

Photography 10/Composition

How we put a photograph together

These are the terms of composition. When applied to the Photographic Arts they take on new meaning. You'll be expected to remember these definitions and how they apply them to your subjects throughout the remainder of this course.

Spot - A small area of different color or texture from the main area of which it is a part.

Line - A division between conditions, qualities, classes limit or demarcation. Outline or contour.

Shape - The form, characteristic or a particular person or thing or class of things. Contour of the body, exclusive of the face; figure.

Pattern - An arrangement of form; disposition of parts or elements; design.

Emphasis - Force of expression, thought, feeling, action. Special attention given.

Balance - A pleasing harmony of various elements in a design, harmonious proportion.

Contrast of Sharpness - A striking difference of clearly defined points.

Contrast of light and dark - A striking difference of tonal variety.

Rule of Thirds - The division of your viewfinder or scene both vertically and horizontally forming intersections which aide in the placement of important elements you wish to communicate.