

# Photography “Rules”

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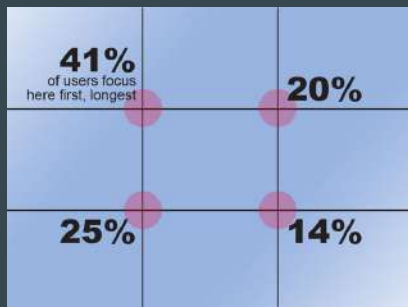
More active and mindful choices

# The Rule of Thirds

Don't put objects directly in the center. Or maybe you should.

To the side usually makes a dynamic photograph. Centered objects are static.

When photos follow the rule of thirds, it helps the eye to move across the image.



# Rule of Thirds

When photos follow the rule of thirds, it helps the eye to move across the image. This is known as a dynamic composition.



# Rule of Thirds

Affects vertical and square images as well.



# Rule of Thirds

Subjects in the center of a mostly symmetrical photo give a formal static look





# Avoid Clutter!

- Minimize the Unnecessary
- Do not include extra stuff that distracts the viewer.
- Do not ignore the background. Be aware of everything in the frame.

The clutter in the background takes away from the picture



## Avoid Clutter!

That doesn't mean that you cannot have anything besides the main subject. Just only include things that help the image, not hurt it by distracting the viewer.



# Be Active and Move!

Move yourself, move your camera, or move objects to get a better composition

Point your camera in different directions

Move your body higher or lower





# Be Quick, Be Ready, or Wait

Be ready at all times to capture that perfect "decisive moment." Or wait for one.



**The Decisive Moment**  
-Henri Cartier-Bresson-

# Eyespace or Looking Space

Show the area your subject is looking into.



eyespace cut off, giving a sense of unease



eyespace shown

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eyespace shown

# Pole Head

Watch out for background objects coming out of your subject's head





# Show Space in Portraits

Portraits have a sense of space if there is at least 4 feet of nothingness behind a person. When subject is right up against wall, no sense of space is shown.





## Show the Unexpected



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**Of course, you can break the rules...**