



4H PHOTOGRAPHY

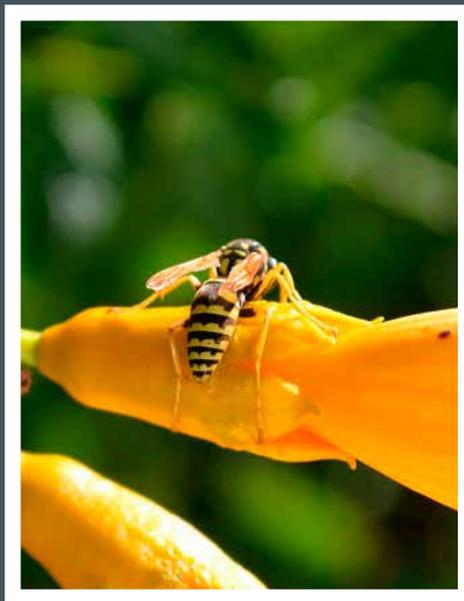


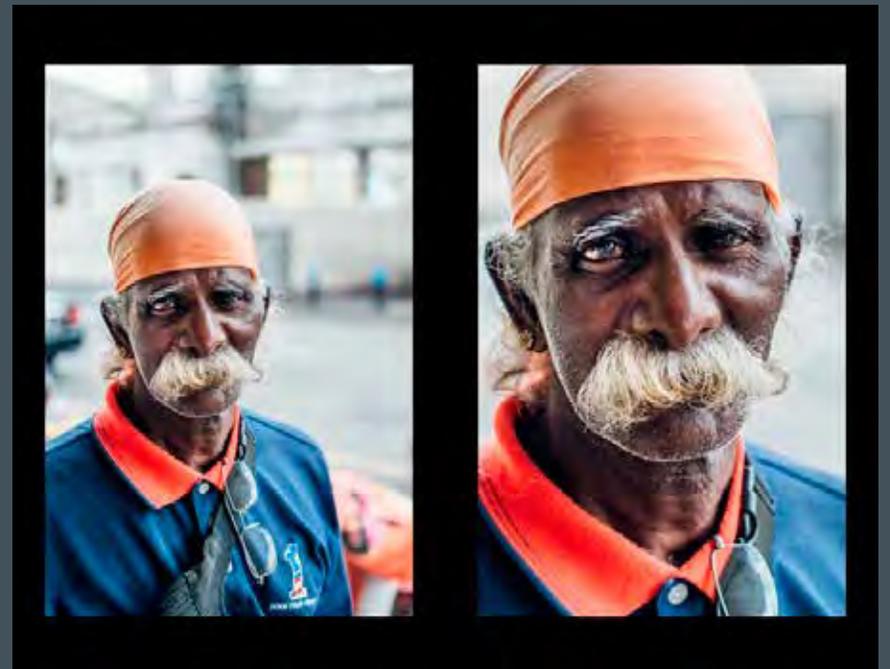
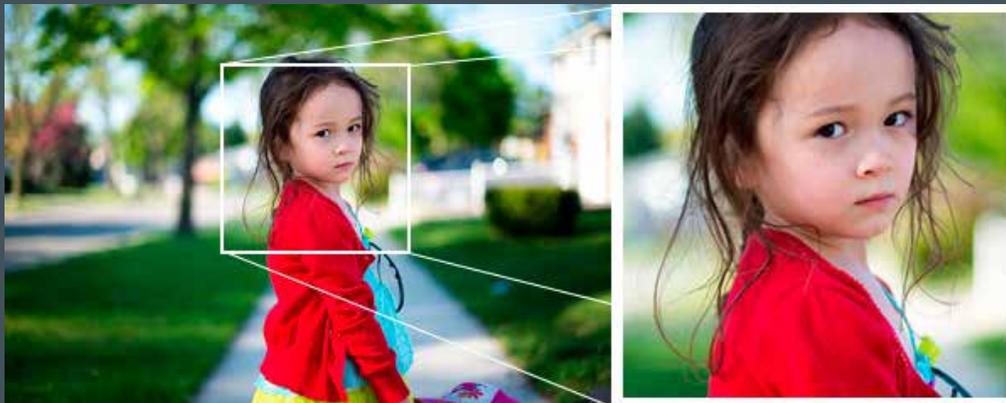
CHOOSE YOUR BEST PHOTOS

Be sure to look at each photo with a technical eye. Your favorite may not be the best technically and probably isn't the best choice.

POINTS OF INTEREST AND CROPPING

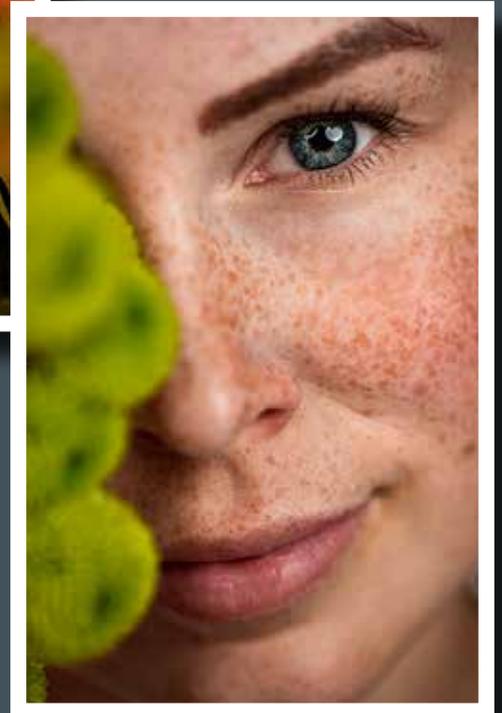
Photographs should have interesting things in them—they need a visual point of interest. Don't confuse the viewer with too many competing focal points which might overwhelm the main focal point. Secondary points of interest can be helpful to lead the eye, too many strong ones will just clutter and confuse. Crop your original shot if you need to remove clutter.

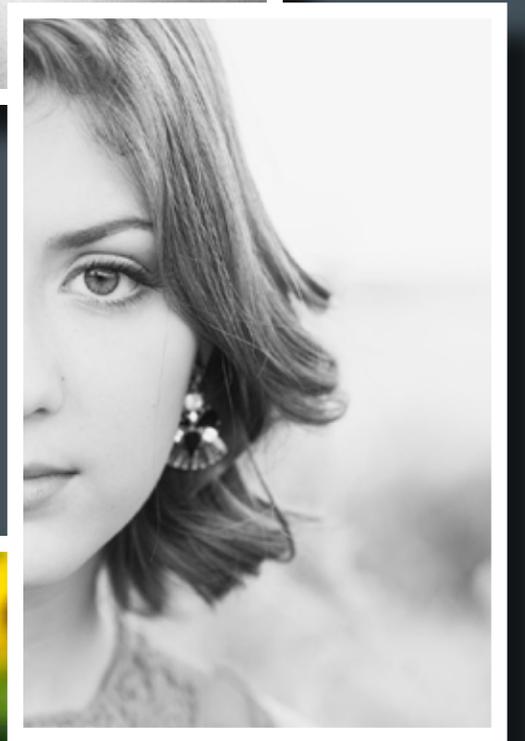




CREATIVE CROPPING

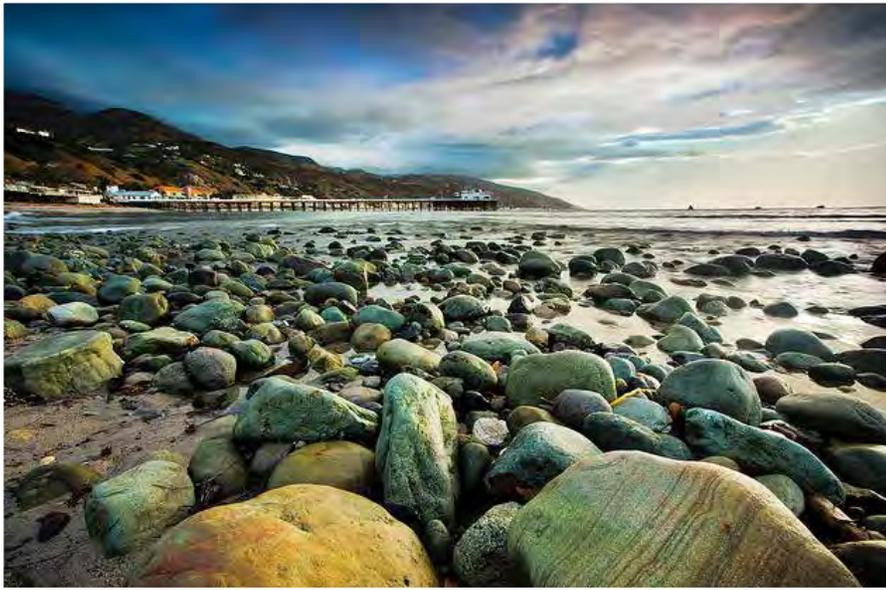
Creative cropping can add fun. Cropping can help to leave out unnecessary details. You don't always have to center your subject or use the rule of thirds, but make it purposeful. A good rule is don't cut off limbs at the joint.





You can achieve a balanced composition and even out the main subject's "visual weight" by including another object of lesser importance to fill the space, if needed.







Remember, if you majorly crop a image, the image will become more pixelated and you will lose quality because you will be blowing it up. The higher resolution of the original shot, the more you can blow it up.



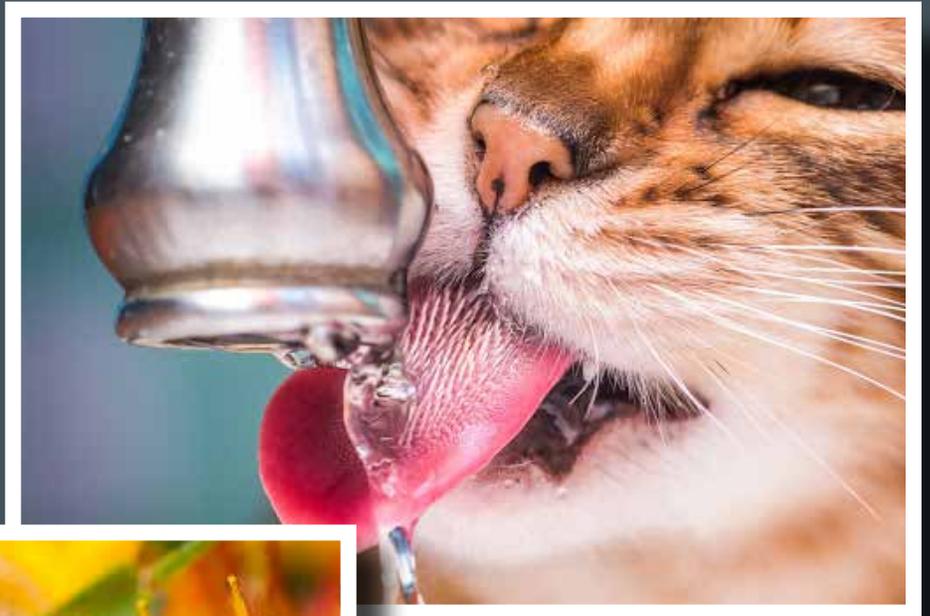
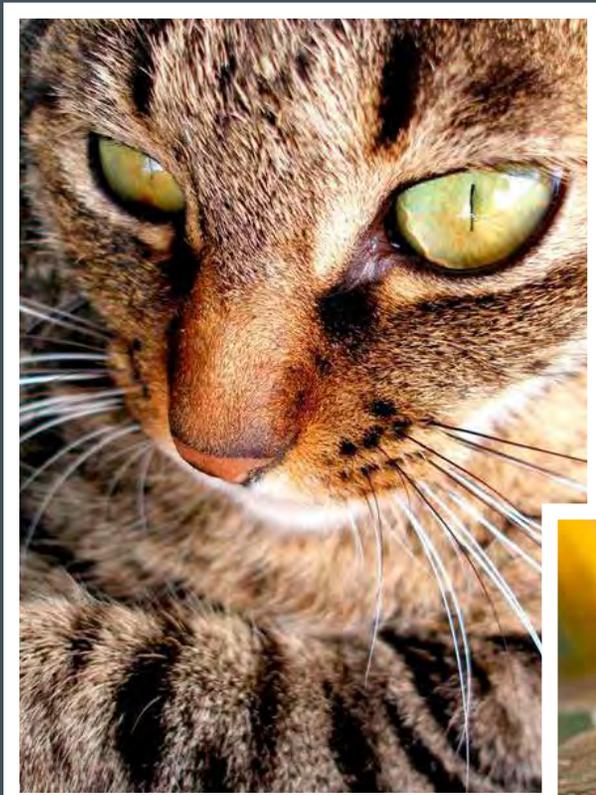


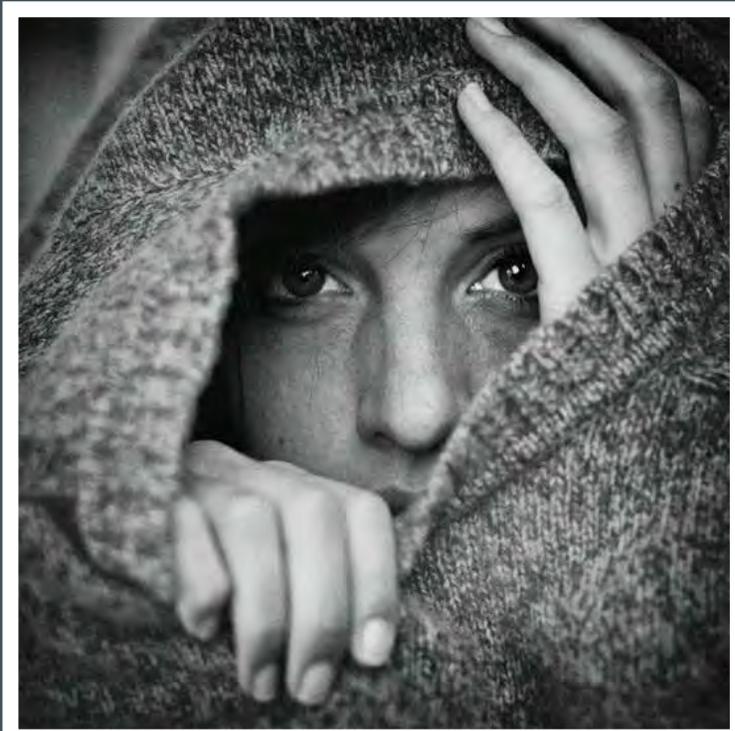
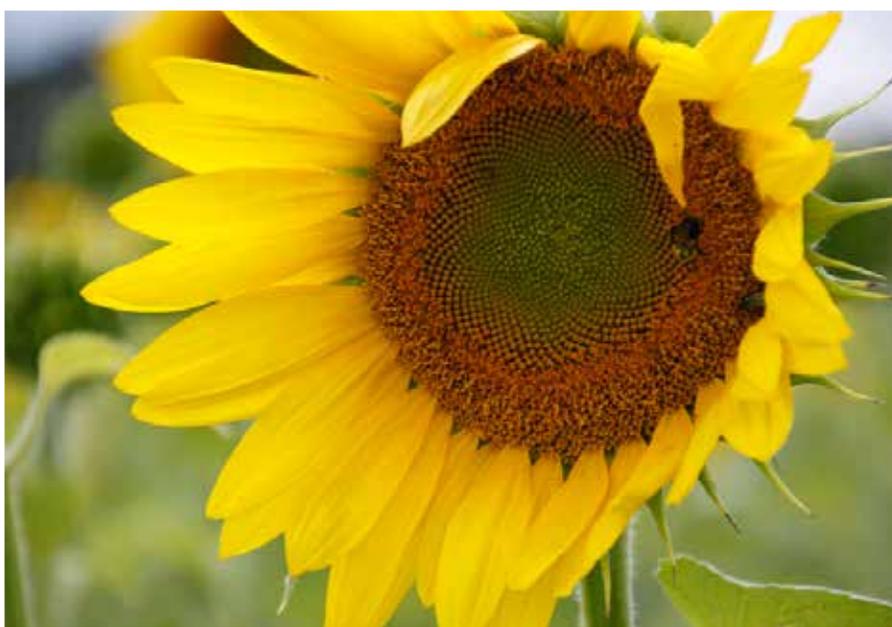
Think about direction when cropping your photos. You want a runner running into the photo. You want a person looking in, not out. The background can also add to the story.





Think about if the background adds or take away from the story. You may be more likely to get a 'wow' if your shots are frame-filling and your subject is spilling over the frame. Make sure you are thinking about the rule of thirds.



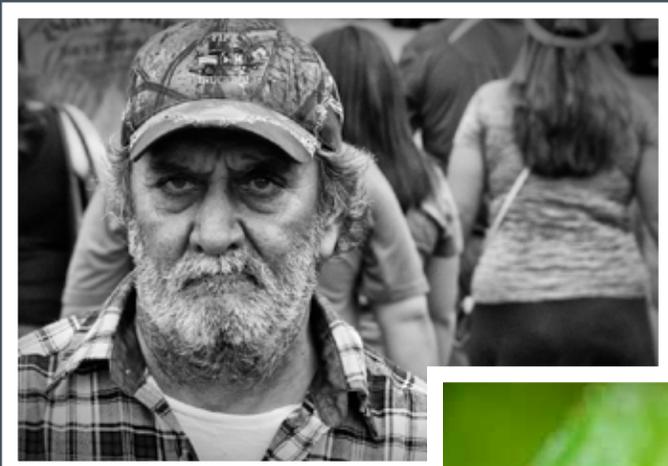


FOCUS AND SHARPNESS

Make sure your subject is the main focus and that part of the image is sharp. Making your focal point large is not the only way to make it prominent—but it definitely can help. Using contrasting colors can also be a way of setting your point of interest apart from its surroundings.



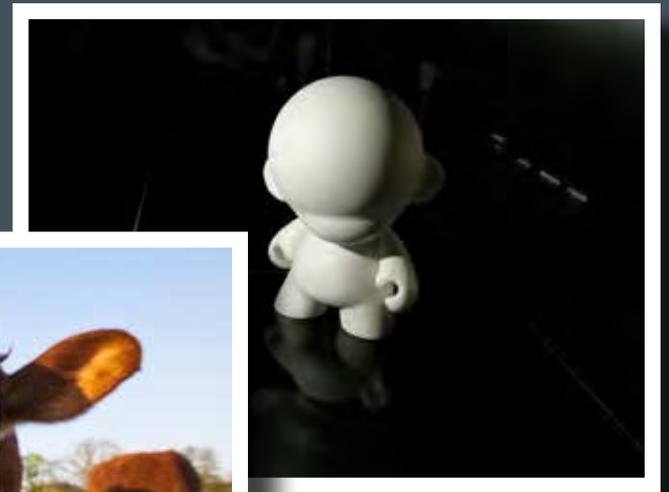
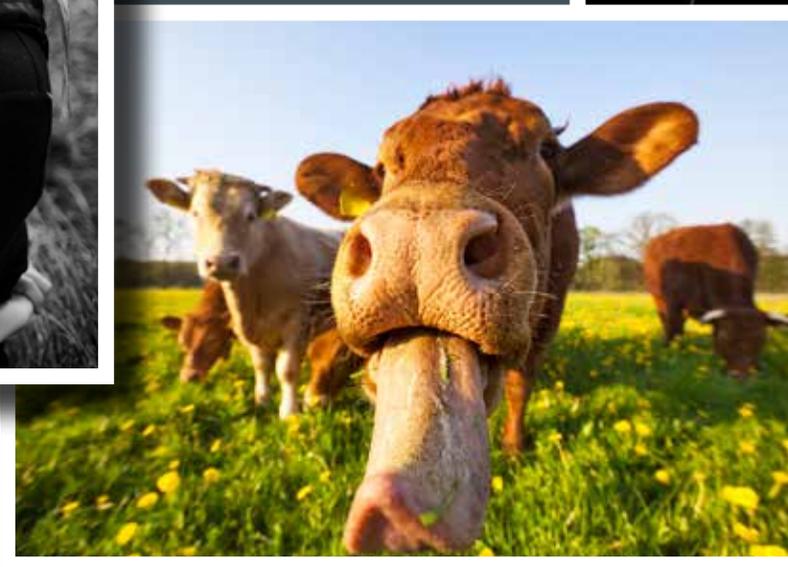
Try using your focal lock rather than auto focusing. Tell your camera what to focus on by pressing the shutter halfway down to focus and then frame the shot while still holding it down. Once you've got the framing right, press the shutter the rest of the way and the shot will be taken with the right focusing even though the center of your image might not be your point of interest.



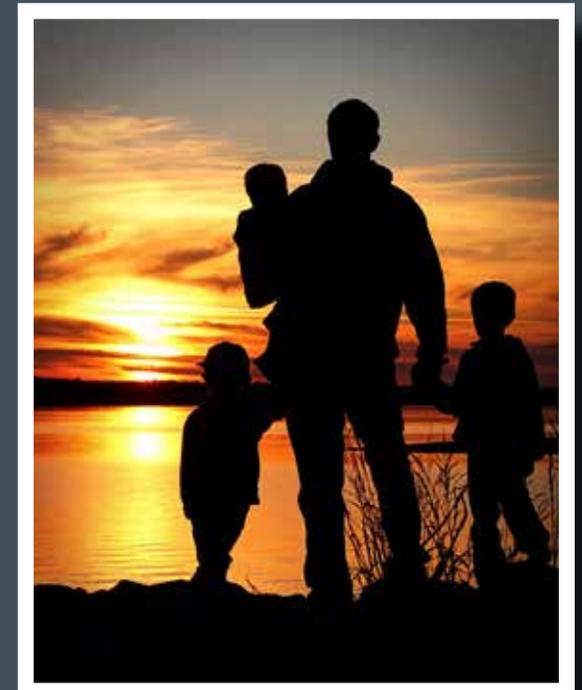


LIGHTING

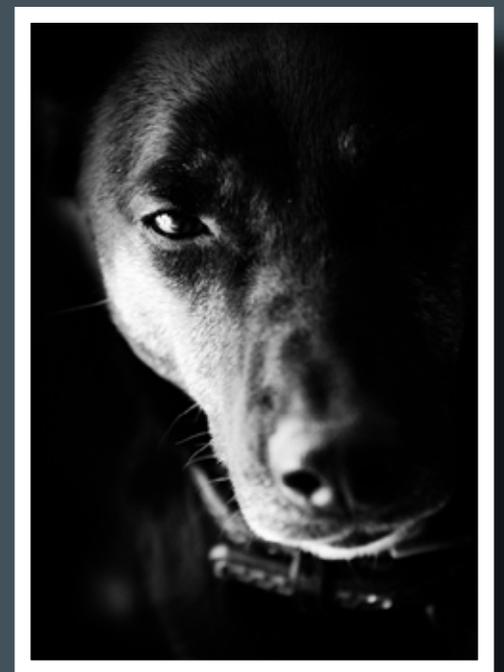
Light is one of the most important elements to consider when taking and choosing photos. Too much light will get you a washed out picture. Too little light will make your photo too dark and has too many shadows. When the light gives up more contrast, your photo will have more detail, shape and texture. Make sure and consider how good the light is when choosing your photos.



If you use back lighting, be sure there is enough light on your subject. In some cases you may want a silhouette.

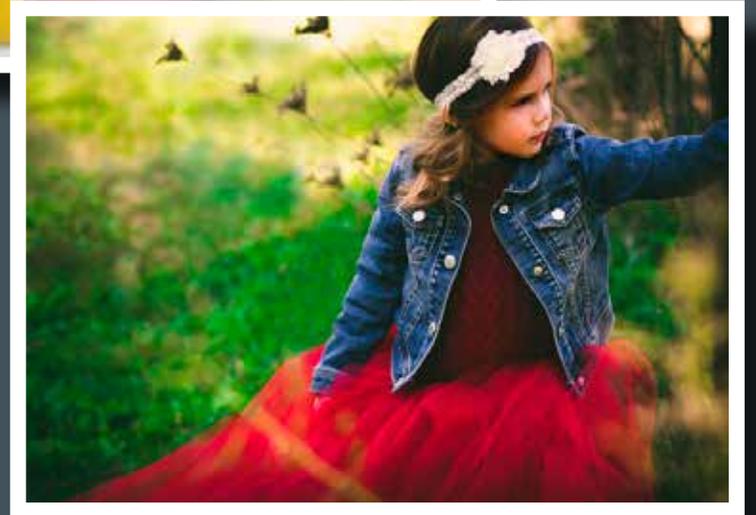


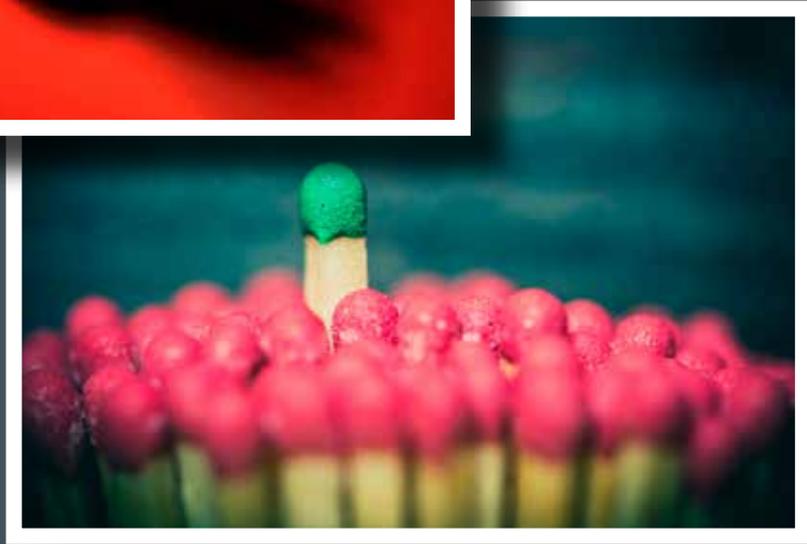
If you use side lighting, make it purposeful.

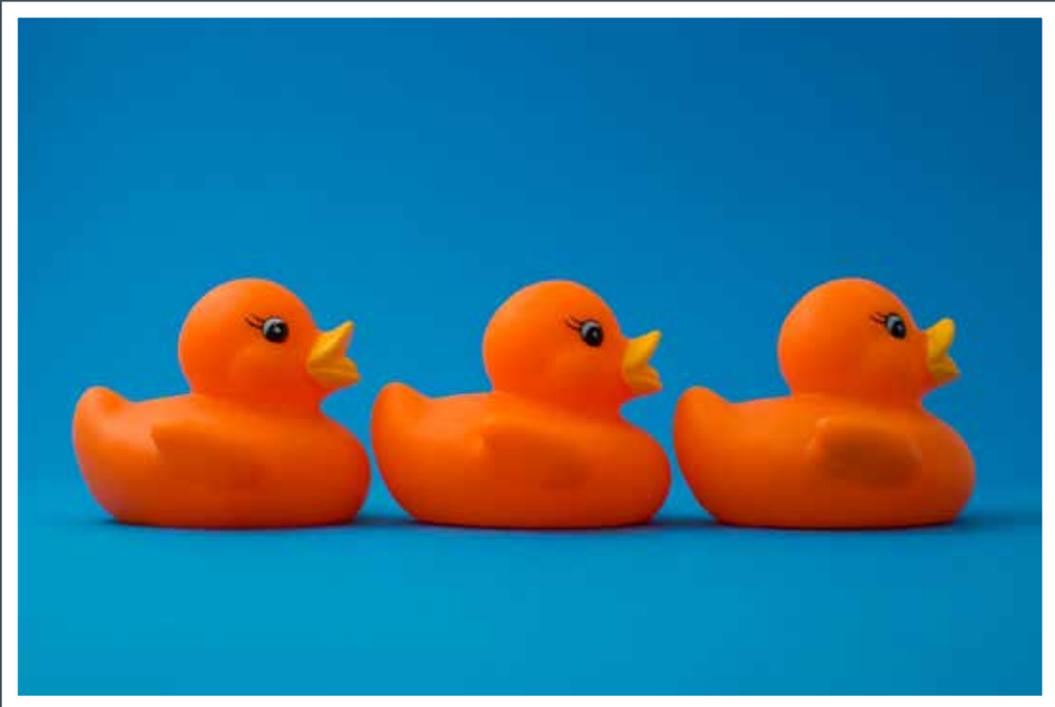


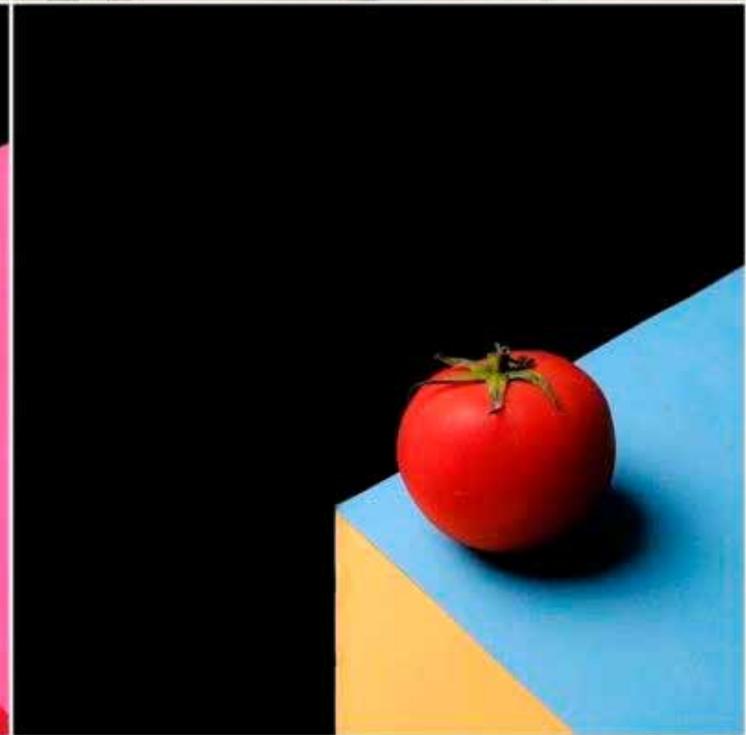
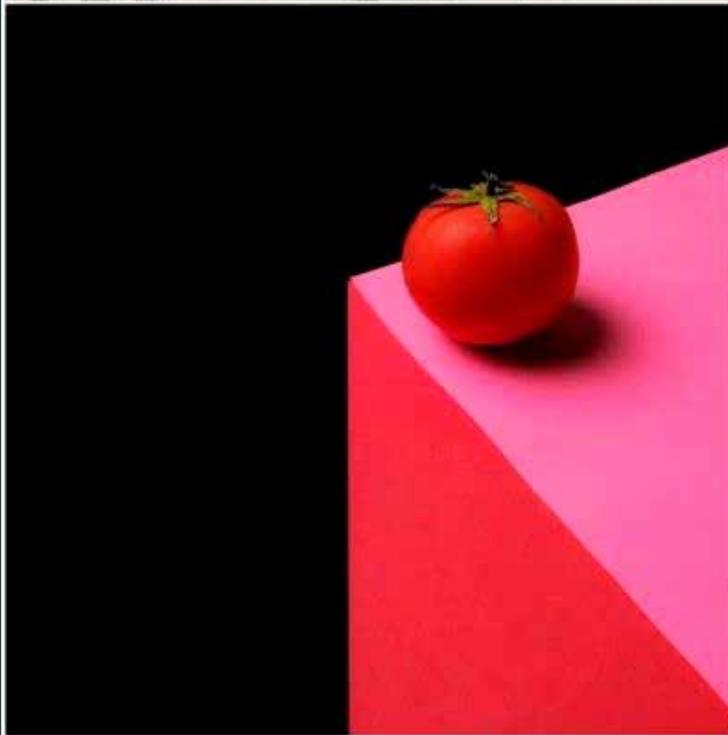
COLOR BALANCE

The tones and color should work together in harmony or be used in contrast to stir up a mixture of feelings. The color has to be realistic and does not clash on each other. A good mixture of color can produce dramatic effects.



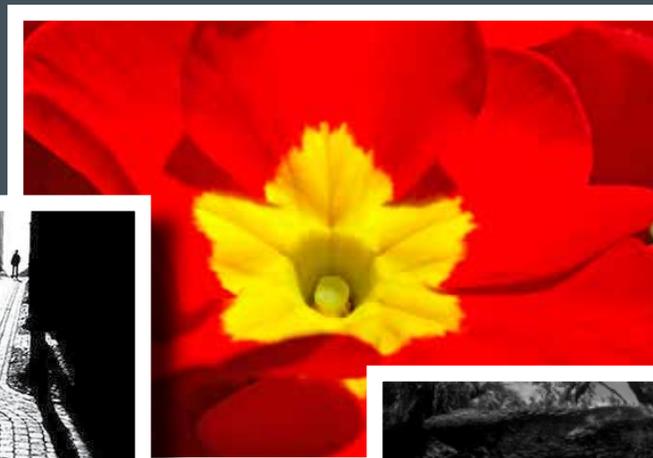
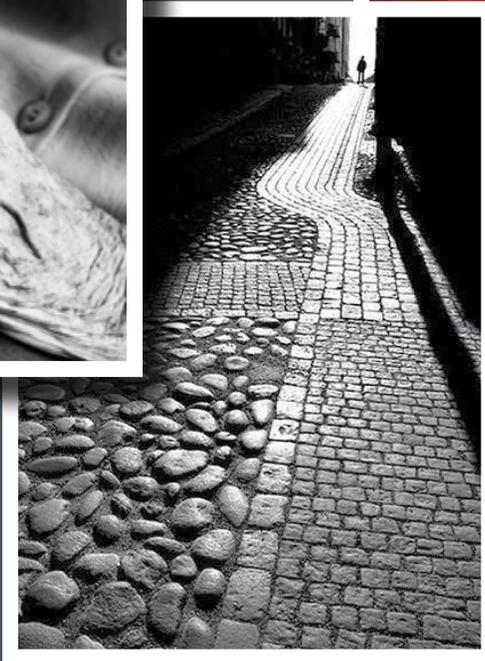






CONTRAST AND TEXTURE

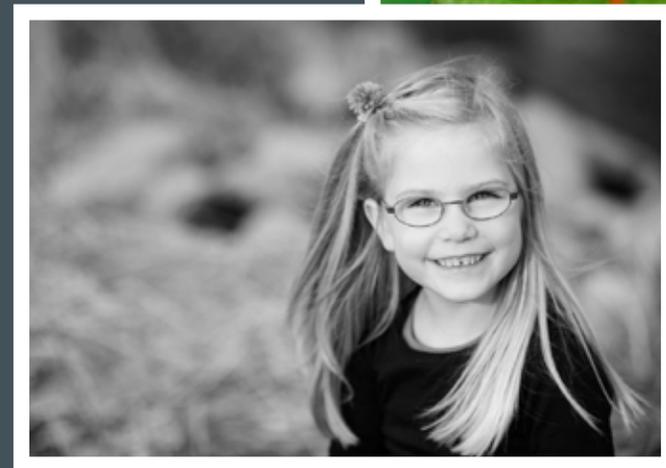
Contrast is the difference between black (shadow) and white (Highlight) in your images. Without contrast there wouldn't be any differentiation between light and dark—everything would be black, white, or a single shade of gray somewhere in between. Texture refers to the surface of an object, variances in shape, tone and color depth.





VARIETY ON 10 BOARDS

Make sure you select a variety of images—people, animals, landscapes, still lifes, etc. Having both horizontal and vertical orientations make for a more interesting board.



BE CREATIVE AND HAVE FUN!

