**Photography Compositions**

Composition defined: how subject(s) are aesthetically placed within the frame from your viewpoint.

What to do?

* Define your subject(s) – what is it?
* Context – what is important to add/subtract from the frame?
* Viewpoint – how can you change your viewpoint to change how subject(s) fit within the frame?

What composition rules / guides are there?

* Rule of thirds
* Diagonal
* Filling the frame
* Framing
* Symmetry / asymmetry
* 20/80
* Simplicity
* Fifths
* View point
* Golden rule / mean / ratio
* Golden triangle
* Foreground to background
* Juxtaposition
* Left to right / right to left
* Geometrical shapes
* Leading lines

Elements – these are descriptions within the image, i.e., how you would describe the scene in terms of:

* Pattern Texture
* Colour Tone
* Contrast Space
* Mass Volume
* Size Line
* Point Scale
* Dimension Form
* Contour Silhouette
* Shape

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| Pattern  | Texture |
| Colour | Tone |
| Contrast | Space |
| Mass | Volume |
| Size | Line |
| Point | Scale |
| Dimension | Form |
| Contour | Silhouette |
| Shape |  |

All compositions work on a landscape / portrait or square orientation.

**Tip One: *Think about where your image is to appear (i.e., web / print, etc., and what size)***

***Tip Two: Work the subject***

**Rule of Thirds**



This allows us to use a ‘thirds’ grid or imagine lines drawn to split the frame up in to nine equal parts. These lines are either vertical or horizontal. Horizontal lines split the frame equally from top to bottom. Vertical lines split the frame equally horizontally.

One use of the rule of thirds is to place subjects along the lines. This could be sections / layers.

Where the lines cross over – these are intersections.

Intersections are points of interest where subjects can be placed and you can have as little as one point of interest or a maximum of four. Do beware that more subjects or interest may lead to distraction.