

LET'S GET BACK TO BASICS 2

Once Depth of Field is understood, you can start concentrating on composition. Choose your subject. Remember there are potential subjects all around you.

Look around your back yard. Beautiful patterns on wooden fence palings, using early morning or late in the day side lighting, patterns on leaves, rocks also insects and small reptiles.

- Use the tried and tested "rules" which are really guidelines, compose your image.
- The most useful guideline is the "Rule of Thirds".
- Use light to enhance your image. Midday light is harsh and there will be little or no shadow detail therefore early morning or late afternoon light is best in most cases.
- If you're photographing people ensure that there are no trees or poles "growing" out of heads.
- Ensure that your subject is in focus. Use selective focus by tweaking your Depth of Field.
- **Use a tripod.**

ISO.

This is simply "International Standards Organisation" to which about 150 countries subscribe.

ASA is "American Standards Association" and was the standard used for photography, particularly films and papers, to maintain the status and quality. This has been superseded by **ISO**. In photography this is a "speed rating" indicating how quickly your sensor or film reacts to light. Higher ISO=faster reaction to light.

It guarantees that any reputable brand camera or film which indicates a particular **ISO** should be the same as any other reputable brand of film or camera indicating the same ISO, within acceptable tolerances.

The higher the **ISO**, the easier it is to shoot in low light. However you will have pronounced NOISE on Digital sensors which is similar to the problem that GRAIN is on film.

Lenses.

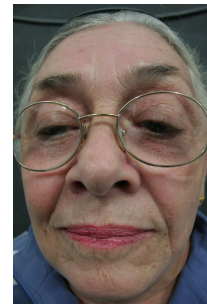
Choose the most appropriate lens for the situation.

- The shorter the focal length of a wide angle lens (e.g. 18mm -24mm) the greater will be the depth of field, ideal for landscapes, particularly if you "shut your lens down" to f18 ,f22 or higher .
- **Do not** take portraits with wide angle lenses...it distorts features; also noses appear to "grow long". Your subject will look like a **victim** and won't thank you.
Short to Medium telephoto lenses are quite useful for some portraits.
- Macro lenses have a **very** shallow depth of field and it requires **practice** to shoot the image you want. A tripod is necessary also reflectors may help.
- Telephoto lenses (medium 85mm-135mm or long 135mm-300mm) immediately limit your depth of field so make sure your subject is in focus.

Text Fran Cross LAPS



16 mm or Fish Eye = Total Distortion



18mm medium Wide Angle = Unacceptable distortion



50 mm Short Telephoto= Acceptable

Images Tony Jones (his fault)