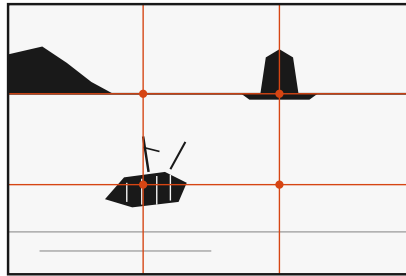


Beginner Composition Techniques in Photography

Eight ways to arrange what is in your scene, and how it positively impacts your frame

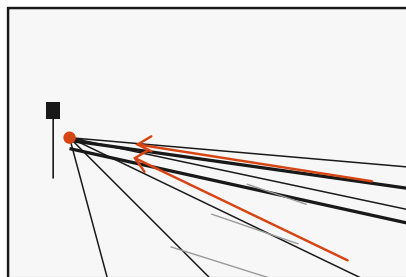
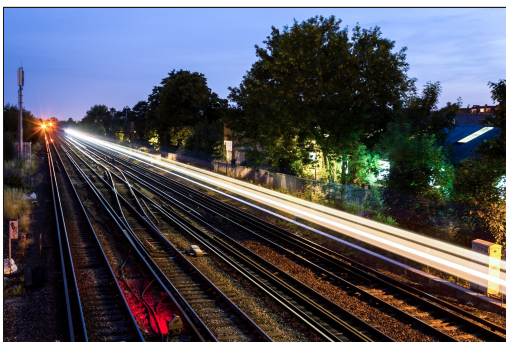
Composition in photography is simply where the visual elements of your scene sit in the frame. It determines what a photograph is about and can help tell its story. A solid composition also makes your photography aesthetically pleasing.

Each panel strips a photograph back to its underlying geometry. The scene is in black, the technique in orange.



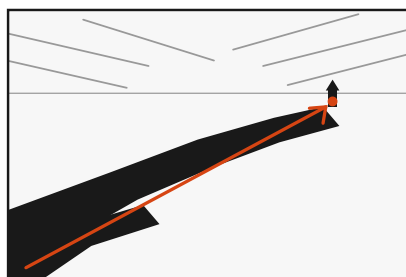
01 Rule of thirds

Divide the frame into nine and place your subject(s) where the lines cross, rather than dead centre.



02 Leading lines

Use lines already in the scene to pull the eye towards your subject or through your frame.



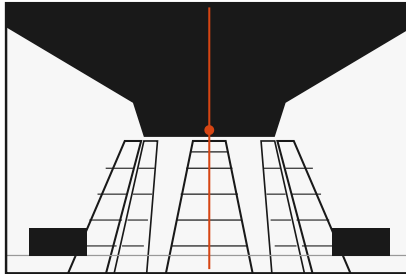
03 Diagonals

Diagonal lines create energy in your scene, even when they might lead to nowhere in particular (unlike leading lines).



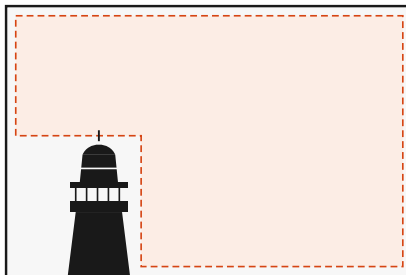
04 Framing

Shoot your main subject through something in the foreground to add depth.



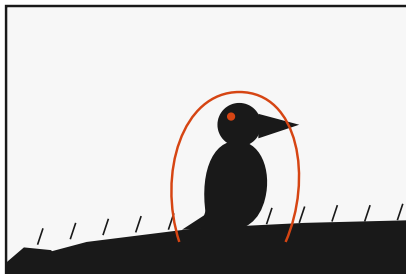
05 Symmetry

Highly aesthetically pleasing to the eye. Line up on a central axis and let both halves mirror each other.



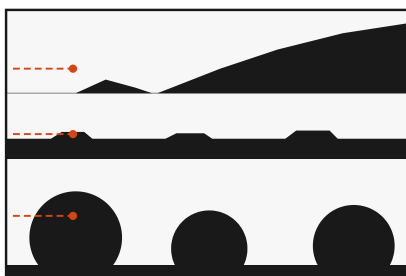
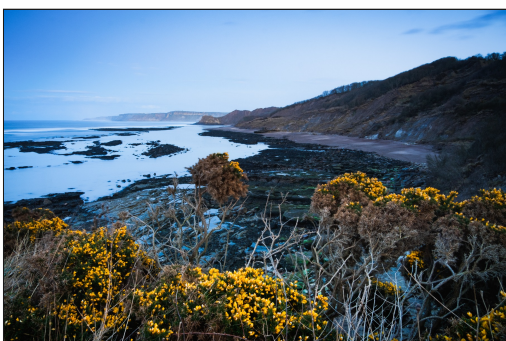
06 Negative space

Leaving the frame mostly empty gives your subject room to breathe.



07 Figure to ground

A subject only stands out if the background lets it. Put a light subject against a dark tone, or a sharp one against a soft one, and the eye finds it straight away.



08 Foreground interest

Put something of interest in the front of the frame close to the camera to build depth and distance in the scene.