

Park West Camera Club

Workshop Meeting

Portrait Studio

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Scanning Negatives and Slides

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Close-Up and Macro Photography

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**New York City
January 29, 2018**

General Considerations

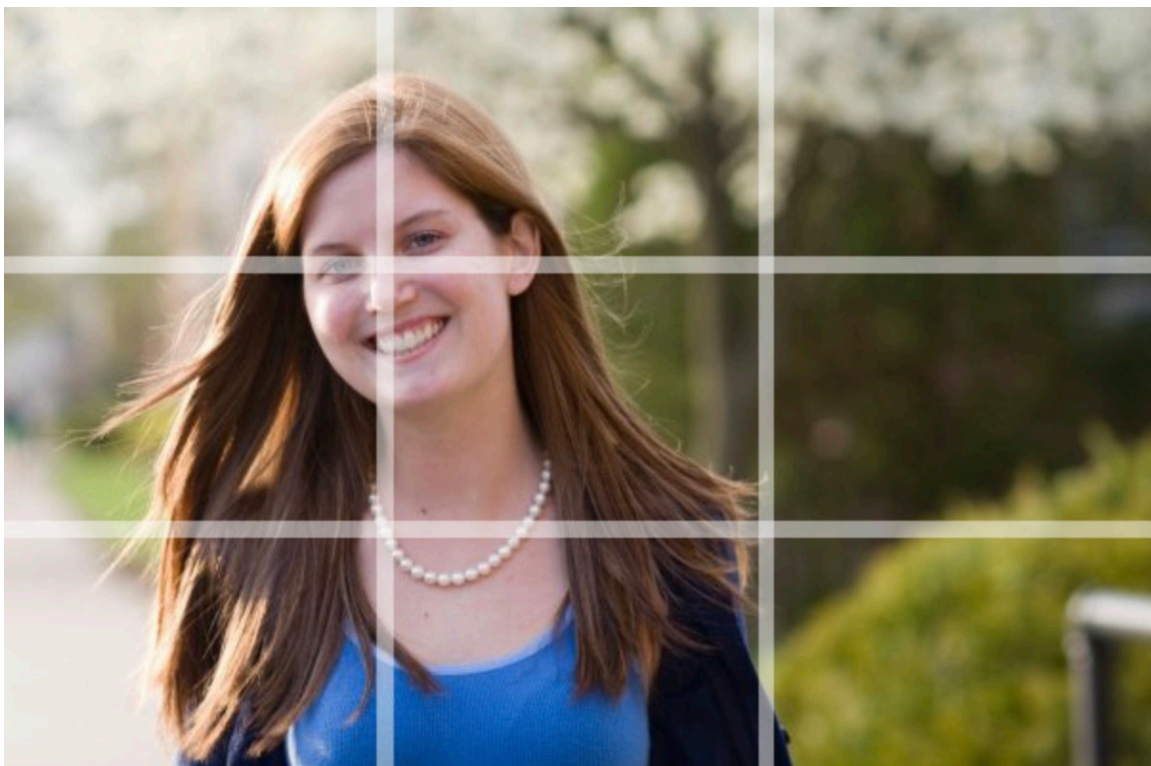
Catchlight: The reflection of the actual light source in at least one eye to prevent the eyes from appearing dark and lifeless.

Lens: Prime lenses have a wider maximum aperture than a zoom lens covering the same focal length. Considerations are depth of field, shutter speed and lower ISO. Prime lenses may have fewer elements which helps produce sharper images with more contrast and less lens flare.

Lighting Pattern: How light and shadow play across the face to create different shapes.

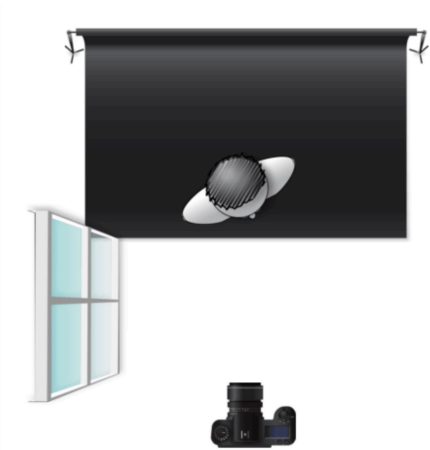
Rule of Thirds: Portrait photos work best when the person's eyes overlap with the intersection on a three-by-three grid.

Rule of Thirds



Rembrandt Lighting

- Identified by the triangle of light on the cheek
- The shadow of the nose and cheek meet which creates the trapped little triangle of light
- More dramatic as it creates more mood and a darker feel to the image
- Doesn't flatter high or prominent cheek bones or a flat nose



- Subject must turn slightly away from the light.
- Light must be above the top of their head.
- Shadow from the nose falls down towards the cheek.

Rembrandt Lighting



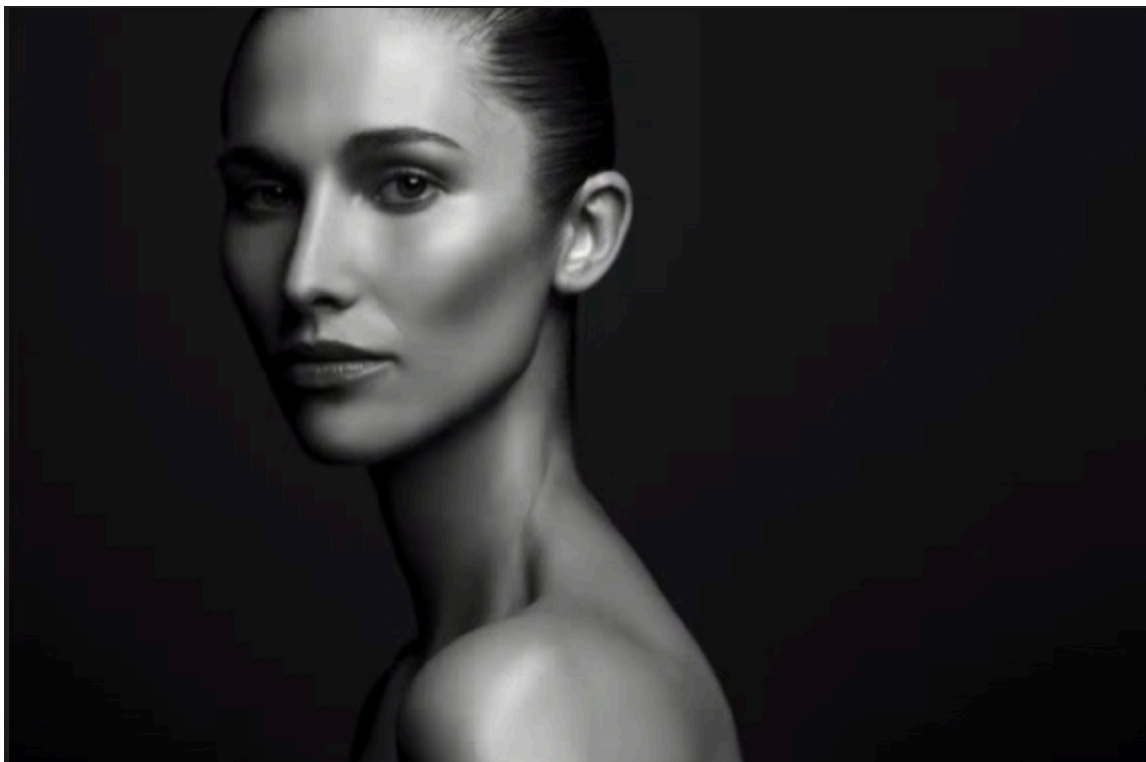
Broad Lighting

- The subject's face is slightly turned away from center, and the side of the face which is toward the camera (is broader) is in the light.
- Makes the person's face look wider and can be used for persons with a slim face



- Face is turned away from the light source.
- Side of the face that is towards the camera has most light on it.
- Shadows fall on the far side of the face.

Broad Lighting



Short Lighting

- Puts the side of the face turned towards the camera (that which appears larger) in more shadow - the opposite of broad lighting
- Often used for low key, or darker portraits.
- Puts more of the face in shadow, is more sculpting, slimming and flattering for most people



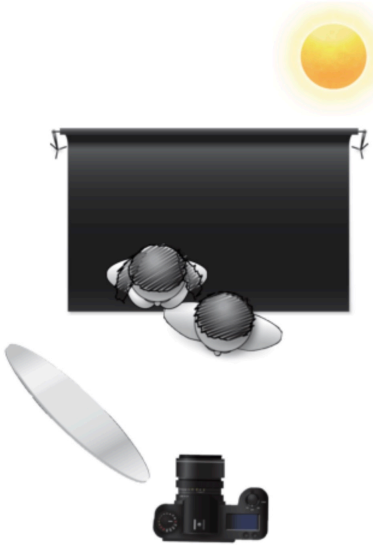
- The face is turned towards the light source
- The part turned away the camera has the most light on it
- Shadows are falling on the near side of the face

Short Lighting



Loop Lighting

- Made by creating a small shadow of the subject's nose on their cheeks.
- Probably the most popular lighting pattern as it flatters most people



- The light Source must be slightly higher than eye level and about 30-45 degrees from the camera.
- Keep the shadow small and slightly downward pointing.
- The shadow of the nose and that of the cheek do NOT touch.

Loop Lighting



Split Lighting

- The face is split into equal halves with one side in the light, the other in shadow.
- Often used to create dramatic images e.g. an artist or musician.
- Tends to be more masculine so it's typically appropriate for men.



- Put the light source 90 degrees to the left or the right of the subject.
- Exact placement depends on the person's face so watch how the light falls and adjust accordingly.
- In true split lighting, the eye on the shadow side of the face does pick up light in the eye only.

Split Lighting



Butterfly Lighting

- A butterfly shaped shadow is created under the nose.
- The photographer is shooting underneath the light source.
- Most often used for glamor style shots. Flatters subjects with defined/prominent cheek bones and a slim face.
- It's also flattering for older subjects as it de-emphasizes wrinkles.



- The light source is directly behind the camera and slightly above eye or head level.
- Can be supplemented by placing a reflector directly under the chin. The subject may even hold it.
- May need a harder light source such as a flash or the sun.

Butterfly Lighting

