

D e p t h o f F i e l d

“To photograph is to hold one's breath, when all faculties converge to capture fleeting reality. It's at that precise moment that mastering an image becomes a great physical and intellectual joy.”

— *Henri Cartier-Bresson*

D e p t h o f F i e l d



200mm @ f / 1.8



17mm @ f / 8

Depth of field is one of the most creative and profound effects available to photographers.

Depth of Field



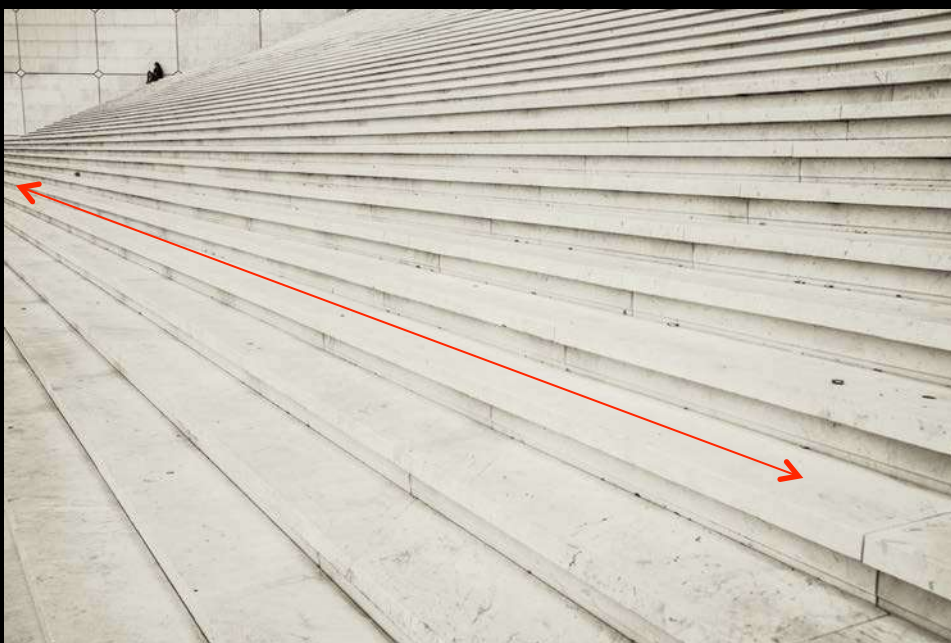
24mm @ f / 1.8



10mm @ f / 8

Depth of field is defined as the range of acceptable focus within a scene.

Depth of Field



10mm @ $f/8$



10mm @ $f/11$

Depth of field can influence our perception of depth within a scene.

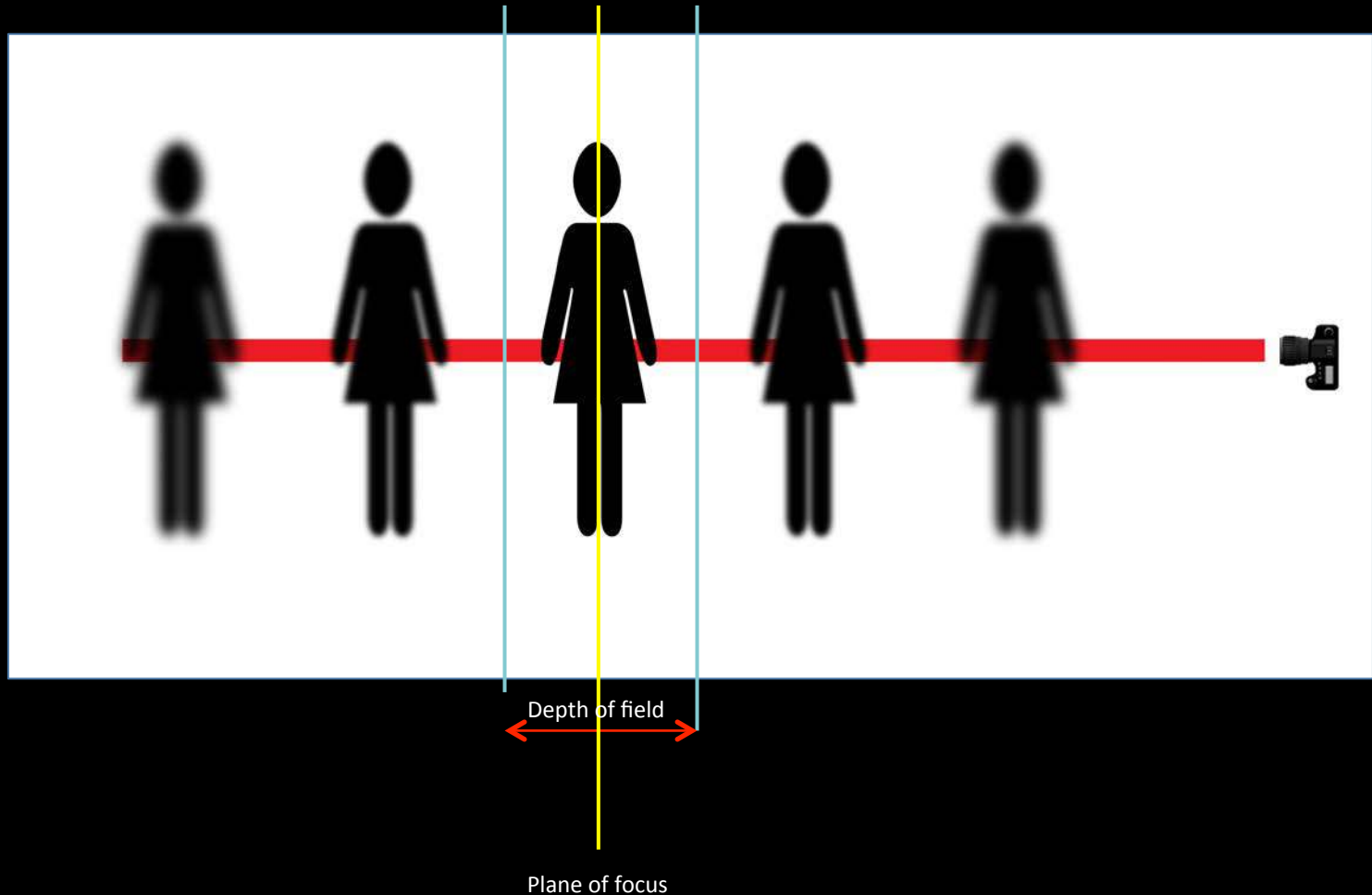
D e p t h o f F i e l d



15mm @ f / 8

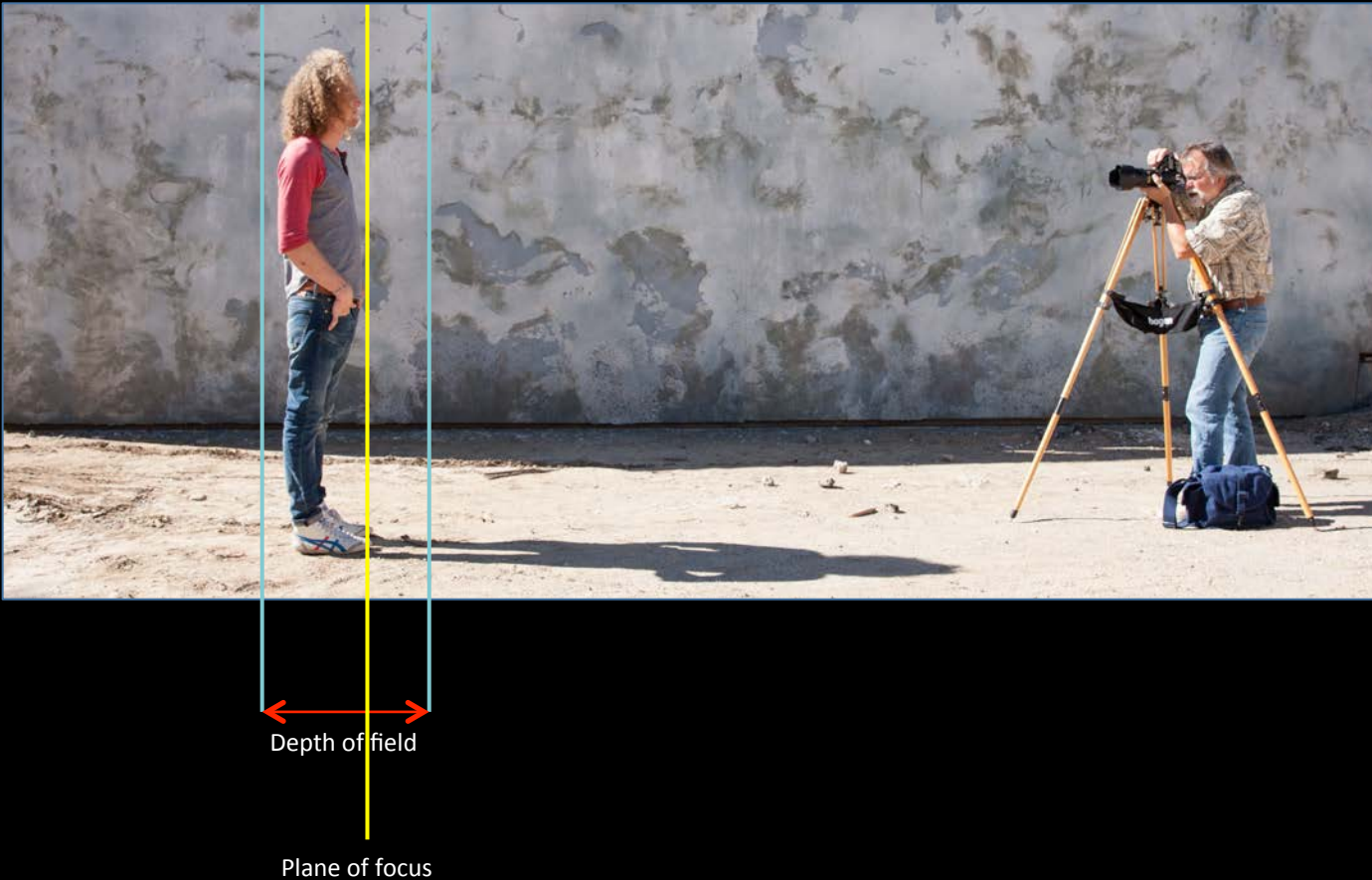
The area of acceptable sharpness falls within the near limit and far limit of the depth of field.

Depth of Field



Depth of field extends in front and behind the plane of focus.

Depth of Field



200mm @ $f/2.8$

Depth of field extends in front and behind the plane of focus.

Depth of Field



200mm @ f / 2.8

Depth of field extends in front and behind the plane of focus.

D e p t h o f F i e l d



200mm @ f / 2.8

↔
Depth of field

Depth of field extends in front and behind the plane of focus.

D e p t h o f F i e l d



200mm @ f / 1.8



10mm @ f / 8

Depth of field is controlled by the lens aperture.

Depth of field is controlled by the focal length of the lens.

Depth of field is controlled by the camera to subject distance.

Depth of Field



24mm @ f / 8



200mm @ f / 2.8

Depth of field is controlled by the lens aperture.

Depth of field is controlled by the focal length of the lens.

Depth of field is controlled by the camera to subject distance.

D e p t h o f F i e l d



f/2.8

f/4

f/5.6

f/8

f/11

f/16

f/22



Less depth of field

More depth of field

As the aperture gets smaller depth of field increases.

Depth of Field



24mm @ f / 1.8



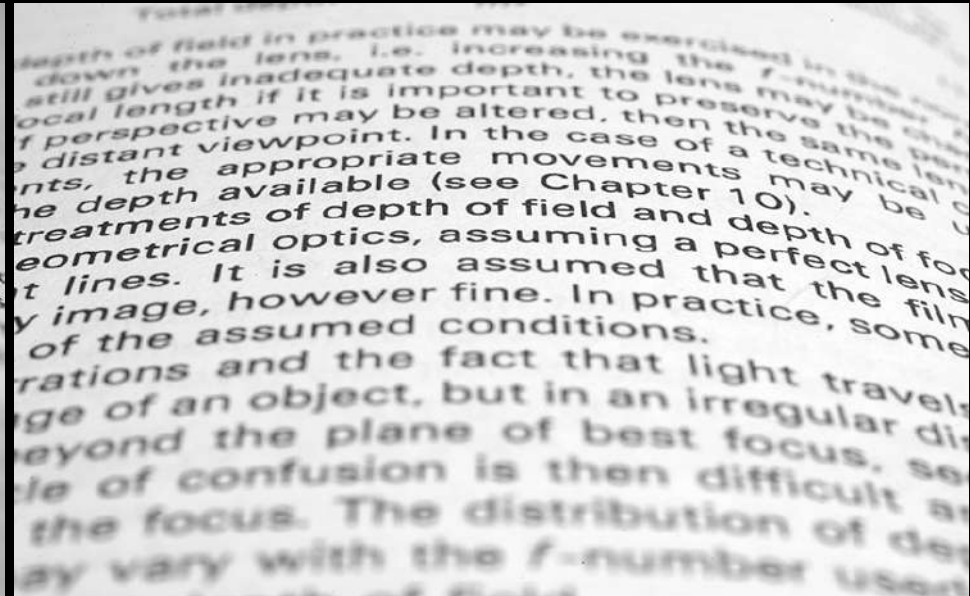
10mm @ f / 8

Shooting in aperture priority mode or manual mode allows for control of the shooting aperture.

Depth of Field



f/2.8



f/11

- Depth of field is controlled by the lens aperture
- Depth of field is controlled by the focal length of the lens
- Depth of field is controlled by the camera to subject distance

D e p t h o f F i e l d



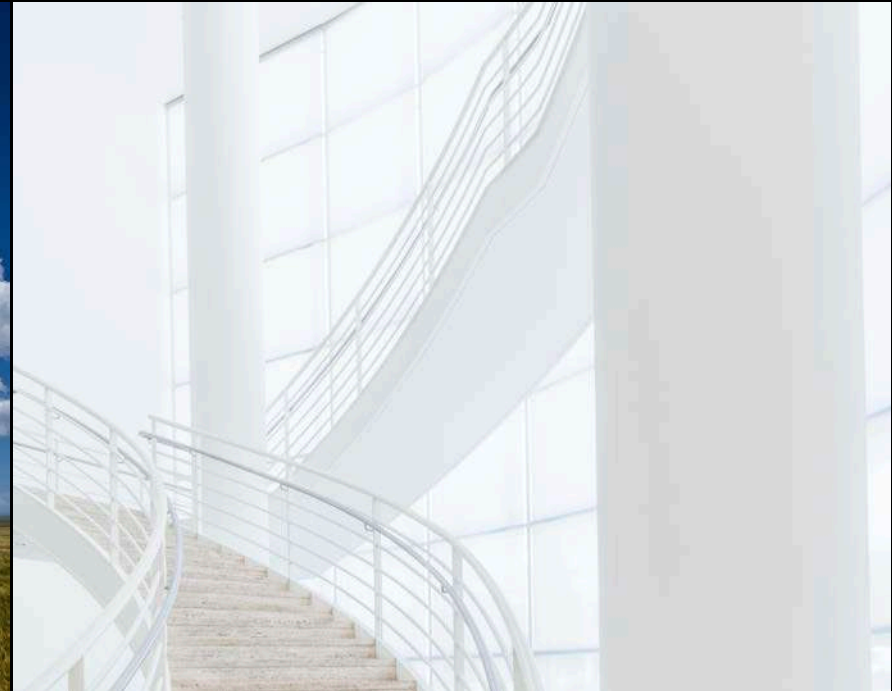
10mm @ f / 8

Wide angle lenses used with small apertures can help achieve maximum depth of field.

D e p t h o f F i e l d



17mm @ f / 11



20mm @ f / 8

Landscape and architecture images often require maximum depth of field and sharpness through out the scene.

D e p t h o f F i e l d



18mm @ f / 8

Photographing at small apertures to obtain maximum depth of field often requires the use of a tripod for stability.

D e p t h o f F i e l d



24mm @ f / 1.8

Photographing with a large aperture allows for shallow depth of field and subject isolation.

Depth of Field



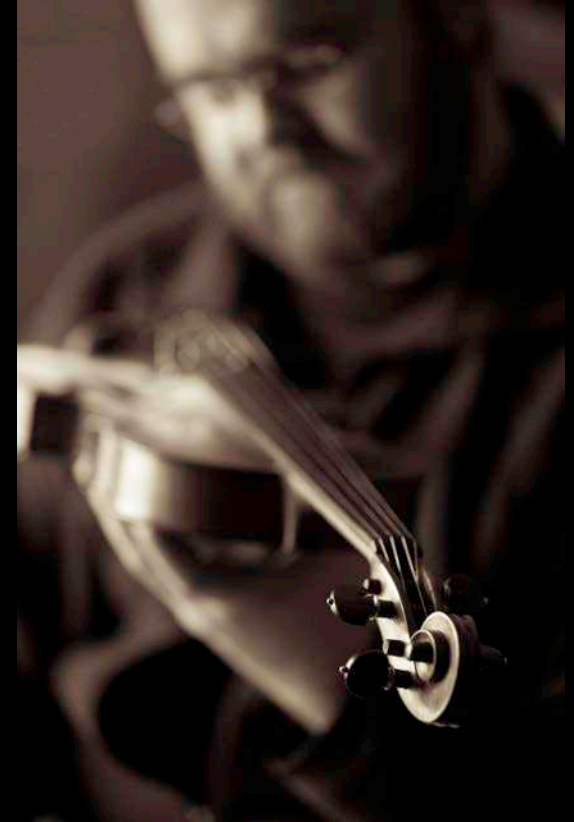
24mm @ f / 2.8

Shallow depth of field can be used to direct the viewer towards the subject.

D e p t h o f F i e l d



24mm @ f / 1.8



100mm @ f / 2.8

Bokeh is the quality of the portion of a photograph that is out of focus.

D e p t h o f F i e l d

Review - Depth of field controls

Wider aperture = less depth of field

Smaller aperture = more depth of field

Longer lens = less depth of field

Wider lens = more depth of field

Closer camera to subject distance = less depth of field

D e p t h o f F i e l d

Vocabulary Study Words

aperture

camera to subject distance

depth of field

focal length

maximum depth of field

opening up aperture

selective focus

stopping down aperture

The Classroom Collection

Depth of Field



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