



10 Tips for Capturing Great Photos

1. Be prepared

- Be familiar with the features of your camera.
- If possible, go to the location the day before to check out the lighting and setting.
- Pack in your camera bag extra batteries, battery charger, extra storage media, a lens cloth, a tripod, and your camera manual.

2. Get the lighting right

- Before shooting, determine where the light is coming from (front, side, or back).
- If backlit, add more light so the front of your subject is lit, or move to another location.
- Avoid bright sunlight (making sure your shadow isn't in the shot).
- If you're taking photos inside, turn on all of the lights.

3. Don't forget the background

- Keep the background simple.
- Make sure there are no distracting objects in the camera's view.
- Check that objects don't look like they're growing out of your subject.
- Use items in the foreground if you want to give your photo depth.

4. Get sharp photos

- Use a tripod whenever possible.
- If no tripod is available, hold your bent arm tight against your body or lean against a solid surface to stabilize the shot.
- Use your camera's auto focus mode unless it's having trouble focusing on your subject.

5. Make sure your photos answer the questions: who, what, when, where, and why

- Take photos that tell the beginning, middle, and end of your story.
- Change locations and take photos from different angles and perspectives.
- Look for details in the scene that will help tell your story.
- Make sure your photos answer the questions, who, what, when, where, and why.

6. Create interesting photos

- Make sure all parts of your shot work together — the subject, background, color, and lighting.
- Position your subject off center for a more interesting shot.
- Try zooming in as close as possible for greater impact.
- Take photos from different perspectives to change the emphasis of your photo.

7. Get great photos

- Experiment with your camera settings.
- Take a lot of photos so you have more to choose from.
- Set your camera's resolution settings as high as possible and its compression settings as low as possible.
- Use the right shooting mode: Macro for close-ups, Portrait to make the subject stand out, Landscape for distance shots.
- Use the editing tools in iPhoto to improve your photos.

8. Get great shots

- Use your camera's Sports mode for action shots.
- Anticipate the action so you get the shots you want.
- Use your tripod's swivel feature to follow the action.
- Use your camera's burst mode, if it has one, to take a quick series of shots.
- Turn off the display's preview feature so you can take shots quicker.

9. Capture candid shots

- Make your subjects feel comfortable and relaxed by talking and interacting with them.
- Try to be discreet.
- Photograph people in their natural environment.
- Avoid posing people for photos. Instead capture them acting naturally.

10. Make sure you've got all your shots

- Use your camera's display to review your photos to ensure you have all the photos you need.
- If you have to reshoot later, do so at the same time of day so the lighting matches your earlier photos.