

# Equipment Safety

**And Studio Etiquette.**

# Learning Target

Vocabulary +

To identify potential hazards in the studio, and mitigate them before they happen.

# Success Criteria

To pass a studio safety evaluation to have studio privileges.

# Bellwork:

Believe it or not, a photography studio is full of hidden hazards. Take the next two minutes to list as many as you can in your interactive notebooks on the page we designated at the beginning of class. Feel free to discuss with a neighbor.

# What did you come up with?

Let's discuss...

# Electricity

- By far the **BIGGEST** danger in the studio! Mishandling of it can have dire consequences.
- 110/220 volts (from the wall) is already a lot of electricity, and if you are using any type of **strobes**, they include large **capacitors** that can store up enormous amounts of electricity... and disperse it in a fraction of a second.



# The Risks

Of Electricity in the Studio

Overheating

Equipment Damage

Explosions

Fires

Shocks

DEATH

# How many times has each of these happened to Mrs. Haden?

Overheating?

Lost count...

Equipment Damage?

Several...

Explosion?

Twice...!!!

Fire?

Twice...!!!

Shocks?

Several...

Death?

Still here, aren't I? :)

# Electricity Safety

## Power Cords:

Make sure the cord is the correct size for the job.

Do not over-connect a power strip.

Make sure to inspect cords for frays, knots, etc.

Make sure they are seated correctly into the wall and/or equipment.





# Electricity Safety Continued...

- **Be careful with liquids**

This should be obvious. Electricity and liquids don't mix.

No Liquids in the studio unless otherwise instructed.

*Liquids can also cause slips and falls.*



# Electricity Safety

## Equipment:

Make sure all power packs and strobes are **switched off and discharged** before plugging or unplugging lights or power.

Note: All modern strobes discharge automatically on power-down. It's still a **GREAT** habit to hit the test button after switching it off just to make sure.



Let's meet our lights,  
shall we?

# Our Strobes



Flashpoint 300ws 620M Monolight

# Vocabulary...

## Monolight:

A **monolight** is a self-contained photographic flash lighting unit usually found in a studio.

Each **monolight** has its own independent power source. It does not depend on a centralized power supply as a "pack and head" system does.

*Demonstrations!!! :)*



# All Strobes Have 2 Light Sources

1. Modeling Bulb



2. Flash Bulb/Tube



# Vocabulary...

## **Modeling Bulb/Light:**

The modeling bulb/light on the flash unit is used for previewing where the light is falling on your subject. It does not affect the photograph. It does not flash. It is like the lightbulb you use in your lamps at home.

## **Flash Tube/Bulb:**

A gas discharge tube used, especially in photography, to provide an electronic flash when a current is suddenly passed through it. They are designed to produce extremely intense, incoherent, full-spectrum white light for very short durations.

# Strobe Safety Continued...

- **Never touch any bulb with bare hands**
- They become HOT...very HOT.
- The oils from your hands can cause the bulb to **EXPLODE. YES EXPLODE.**
- Use your shirt, Kleenex, or paper towel when changing out bulbs.
- Never let any lighting modifier (soft box, umbrella, etc.) touch the modeling bulb. It will cause a FIRE. We will go over modifiers in another lesson.



## Other Hazards...

- Crumbs and sticky fingers damage equipment. No food in the studio unless otherwise instructed.
- Try to work with a partner. Two heads are better than one when it comes to safety.

### **Keep track of gear!**

- Don't leave things around in places people can trip on them. Make sure neither you nor others put things in places that will increase the chances of an accident.

# Review...

Talk to your neighbor about the importance of safety in the studio and finalize your Interactive Notebook notes. You will have a safety test before being allowed to work with the studio equipment.

Discuss the things you've learned today.

Is there anything you're unclear about?

What surprised you the most?