

Photography Composition Assignment

Composition is the arrangement of objects in a photograph. There are various guidelines and artistic conventions that attempt to describe what makes a good composition. The most widely recognized of these is the rule of thirds. The rule of thirds involves dividing the rectangular frame of the photograph into nine equally-sized sections using two imaginary vertical lines and two imaginary horizontal lines. The photographer then tries to align the main objects of the photograph along the lines or at their points of intersection. This is believed to create a balanced and aesthetically-pleasing composition.

DIRECTIONS

Using your cell phone camera, personal digital camera, or school camera take 3 NEW good photos (inside the school or at home) of each of the 7 Rules of Photography Composition listed on this

A total of 21 photos should be taken

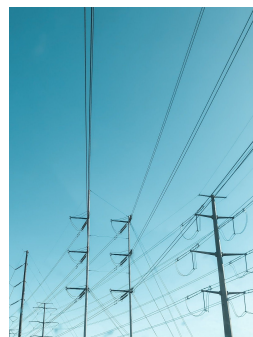
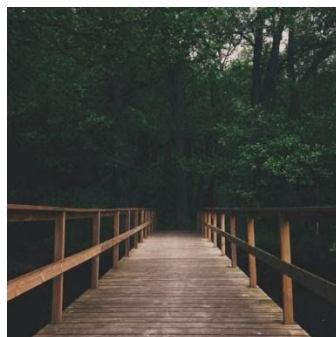
Rule of Thirds

Imagine that your image is divided into 9 equal segments by 2 vertical and 2 horizontal lines. The rule of thirds says that you should position the most important elements in your scene along these lines, or at the points where they intersect.



Leading Lines

When we look at a photo our eye is naturally drawn along lines. By thinking about how you place lines in your composition, you can affect the way we view the image, pulling us into the picture, towards the subject, or on a journey "through" the scene. There are many different types of lines - straight, diagonal, curvy, zigzag, radial, etc. - and each can be used to enhance our photo's composition.



Filling the Frame

The simple act of making your subject bigger in the frame involves the viewer at a much more intense level. A chin-to-forehead portrait of an interesting face, for example, immediately puts the viewer eye-to-eye with your subject. A very tight shot of a bear—even if you made it with a long lens at the zoo—creates breathless drama.



Pattern (Repetition)

We are surrounded by symmetry and patterns, both natural and man-made. They can make for very eye-catching compositions, particularly in situations where they are not expected.



Framing

The world is full of objects which make perfect natural frames, such as trees, archways, and holes. By placing these around the edge of the composition you help to isolate the main subject from the outside world. The result is a more focused image that draws your eye naturally to the main point of interest.



Symmetry

Visually weighted the same when the photo is divided down the middle. Symmetry is pleasing to the eye.



Point of View

Look up, Look down, Lay on the ground, move to a higher spot to see things differently.

There is no law that says all photos have to be taken from eye level and straight on. By taking photos from a different angle, looking down or up at the subject, you can produce a totally new feeling, mood or effect.

