

5 Tips For Taking Better Photos



By **Michaela Baumstark**
Professional Photographer & Owner of [BluEye Perspectives](#)

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1.) Angles:

I love experimenting with angles. Finding one that the naked eye doesn't normally look through can really captivate viewers of the photograph. Certain angles that follow leading lines or curves, allows the viewer to be taken into the photo. It leads their eyes toward a vantage point. Leading the eye and directing it toward what you want the viewer to look at is key. It's always disheartening when the subject the photographer is wanting to expose goes unnoticed due to the lack of, or chaotic obstacles that obstruct the eye's path.

2.) Subject:

What do you love to look at? What captures your eye? If you are into photography, or simply admire the art, it is important to know what you enjoy looking at. Not only does this adoration show in the photographs, but it also allows one to develop a style. If photos of people are most interesting to you, then this subject has an array of possibilities one can capitalize on. If you love taking photos on the road, like me, choose a subject within those venues to focus on, in order to create a theme of what your trying to convey. For example, my love for old things draws me to run-down places. This has developed a shadowy, vintage style conveying a deep-rooted, or melancholy feeling.

3.) Natural Light:

Photography is merely a tool to capture light. Using natural light creates beautiful, high quality photos. Therefore, shooting at the right time of days is essential. Sunrises can create a breathtaking haze, while sunsets capture amazing shadows. Mornings have light and bright colors, while sunsets create a more warm and dark color pallet. Direct sunlight, or spectacular light create shadows which in turn gives texture for your subject.

Diffused light brightens the shadows. So, be sure to bring a diffuser for your next sunset photoshoot, to lighten up your model's pretty face.

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4.) Painting with Light:

One fancy trick I learned in my latest photography class, is painting with light. It's so simple, but the effect is striking. Just grab a flashlight, increase your exposure time to 10 seconds, and shine the light in the areas you want to showcase to your viewer. It appears that the photographer has used a couple expensive lights and spent at least 5 minutes of set-up time in orchestrating the shot. This is very useful advertisements, when showcasing a product. All it takes is a flashlight and your creativity.

5.) Editing:

This is half of the work, but also half the creativity. The color hues, amount of shadows, use of texture, etc., is what capitalizes a photographer's style. Many love bright and airy, while several choose dark and shadowy. Your editing differentiates you from others. In order to stand out, play around with all the listed pallets on your editing software. This allows you to see all your options, deciding which settings capture the subject best, and which exemplify the feeling your trying to provoke the most.

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