# Improving Your Photography

\* 7 Deadly Sins of Composition for Beginners
\* Questions to Ask Yourself Before Taking a Photo
\* 6 RULES of Composition

- 1. Confusing/No Subject
- 2. Subject in the Center of the Photo
- 3. Horizon in Middle of Photo or Tilted
- 4. Camera Movement/Inappropriate Focus (blurry foreground)
- 5. Distracting Elements/Bright White on Edge of Frame
- 6. Harsh/Contrasty Light
- 7. Lack of Emotional Impact

1. Confusing/No Subject

2. Subject in the Center of the Photo







3. Horizon in Middle of Photo or Tilted









4. Camera Movement/Inappropriate Focus (blurry foreground)











5. Distracting Elements/Bright White on Edge of Frame



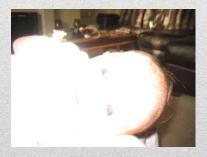








6. Harsh/Contrasty Light









7. Lack of Emotional Impact

- What story am I telling?
- What do I want the viewer to see?
- Should I be shooting this in portrait or landscape orientation?
- How will the viewers eye travel through the image?
- What's in the background?

#### Questions to Ask Yourself...

- Are there any distracting objects in the foreground or background?
- Am I close enough?
- Do I need to move to another position?
- Is anything in the scene moving?
- What is my main source of light? From Where?

#### Questions to Ask Yourself...

- 1. Keep It SIMPLE
  - What's my subject?
  - Get Close



- 2. Rule of Thirds
  - Place subject on an intersection or along a line



## 6 "Rules" of Composition

- 3. Balance
  - Balance the subject with another element opposite it

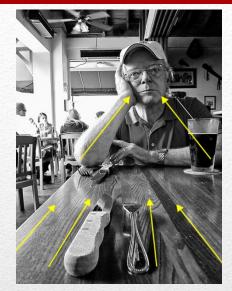


- 4. Framing
  - Use the foreground and background to give depth
  - Use something else in the photo to show scale



## 6 "Rules" of Composition

- 5. Lines
  - Use them to lead the viewer to the subject



- 6. Rules are made to be broken!
  - There are exceptions to every rule..
     I prefer to call them guidelines to better photography...

     NOT rules OF photography



## 6 "Rules" of Composition