-by-side check

Set aside ten minutes. Open the photos at the same size, next to each other.

Step 1 · Line them up. Put the front view, both three-quarter views and the looking-down view in one row, with the master face beside them.

Step 2 · One feature at a time. Don't judge the whole face at once. Compare a single feature across all four views, then move to the next.

Feature	What to look for
Face shape and jaw	Same width and the same jawline curve, allowing for the angle

Feature	What to look for
Nose	Same bridge, tip and nostril shape
Eye shape	Same lid shape and tilt
Eye colour	Same colour, not shifted by the light
Lips	Same fullness and the same shape of the top lip
Brows	Same thickness, arch and colour
Skin tone	Same tone and undertone, not paler or greyer in one view
Marks	Every mark on the correct side, and no extra marks
Hair colour	Same colour (the style may change)
Age	All read as the same adult age

Step 3 · Find the odd one out. If one view looks off on any feature, that view is the problem.

Step 4 · Remake that view first. Don't touch the views that agree. Remake only the one that's off, then line them up and compare again.

Step 5 · Go ahead only when every view clearly reads as the same person. Your eye decides.

> **Example:** A front view and two three-quarter views match well, but the looking-down view has a slightly shorter nose and a rounder chin. Remake the looking-down view. Leave the other three alone, then check all four again.

00.5 · What to remake first

When several things are wrong, work in this order.

Problem	Why it comes first	What to do
A **front or three-quarter face** that doesn't match	These are the backbone. Every other view is judged against them	Remake that view against the master face
A **looking-down face** that doesn't match	It's part of the backbone, and easy to get wrong	Remake it, tilting the whole head, not just the eyes
A **mark on the wrong side**, or an extra mark	Left and right are a model's weakest point	Remake it, or blend nearby skin over one stray mark if the photo is otherwise perfect
A **mirror selfie** in the set	Mirrors flip left and right	Use a straight front-camera photo instead
Skin tone paler or greyer in one view	It will average into a flat, dull tone	Remake it with warmer, softer light
A **busy background**, logo or printed words	It gets copied into later pictures	Remake it on a plain background

> **Watch out:** Some phones save front-camera photos mirrored, depending on a camera setting. Check yours by taking a photo of some printed words.

00.6 · A quick check for every new photo

Once the backbone agrees, check each new photo against the master before it joins the set.

TEMPLATE

REFERENCE CHECK · photo: _____ date: _____
[ ] Same face shape, nose, lips and eye shape as the master
[ ] Same eye colour
[ ] Same skin tone and undertone (not paler, not greyer)
[ ] Every mark on the correct side, no extra marks
[ ] Same hair colour
[ ] Same adult age
[ ] Sharp; the face is not blurry or tiny
[ ] Hands look normal, or are out of frame
[ ] No logos, no printed words
[ ] Fully dressed, opaque clothing
Result: KEEP / REMAKE / SMALL RETOUCH

Chapter oo checklist

- [ ] I have one locked master face, with every fixed feature written down.
- [ ] The adult age and the side of every one-sided feature are written down.
- [ ] The face is original: not a real person, and not one of my other characters.
- [ ] Every reference is on a plain background, with no text or logos.
- [ ] I lined up the front, both three-quarter and the looking-down views at the same size.
- [ ] I compared one feature at a time across all of them.
- [ ] I remade only the view that was off, then compared again.
- [ ] No mirror selfies, or I checked that the marks are on the correct side.
- [ ] Every view clearly reads as the same person before I train or build the pack.

Go deeper

This guide covers the check. **Train Her Own Model** ($39) covers the whole job: the full 20-shot training list, balancing outfits and settings, writing captions, training, testing, a twelve-shot certification, and a fix ladder for every kind of drift. For a short reference card of shots and prompts, there's also the **Face-Consistency Cheat Sheet** ($9).

Find it at vessa.studio/books.html#train-her-own-model