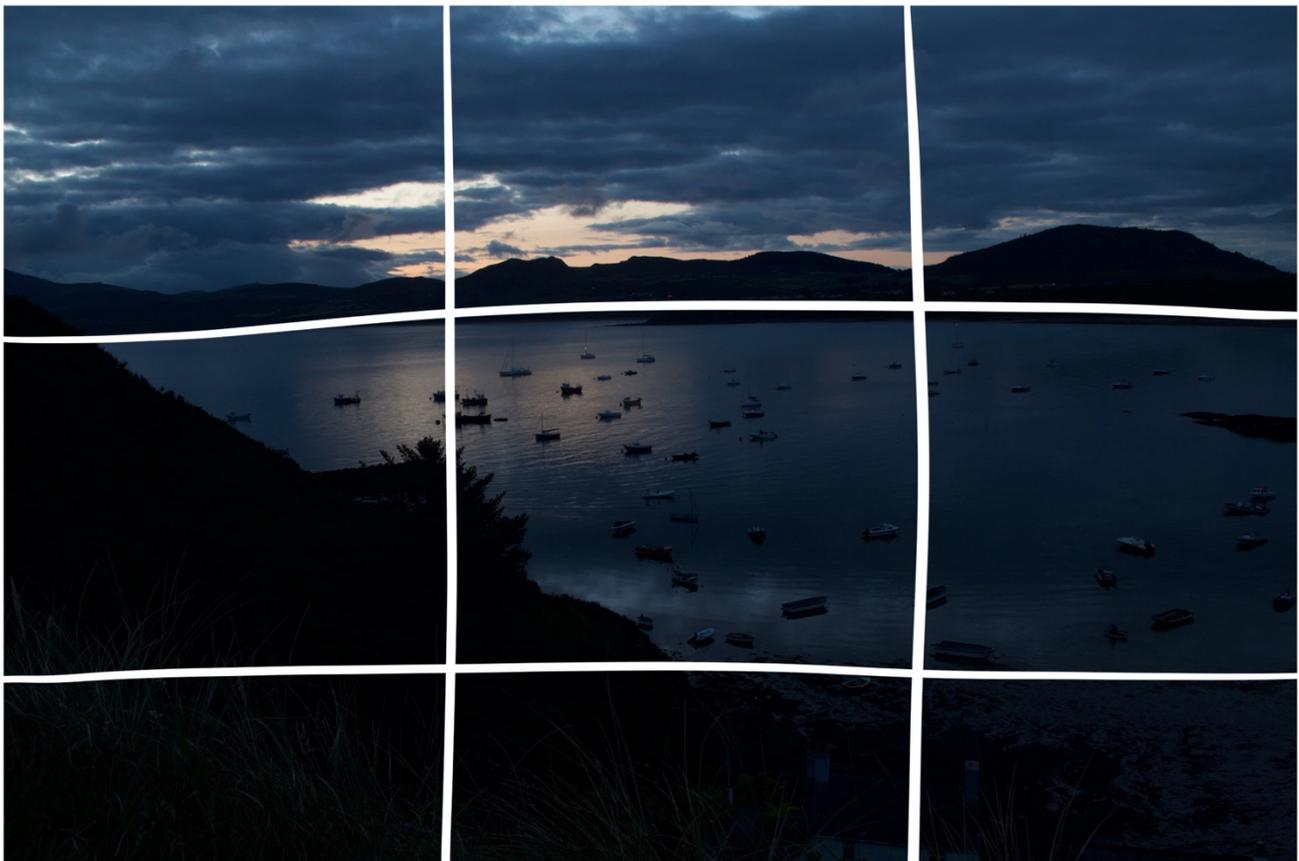


PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE SHEET

Photography can be a great way to explore nature and be creative. Here are some classic techniques and tips to help get the most out of your photos. You can use these on their own, combine them, or even completely ignore them if you wish! Photography is an art form, and, like any other art, you can experiment and find a personal style. Most importantly... HAVE FUN with it and explore your creativity!!!

Composition – How all the different elements of the photo are positioned within the frame.

Rule of thirds – Imagine a 3x3 grid, with two lines splitting the frame horizontally, and two lines splitting it vertically. Often it is good to place the main elements of your photo either somewhere on the lines, or particularly where the lines meet (e.g., the shadows and hills in this photo align with the grid lines).



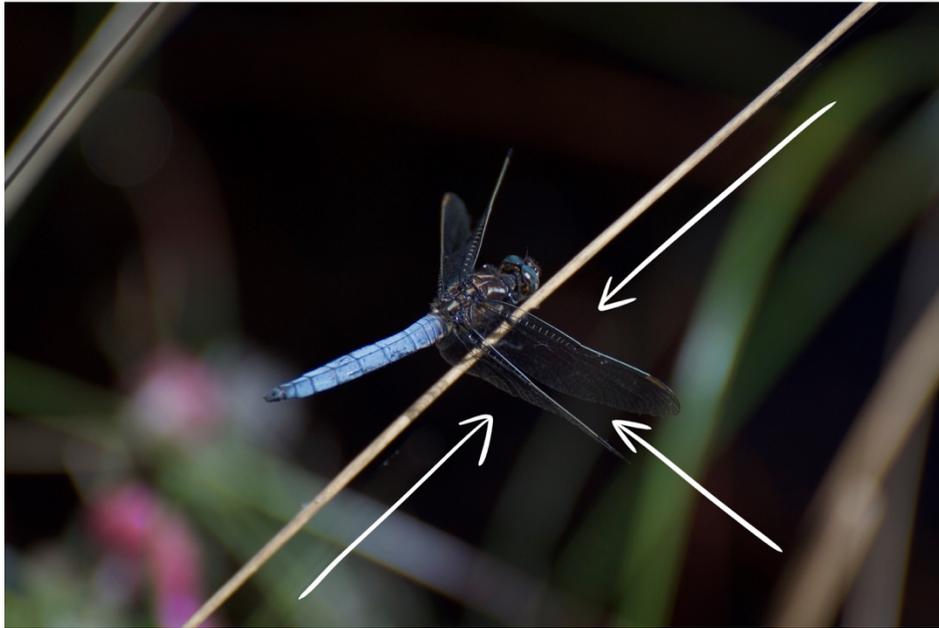
Symmetry and patterns – In photography, symmetry can create a very striking image! Think about how reflections and shapes balance an image. Patterns also appear in many places, making for interesting imagery.



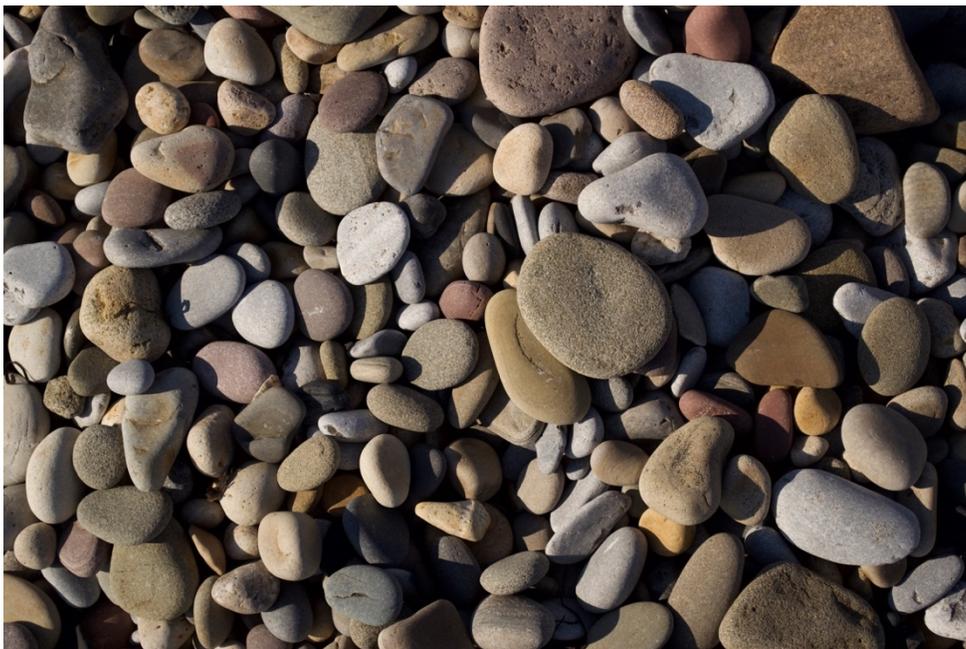
Direction – When photographing animals, the most important part of the being is the eye. Pay attention to which way the animal is looking; you will generally want to have more space in whichever direction that is. This creates a sense of motion. If you are close enough to see the eye clearly, it's often good to try and place the eye on one of the lines created by the "rule of three".



Leading lines - When looking at an image, you'll naturally follow any lines that appear in it. Use this to draw the viewer's eye towards a subject, or just create an interesting photo. Lines can appear in many things, for example fences, clouds, branches, paths and rivers.

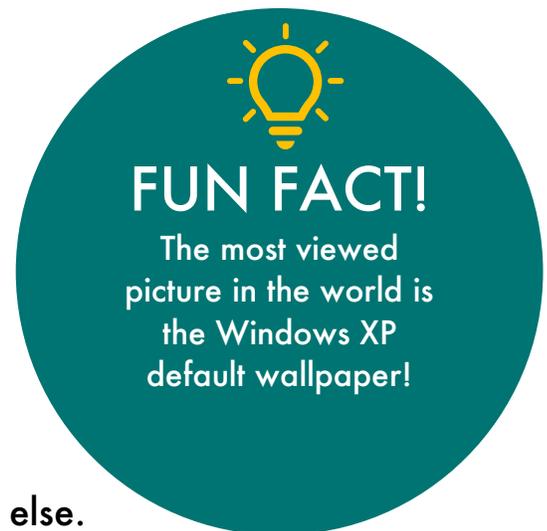


New perspectives - One thing many photographers aim to do is show people a new way of seeing something. Instead of photographing everything as you initially see it, try finding a new angle. Get close to the ground, look straight down from above, use reflections in water. There are endless possibilities when it comes to finding new angles.



Light

Where is your light source? - Photography is all about light. Therefore, it is important to know where your light is coming from! Outside, this will usually be the sun, though you can use a flash to create a light source. Typically, you want light to be behind you, otherwise it will either make whatever you are focusing on appear very dark or the light will be too bright to see anything else.



Contrast - Have you ever seen an image that is almost all one colour? They often appear boring. That's because the difference between light and dark creates texture and colour that makes photos more interesting. It also makes pictures seem more 3D.



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"Golden hour" - This is a particular time in the day when the sunlight turns everything that it touches a beautiful golden colour! It does this right before sunset, because of the low angle of the sun. This light gives everything a warm, glowing feelings which often shows very well in photos.

Editing is perfectly fine! Bring out the best in your photos, however, don't entirely change the image. Doing things such as reducing highlights and shadows, or increasing contrast, can accentuate your photos best features. Go easy when increasing saturation though, as crazy, bright colours can make the image look fake.