

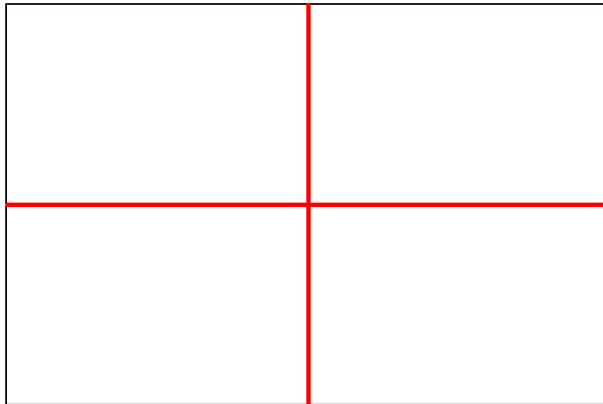
DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY INTRO PLUS

Week #2 of 6: Camera Shooting Modes and Composition

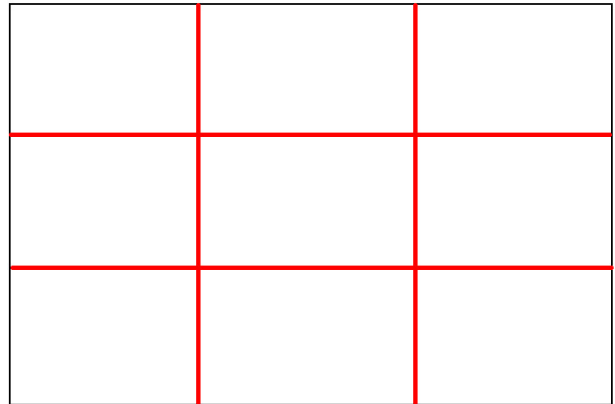
Comparing images

Art versus snapshot

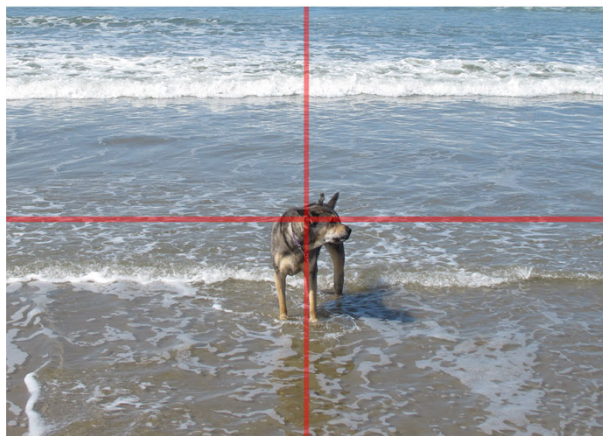
Composition: Rule of thirds, divide from into thirds horizontally and vertically. Put primary subjects at the intersection of those lines. Try to not always put main subject in exact center of frame. Try to not put horizon in exact center of frame.



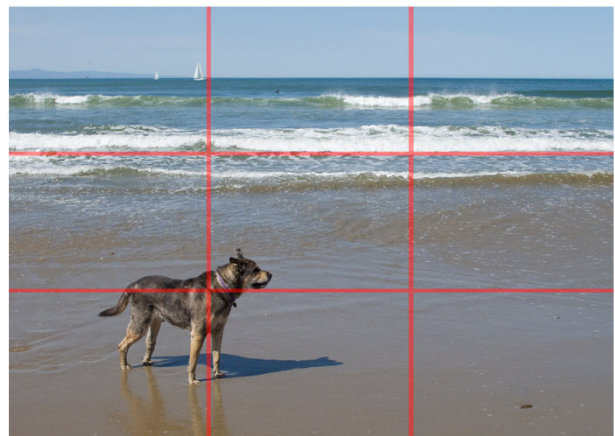
Centered with only
one intersection point



Using thirds we get
four intersection Points



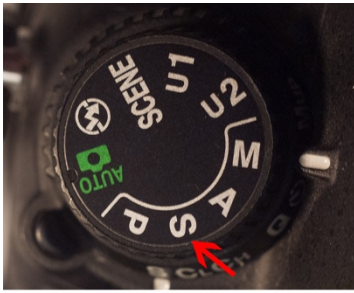
A rather simple image
face at center point



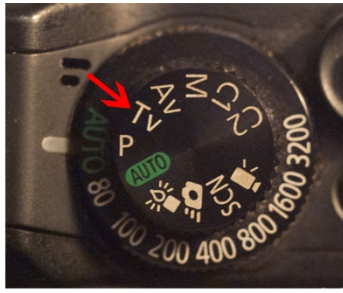
A more “dynamic” image.
Subject at one of the “thirds”.

Shutter priority mode (“S” or “Tv” mode)

Use when speed is the more important part of your photograph. With “S mode” you select the shutter speed you want and the camera finds a correct f/stop to control exposure. Faster shutter speeds (1/500 for example) freeze motion. This gives a very sharp, but sometimes lifeless, image. Slower shutter speeds (1/30 for example) gives “motion blur” with fast moving subjects. This gives a less sharp, but often more dramatic” image. If you don’t have “S mode” on your camera, try using a “sports” or “portrait” mode for the “faster shutter speed” and a “landscape” or night mode for the “slower shutter speed”.



Typical
S = Shutter Mode



Canon
Tv = Shutter Mode



Scene Mode
Two step selection



Scene Mode
Direct Selection

Named Scene Modes

Used to give more feedback to camera about "what" you are shooting. Names and properties vary from camera to camera. Typically;

- "sports" gives high shutter speed, wide aperture and allows high ISO
- "portrait" gives very wide aperture (narrow depth of field) and softer colors
- "landscape" gives small aperture (large depth of field) and allows slow shutter speeds
- "night" forces slow shutter speeds

Please remember that your named modes MAY VARY from the descriptions above!

Image editing software part 2 (cropping, levels, fast selections)

Username: photo password: photo123

For many photographers, the computer has replaced the “photo lab” and is now the “2nd half” of the digital camera.

View Tools allows you to "zoom in or out" and move on an image to see more or less detail.

1. Launch Photoshop Elements 14, if needed.
2. Select “Photo Editor”.
3. Open image 2-5-crop.jpg (File > Open). You will see image on your screen.
4. Make sure you are in “Expert” mode rather than “Quick or “Guided” mode (Elements specific command, in upper right of screen).
5. Select "Zoom Tool" in the tools pallet (magnifying glass near top).
6. Click on area you want to see in more detail. Click again to increase zoom.
7. To "zoom out" either select the "minus" magnifier in the "tools pallet" (or hold the alt key) and then click to un-zoom.
8. Select the "Hand Tool" in the tools pallet (looks like a hand, near top). You can move around your image. This tool only works if you are zoomed in!
9. From any situation, you can get back to "fit on screen" (see entire image on your screen) by hitting "command + zero" (NOT "command + letter O").

Cropping allows you to “zoom in” on an interesting part of your file or “reshape” your file for a specific paper shape.

- 1) Launch Photoshop Elements 14, if needed.
- 2) Select "Photo Editor".
- 3) Open image 2-5-crop.jpg (File > Open) if needed. You will see image on your screen.
- 4) Make sure you are in “Expert” mode rather than “Quick or “Guided” mode (Elements specific command, in upper center of screen).
- 5) Select crop tool from the tool bar (far left side of screen).
- 6) Select an “Aspect ratio” if desired. You can also select “No Restriction” for “free form” crop.
- 7) You can, optionally, modify the crop by dragging any side handle. You can, optionally, move the crop left-right or up-down by click-dragging from within the crop. You can, optionally, rotate the crop by hovering the curser near a corner point until it turns into to a curved symbol. Rotate is very useful for fixing uneven horizons or tilting images.
- 8) Once you have the crop “perfect”, hit the return key. If you decide to “start over” rather than keep your crop, just hit the “escape” key rather than the return key.
- 9) Save your newly cropped (smaller) file as a new file/name (File > Save As) to a location on your hard drive (not your camera’s memory card). Chose file type as TIFF (if possible). Click “OK”. Without this step you would “over-write” your existing file, which would permanently reduce file size.
- 10) If you don’t have TIFF available, use JPEG. In the next window chose Quality “10” if you are going to burn and deliver a disk to a retail store/lab or print to your home inkjet. Chose Quality “8” if you are going to email the file to a printer/lab. Click “OK”. Without this step you would “over-write” your existing file, which would permanently reduce your file size.

JPG compression level (in camera “Quality”)

More compression (smaller number in Photoshop Elements) gives smaller file, but also does more damage (creates unwanted artifacts). Set both in your camera and in your image editing program.

Levels allow you to brighten or darken an image. It also allows you to set a white & black point.

Manual Levels (best method)

- 1) Launch Photoshop Elements 14, if needed.
- 2) Select “Photo Editor”, if needed.
- 3) Open image 2-6-levels.jpg (File>Open). You will see image on your screen.
- 4) Make sure you are in “Expert” mode rather than “Quick or “Guided” mode (Elements specific command, in upper center of screen).
- 5) Select Enhance>Adjust Lighting>Levels.
- 6) Move the white slider under the histogram until the whites/highlights are to your liking. Hint: if you hold down the option key (Mac) or the alt Key (PC) while moving the slider you can see if anything is “clipped/pure white”.
- 7) Move the black slider under the histogram until the blacks/shadows are to your liking. Hint: if you hold down the option key (Mac) or the alt Key (PC) while moving the slider you can see if anything is “clipped/pure black”.
- 8) Move the center gray slider under the histogram until the mid tone brightness is to your liking.
- 9) Hit “OK”.
- 10) Save your new file as a new file/name (File > Save As) to a location on your hard drive (not your camera’s memory card). Click “OK”. Without this step you would “over-write” your existing original file.
- 11) Repeat above with image 2-7-levels.jpg

Auto Levels (quick and easy, but very little control)

- 1) Launch Photoshop Elements 14, if needed.
- 2) Select “Photo Editor”, if needed.
- 3) Open image 2-6-levels.jpg (File>Open). You will see image on your screen.
- 4) Make sure you are in “Quick” mode rather than “Expert” or “Guided” mode (Elements specific command, in upper center of screen).
- 5) There is a “levels” pallet on the right hand side. Open this panel. Hit the “Auto Levels” button.
- 6) If you like the results save your new file as a new file/name (File>Save As) to a location on your hard drive (not your camera’s memory card).
- 7) If you don’t like the results, hit the “undo” button. Put yourself back in “Expert” mode (upper center of screen) and follow the instruction above for “Manual Levels”.

Selections, Part One allows you to select a specific part of an image to edit. You could, for example, alter only the face in a portrait. You could, for example, brighten that face without brightening the clothes or the background.

Magic Wand

- 1) Launch Photoshop Elements 14, if needed.
- 2) Select "Photo Editor", if needed.
- 3) Open image 2-6-levels.jpg (File>Open). You will see image on your screen.
- 4) Make sure you are in "Expert" mode rather than "Quick or "Guided" mode (Elements specific command, in upper center of screen).
- 5) Hit the "Quick Selection" tool (in left tools pallet, in the "Selections" area).
- 6) In the "Tools Options" panel, select the "Magic Wand" button.
- 7) Click on area you want selected, adjust tolerance and contiguous if needed.
- 8) Option click subtracts, shift click adds to selection.

Quick Selection

- 1) Launch Photoshop Elements 14, if needed.
- 2) Select "Photo Editor if needed.
- 3) Open image 2-6-levels.jpg (File>Open). You will see image on your screen.
- 4) Make sure you are in "Expert" mode rather than "Quick or "Guided" mode (Elements specific command, in upper center of screen).
- 5) Hit the "Quick Selection" tool (in left tools pallet, in the "Selections" area).
- 6) In the "Tools Options" panel, select the "Quick Selection" button.
- 7) Drag over area you want selected, adjust size and brush options if needed.
- 8) Option click subtracts, shift click adds to selection.

HOMEWORK (in three parts, 4 prints)

Part One (Camera and menu items):

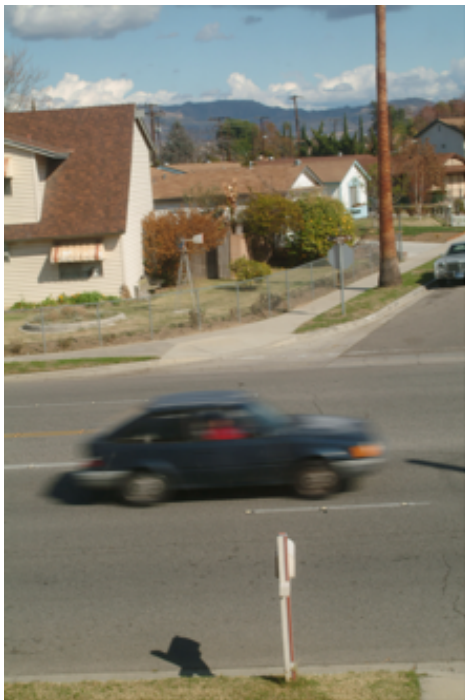
- 1) ***Know where your camera autofocus modes are and how to switch between focus auto select and fixed targets (read manual)***

Part Two (Shutter speeds):

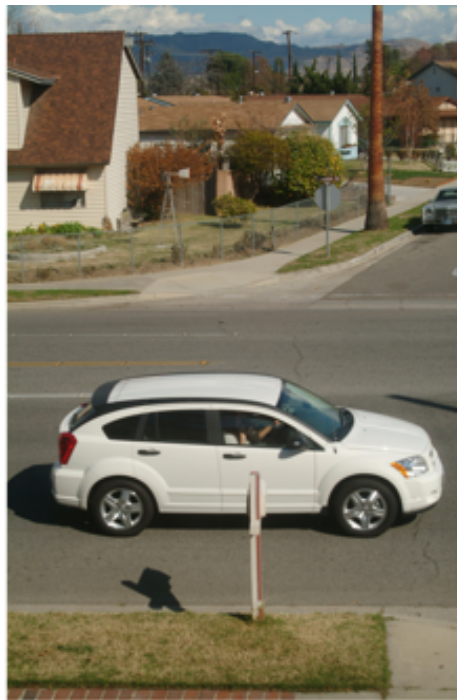
- 1) ***Use a slow ISO (100 or 200)***
- 2) ***Use your camera's "Shutter Priority" mode (aka "S" or "Tv" mode)***
- 3) ***Pick a **FAST** moving object such as a car, bike, animal or a fast kid***
- 4) ***Shoot your subject as stop motion (1/1000 to 1/125 shutter)***
- 5) ***Shoot your subject as motion blur (1/15 to 1/60 shutter)***

Note: if you are using a compact camera, you will need shoot the above motion blur image in shade or evening light, not direct sunlight.

- 6) ***Download the files to your computer***
- 7) ***Resize the files to your choice of print size***
- 8) ***Optional: use Photoshop Elements & levels adjustments to make the images look their best.***
- 9) ***Print images and bring them to class***



Motion Blur
1/30 Second



Stop Motion
1/750 Second

Note: If your camera doesn't have a "Shutter priority" mode, try using a "sports" or "portrait" mode for the stop motion and a "landscape" or "night" mode for the motion blur. This will work on some (not all) camera models.

Part Three (rules of thirds):

- 1) Find an interesting subject and background.***
- 2) Shoot the subject “dead center” in the frame.***
- 3) Re-arrange your composition so that you place the subject at the intersection of the “rule of thirds” lines.***
- 4) Bring both prints to class (4 prints total).***



Centered with only
one intersection point



Using Rule of Thirds