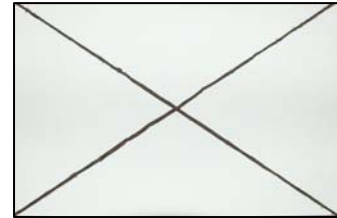


TEN TIPS ON COMPOSITION

By Dick Kenyon

1. Have a center of interest but not in the center of the frame. X does not mark the spot in this case.



2. Place the center of interest at one corner of the “Magic Square” formed by dividing the frame into thirds both horizontally and vertically and placing the center of interest at one of the intersections, a corner of the central or “Magic Square.”



Learn to use your camera’s Auto Focus Lock feature so you can focus on an off-center subject and then recompose to place the subject where you want it while holding focus.

3. Have a level horizon.

Make use of grid lines in viewfinder if camera has them. Or, if not, use a small double bubble level mounted in a hot shoe if available. Lastly, if the original image has a tilted horizon, crop the image and straighten the horizon in image editing.

4. Place the horizon one third from the top or bottom of the image, not in the center.

5. Use leading lines to draw the eye to the center of interest or into the picture. Use diagonal elements in your composition to make it dynamic.

6. Fill the frame for impact or compose so that subject occupies a larger proportion of the frame. Avoid crowding the frame with subject by leaving some space around the edges.

7. Keep subject matter simple. Don’t overcrowd frame with many elements. Keep backgrounds uncluttered.

8. Use an S-curve as a compositional element.

9. Avoid mergers with edges of frame or merger of subject with other objects.

10. Show the faces of subjects if possible.

For an extensive list of internet available articles on photographic composition visit:

<http://photoinf.com>