

Digital Photography

How to Take and Display
Great Photographs
Lesson 2

Lesson 2

Taking a Shot and Getting an Image

- Review student's homework.
- Camera basics.
- Handle camera issues, if any.
- Automatic mode, point 'n shoot.
- Outdoor photography, people & nature.
- Indoor photography with flash.
- The dreaded "red eye."

Lesson 2 Objectives

- Explain what others have learned.
- Know the basics of your camera – **cold**.
- Teach anyone what automatic mode can and can not do.
- Explain photography is more than shots.
- Know how to photograph a person(s).
- Demo how to use your flash.

Your Images

Homework Review

- How did you decide on what to shoot?
- Which of the BASIC basics did you use?
- Did you learn anything new?
- Teach us the principles using your pairs.
- Was there something you wished you could do, but could not do?

Camera Basics

- In the BASIC basics we avoided tech.
- Everyone's camera is different.
- You can not avoid reading the manual.
 - Skim it in total.
 - Go back to topics in detail.
 - In the end read it again.
 - Buy (or download) an advanced manual.
- Advanced compact zoom camera. Fujifilm S700 for example.

Camera Issues

- Now is the time to address "issues."
- If I don't know your camera, I will find out.
- We need to handle "show stoppers" now.
- Advanced items will be handled later.

Short and Detailed Manuals



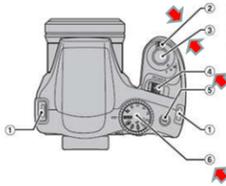
Fujifilm FinePix S700



Important Camera Controls Top View

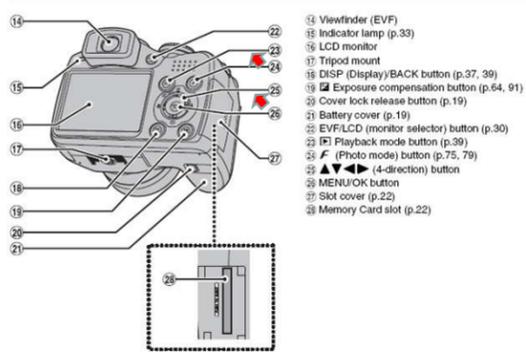
Camera Parts and Features

- Refer to the pages in parentheses for information on using the camera parts or features.
- ① Strap mount (p.17)
 - ② Zoom lever (p.36)
 - ③ Shutter button
 - ④ Power switch (p.25)
 - ⑤ Continuous shooting button (p.71)
 - ⑥ Mode dial



Important Camera Controls

Back View



Automatic Mode

Point 'n Shoot

- The most basic of “modes.”
 - The camera makes most of the decisions.
 - Many features are hidden, even menus.
 - Three decisions: Focus, Speed, & Exposure.
- Where you point the camera.
- Half depress shutter to take readings.
- You may get warnings.
- Fully depress shutter to take picture.

A Small Aside About Resolution

- Resolution involves memory usage.
- We will say more about this later.
- Leave resolution on the default setting.
- If you can not get about 30 pictures with your memory card, see me after class.
 - We will shift to a lower resolution or
 - You might want to buy a larger memory.

Erasing Pictures

- In playback mode, there will be an erase button. It will delete one picture.
- In a setup menu, there will be “erase all.”
 - Press menu button (OK).
 - Select Card.
 - Select Card Setup.
 - Erase All, Confirm, & Enter (OK).

People Outdoors

- Why do we say “making pictures?”
- We will do more people next week.
- Why Ansel Adams never took pictures of people.
- How to get comfortable.
- Children – burning “film”
- Think of where the action will be.
- Reluctant subject.
- You don’t have to smile.



Ansel Adams. Fotografie. 1921-1967.
Collezione privata Fam. Manfrotto.
Cleaning Winter Storm,
Yosemite National Park, California

People Steal the Scene

- Ansel Adams effect.
- This is **not** bad.
- We wear red.
- Most shots are not portraits.
- Environmental shot.



The Comfort Factor

- Even family needs it.
- Many shots of Pat.
- Take your time.
- Observe subject.
- Burn “film.”
- Un-posed image.
- Camera position.
- Forward lean.



The Formal Portrait

- Will move indoors later in this lesson.
- We probably could not do this, but we could come close.
- Yousuf Karsh.



Yousuf Karsh, Winston Churchill, 1941

Children

- Probably family.
- Could be strangers.
- Posed & action.
- Think background.
 - Sharp & clear.
 - Blurred background.
- Again – burn “film.”



Breaking the Rules

- Back to camera.
- Too far away.
- Not smiling.
- But: Tells story.
- Background is king.

- Bon Voyage!

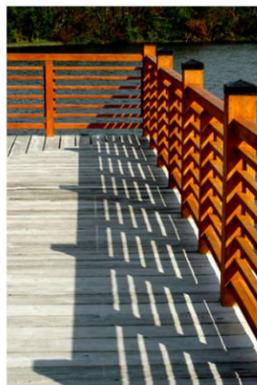


Landscape & Nature

- We will revisit this topic in later lessons.
- The “arty” stuff.
- The world around you is your canvas.
- This is your introduction to “seeing.”
- How your camera sees, or does not see.

The “Arty” Stuff

- John Garrett.
- A derogatory sneer.
- You **are** the artist.
- Technique / creativity.
- Where are the art shots in this room?
- Away from people.



A World Canvas

Ideas for shooting nature

- Big / small
- Grand / mundane
- Colorful / subdued
- Smooth /edgy
- Filled /sparse
- Sharp / diffused



Learning to See

- Seeing vs. looking.
- 85% seeing.
- Is there a picture here?
- Even when not taking pictures. On the job.
- Point of View.
- Communication.
- Mood.



How the Camera "Sees"

- It is a machine.
- Center focus.
- Average light.
- Gray color balance.
- 2 dimensional.
- Uniform interest.



Flash Photography

- Consider not using.
- Range of illumination.
- Shoot off center.
- Use other modes.
- We will have a lot more to say about flash in later lessons.



Range of illumination

- The rock concert.
- Take a test shot.
- Flash is last resort.



Red Eye

- Cause of red eye.
- The flash "solution."
- Processing "fix."
- Think like a camera.



Did We Meet the Objectives?

- Explain what others have learned.
- Know the basics of your camera – **cold**.
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- Explain photograph is more than shots.
- Know how to photograph a person(s).
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For Next Week

- Read Wignall 30 – 67. If it gets too technical just skip around.
- Nature: Read Wignall 182 – 229.
- Take paired shots of people outdoors.
- Take paired flash shots of people.
- If you have it experiment with zoom. Reproduce the effect on page 59.
- Over-fill and under-fill the frame.
