

Composition Guidelines

These rules of composition will help you to capture more visually appealing images.

Rule Of Thirds

Divide the frame into equal thirds with imaginary horizontal and vertical lines.

Place points of interest on intersections.

Place important elements along the lines.



Robin Schwartz



Eve Arnold

Leading Lines

Use natural lines to lead the eye into the picture.



Daido Moriyama



Ansel Adams

Diagonals

Diagonal lines create great movement for the viewer's eye to move around the image.



Steve McCurry



Imogen Cunningham

Framing (frame within a frame)

Use natural frames such as windows, doors, tree branches, etc. to frame the subject of your photograph.



Jooney Woodward



Alec Soth

Composition Guidelines

Figure to ground (Contrast)

Find a contrast between your subject and background to make them stand out.



Cristina
De Middel



Laura
Pannack

Fill the frame

Get close to your subjects to add instant impact.



Edward
Weston



Martin
Schoeller

Repetition

Patterns are aesthetically pleasing and can be found in both natural and manmade forms.



Stefan
Ruiz



Tim Flach

Symmetry

Symmetry is pleasing to the eye, both sides of the image should be very similar if not identical.



J.D.
Okhai Ojeikere



Taryn
Simon

Note - it is possible to use more than one rule within a single image.