

UNDERSTAND BASICS OF GOOD PHOTOGRAPHY

So, I know we all take the odd picture here and there. It's nice to take a photo of our friends and our pets. But so many pictures that people take are pretty awful. I have some challenges for you that may make a huge difference for photographic endeavors.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

Take a mug from the kitchen and take some photos of it. Make it interesting. First, just work on angles and dynamic camera position. Then, work on other elements of foreground, background, mood etc. If you can make a mug look interesting, you can do it with anything.

LEVEL K

PERIOD 8

TASK 1

- Be aware of the background. A rookie mistake is to only look at the subject and not take into account the background. Bad results can vary from a substandard composition all the way right down to embarrassing photobombs.
- Avoid silhouette. Make sure the light is not behind the subject. Behind you is fine or off to the side.
- Try different perspectives. Experiment with heights. Stand on something and shoot down or lie on your back and shoot up. Low makes the subject look more powerful; high makes for a look of vulnerability.
- In low light, use a tripod. This will make a difference.
- Think of composition. Use other elements to make the shot more interesting. The image is far greater than just the subject.
- Try to invoke mood with colors or textures. Be deliberate about the elements surrounding and clothing the subject wears.
- Consider foreground, middle ground, and background. Build intentional layers.
- For moving subjects, have a lot of light and, if possible, adjust shutter speed.
- Understand the difference between optical and digital zoom. An optical zoom uses the lens to zoom. The zoom on a phone, for instance, is digital and only blows the image up, reducing image quality. You are better off stepping toward the subject.
- Experiment with natural light. Be slow to just lean on the flash every time.

