PORTRAIT CROP GUIDE

There are a number of standard "crops" when creating portraits. They include the head shot, the head and shoulders shot, half body shot, and the full body shot. Each crop presents it's own concerns for the photographer and the model.
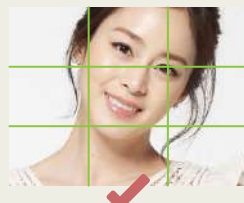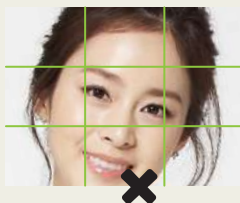
DO NOT CROP BENDING AREAS

Avoid cropping right on areas where the body bends, it creates awkward proportions and it is visually unpleasant.
In the example image (left), the areas in red should be avoided. Instead leave those areas inside the frame, or completely out.

FOLLOW THE RULE OF THIRDS

When framing a subject's face, make sure that the eyes meet one of the Rule of Thirds' line intersections. Avoid cropping edges of the face such as the chin.

SHOOT DIFFERENT WAYS

Give yourself options to edit later. Shoot from different angles and formats (vertical and horizontal). Use wider and tighter framing.

! CROP IN CAMERA

Plan your capture in camera, and shoot with a purpose. Cropping in post-production means losing resolution- since you're not cropping- as much as enlarging an area. When cropping tight, in camera, you'll have less depth of field, more blur in the background and this allows the subject to "pop" from the background.

Photo by: LG전자 – www.flickr.com/photos/lge

👍 SWEET!
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👋 Hey there!

Let's get real for a minute… Learning photography can be super challenging! But we're here to help you every step of the way!

Here are 3 of our most useful *(and FREE!)* photography resources−

1. Take this **30 Second Quiz** to find the #1 thing holding your photography back.
2. Join our free **Weekly Photography Challenge** group to spark your creativity and share your work.
3. Access our **Free Photography eBook Library**, with 250+ downloadable (.pdf) tutorials on Photo Fundamentals, Post-Processing, Composition, Low-light, and much more!

Always remember: Momentum is the key to exploring and developing your creative talents…

So get out there and take some more pictures!

We're so glad you're here!

Photzy.com is an online photography school with over 200,000 students from 180 countries.

Founded in 2012, our focus has always been simple, practical tips and tutorials, for beginners. No matter where your current skill level is, we'd like to help you explore your unique creative side, through photography.

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