

8 SIMPLE RULES FOR TAKING BETTER PICTURES

DETAILS

1. When you look through your viewfinder, carefully consider what you are photographing. Do you really want a tree growing out of a child's head? Do you really want that stack of paperwork in the photo? Take a quick look at the distracting details that could ruin an otherwise good photo.

LIGHT

2. Watch where the light is falling on your subject. Move to the shade to avoid washed-out photos and squinting eyes. Use your flash, even when there is sufficient light, to fill in shady spots on your subject.

RULES, RULES, RULES

3. The rule of thirds is a basic design principle that applies to many things. Close your eyes and imagine a tic-tac-toe pattern. An intersection of these lines is where you want to place the focal point of your photo.

PERSPECTIVE

4. An easy way to add interest to a photo is to try a different viewpoint. Bend down, get higher, sneak behind...try something different.

ZOOM

5. Use your zoom to crop the unnecessary details out of the photo. You can also use your feet to zoom in or zoom out. Try to fill the frame of the photo.

POSING

6. Some of the best pictures are the ones that are taken while following children around. Keep your cameras handy.

MANUAL

7. Your camera manual can contain valuable information. **USE IT.**