



TIPS FOR TAKING GREAT PHOTOS

(WITH YOUR SMART PHONE)

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The Picture Taking Process

- 1. Where is your light source? What is your light source?**
- 2. Set up the Camera (selfie, portrait, landscape)**
- 3. Select your Shooting Mode**
- 4. Set up your shot**
- 5. Take your Photo**
- 6. Tap Photos App or Tap image in lower left to see your captured photo or video**
- 7. Edit, Enhance, Organize (Picasa, Photoshop Elements, Photos)**
- 8. Upload your photos to different Apps or Download photos from Camera Phone to your Computer (USB)**
- 9. Share your Photos**

Getting your Best Shot

1. Where is your light source?

2. Set up the Camera

3. Set up your shot

4. The Rule of Thirds

Getting the Best Shot

1. **Where is your light source?**

- What kind of day is it?
 - Is it sunny, cloudy, nighttime
- Are you inside or outside?
 - Is there candlelight, fluorescent, halogen
- Check for Reflections, lights, mirrors

Getting the Best Shot

2. **Set up the Camera**

- Select Auto Mode, SCN Mode, ISO, White Balance
- Flash ON or OFF?
- Single shooting or continuous
- How many mega pixels?

Getting the Best Shot

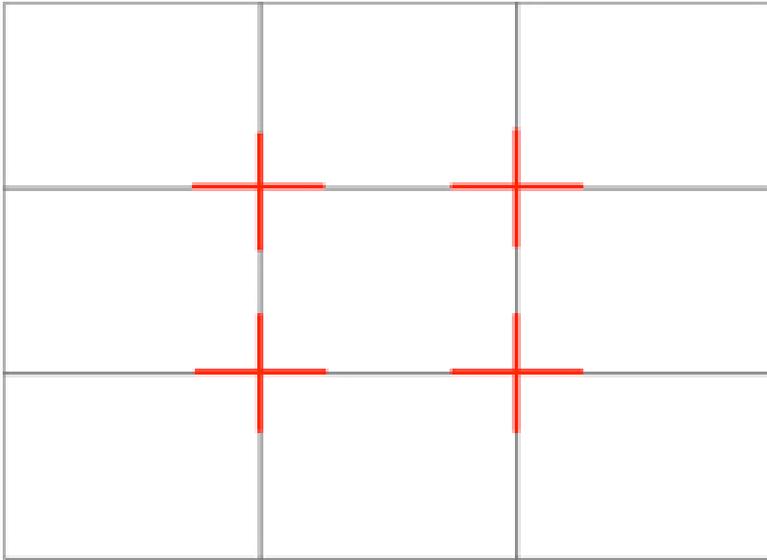
3. **Set up your shot**

- Move yourself, take a few steps forward or backward
- Move furniture, glasses, table settings, chairs
- When taking group shots
 - Direct people exactly how you want them
 - Use your wide angle lens (to back up)
- Rotate the camera, Portrait or landscape
- What is your View Finder looking at? What do you want to focus on?
 - Foreground, Middle ground, Background

Lots of Photos to Take

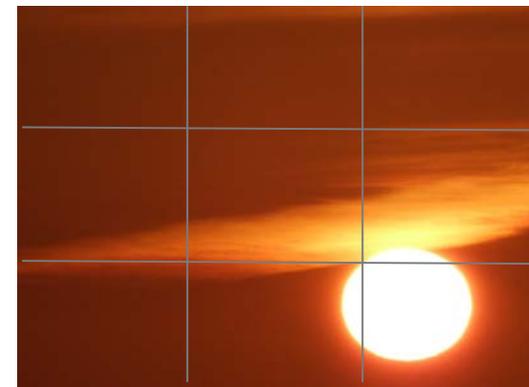
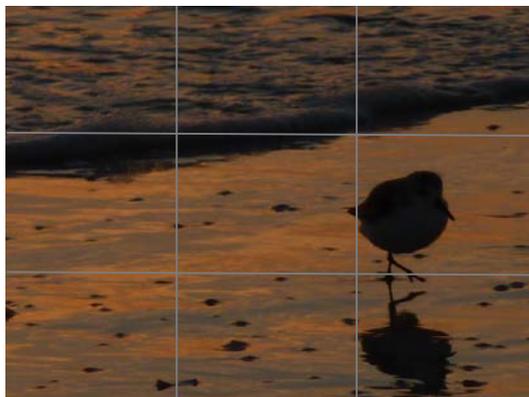
1. **People photos** Portrait, Torso, Full Body, Group Photo, Candid
2. **Shadow photos.** The sun is behind you – good way to put yourself into a texture photo
3. **Backlit photos.** The sun is behind the subject – you are shooting directly into the sun
4. **Moving photos**
 - Subject is jumping or flying or driving or dancing
 - Photographer is the one who is moving
 - Both the Photographer and the Subject are moving
5. **Reflection photos**
 - Water, Window, Hub caps or rims, Mirror, shiny buildings
6. **Close-up Nature/Texture photos**
 - Animals, pets, birds
 - Flowers, Trees, butterflies, bugs, lizards
7. **Perspective photos**
 - Lie on your back – take the photo up into the sky
 - Tilt the camera
 - Put the camera on the ground or on a chair
8. **Framing/Composition photos**
 - Fence or Window or trees or look through an archway

The Rule of Thirds



- The basic principle behind the **rule of thirds** is to imagine breaking an image down into thirds (both horizontally and vertically) so that you have 9 parts.
- Turn on the Grid on your Phone. Go to Settings > Camera > Grid
- This grid identifies four important parts of the image that you can consider placing points of interest in to frame your image.
- The theory is that if you place points of interest in the intersections or your photo becomes more balanced and will enable the viewer to interact with the image more naturally.

Rule of Thirds Examples



Breaking the Rules

1. Hold Your Camera on an Angle
2. Break the Rule of Thirds
3. Ignore the 'Active Space' Rule for Moving Subjects
4. Experiment with Different Framings in Portraits
5. Taking Unfocused Photos
6. Shoot directly into the Sun for a silhouette effect
7. Move Your Camera to Create Motion Blur

Become a Great Photographer

“What Separates Great Photographers from Good Ones?”

- It's a combination of **technique** and **an eye for creativity** (and the ability to draw emotions out of your subjects).
- **Add Emotion to your photos.**
 - Take a funny photo – a bird on a funny sign
 - A photo > just because
- **Enhance your creativity.**
 - Turn the camera. Portrait / Landscape / Angled.
 - Break the rules.
 - Shoot into the sun.
 - **Keep an eye on the background and the foreground.**

Adding Emotion

- **The ability to convey emotion.** Emotion in a photograph, or any work of art, is what helps a viewer **connect** to an image.
- Emotion, or a feeling, is what can bring a snapshot out of obscurity and make it shine.
 - Think of a normal sunset picture. Then pull the zoom back to a wider angle and show a couple in silhouette, sitting on lounge chairs facing the waves.
- The photo should be **your expression of what you see and feel** through the viewfinder.

Adding Emotion

1. **Realize What Type Of Mood You're In While Shooting.** Your emotional state has the largest impact on the emotional quality of your photos.
2. **Tighten The Shot.** Simplify the main subject of the image before hitting the shutter release. A wide angle view of a festival in the streets might show the size, which can be impressive in its own right, but the feel of that party is best conveyed on the faces of those dancing or performing in the crowd. Zero in on the action. It may tell the difference between a large crowd who is standing around, bored or a large crowd having the time of their lives.
3. **Focus On Faces.** Share the results with your subject if you can.
4. **Set Your Camera Down And Observe.** Put the camera down for a minute. Forget about shooting and just sit and observe. Absorb the world in which you sit. Observe for 15 minutes.
- **Return If You Can.** If you are shooting a subject which you can return to, do it. The same street or beach or room will have a different feel on different days, especially if the weather changes often. And your mood can shift as well from day to day. Return to a location for a second look.

Enhance your Creativity

1. **Never Stop Thinking About Photos.** Mentally frame your images whether you have your camera in your hand or not. Think about how you would capture the subject. Training yourself to think creatively. If your mind is primed for creative thought, creativity will have an easier time striking you.
2. **Embrace Your Mistakes & Chance.** It's OK to take a chance or make a mistake. Always take a second look and see if something new presents itself to the scene.
3. **Find inspiration.** Whether viewing artwork at museums, in photo books or immersing yourself in nature, embrace the work of others including Mother Nature to help you see or think in new ways. When our minds are introduced to new techniques or ways of seeing our minds eye begins to expand its view fostering creative thought.
4. **Break the Rules.** Rules are great as they provide a roadmap of how things can be done or explain why we find something visually appealing. Once you have mastered the rules its time to break them. Creativity knows no bounds. A great creative exercise is to intentionally break a rule to see how you can find a new way of viewing something in a manner that is otherwise "taboo".
5. **Have No Fear.** Free yourself from the fear of what others might say of your creative experiments. People by nature almost always have adverse reactions to new things particularly when they're entrenched in thinking a more common practice is the "right way" or "norm". Creativity is the antithesis of a "norm". Creativity brings a new way to present and see things. Never let norms and the attachment others have to them sway you from your creative exploration of the world before you with your camera.
6. **Extract Yourself.** Remove yourself from familiar routine and locations. Taking time to be away from the things that normally fill your day is a great way to obtain freedom for your mind to wander. Distraction free time allows for new thoughts and ideas to surface and most importantly it allows you to shape them into actionable projects.

Bonnie's Summer Classes



- **HOW TO BLOG IN WORDPRESS**, Monday, Jun 4 - Jun 25, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- **WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO IN FACEBOOK**, Tuesdays, Jun 12 – Jun 26, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- **HEARING VOICES: ALEXA, SIRI, CORTANA AND GOOGLE**, Thursdays, June 21 – June 28
- **MACINTOSH TIPS & TRICKS**, Mondays, July 9 – July 23
- **IPHONE TIPS & TRICKS**, Tuesdays, July 10 – July 24
- **FACEBOOK MESSENGER**, Thursdays, July 12 – July 26
- **CALL 941-361-6590 to Sign Up!**



- **ULEARN IPHONE**, WednesdayS, Jun 20 – July 25, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- **CALL 941-361-6590 to Sign Up!**

- **MEET ADOBE CREATIVE SUITE**, Mon-Fri, Jun 11 – Jun 15, 1:00 PM – 3:45 PM
- **ADOBE INDESIGN**, Mon-Fri, Jun 18 – Jun 29, 1:00 PM – 3:45 PM
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- Offering affordable in-home private consulting for all digital devices and personal project needs.
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