

# Composition

Composition is an important part of capturing images that others will find pleasing.

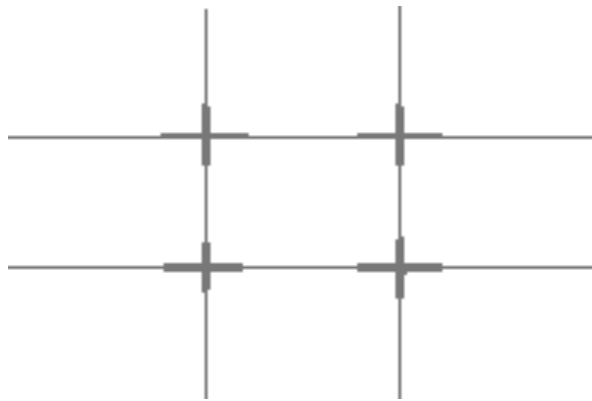
There are some basic guidelines one should learn and follow before they begin to explore the concept of “breaking the rules”.

We are going to look at 4 common composition techniques; you will turn in one image for each style:

- Rule of Thirds
- Off Center Subject (horizontally)
- Off Center Subject (Vertically)
- Bullseye (Subject is smack, right in the middle)

It is not simply creating an image in that style, but creating an image that works. Much of what you are going to do is trial and error, so you will make many, many photos and turn in only the best of the best.

## Rule of Thirds



Madisen J.

One of the most popular 'rules' for composition in the arts is **The Rule Of Thirds**. To use it, imagine a grid like the one on the left was placed on top of your image. It'll divide it into thirds vertically and horizontally. You then place your subject so that the main focus is at one of the intersection points and the rest is fairly plain.

Imagine the above grid directly on top of the above image. You should notice that the flowers are at the intersection point in the lower left. As you can see it is fairly simple to implement. Using the Rule of Thirds helps produce a nice, well balanced, easy on the eyes image.

You will take a photo using the rule of thirds. The photo can be of a person, a flower, leaves, ...

You will download your images, work on your images (maybe crop some and minor color corrections), then turn in your best piece that demonstrates that you know how to use the rule of thirds. This will be named properly

(period-LASTnameFIRSTname-projectNAME.jpg) and turned into the drop box.

EX: 3-CampbellAaron-ROT.jpg

## Off Center Subject Horizontally

When you photograph your subject you either place it farther to the right or left. Typically dividing the canvas into 1/3 and 2/3 (1:2 ratio) works, but try other ratios as well. Again, you will create many photos, but turn in your best labeled: **3-CampbellAaron-OffCenterH.jpg**

## Off Center Subject Vertically

When you photograph your subject you either place it farther towards to top or bottom of the image. Typically dividing the canvas into 1/3 and 2/3 (1:2 ratio) works, but try other ratios as well. Again, you will create many photos, but turn in your best labeled: **3-CampbellAaron-OffCenterV.jpg**

## Bullseye

This is when you place your subject perfectly square in the center of your image. You will create many images, but you will only turned in your best labeled: **3-CampbellAaron-Bullseye.jpg**



Isamar Solano



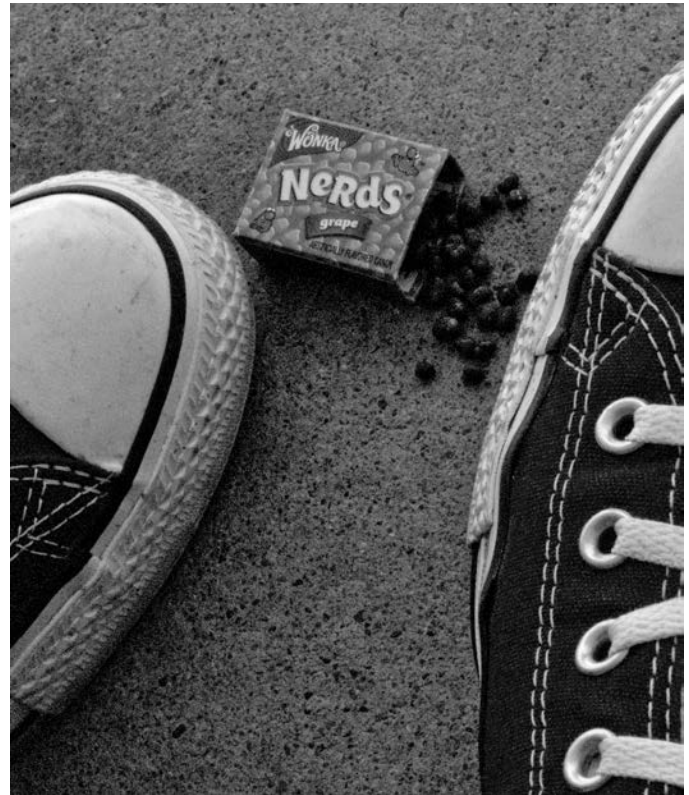
Matt Sawdey



Mia Rodriguez



Marisola



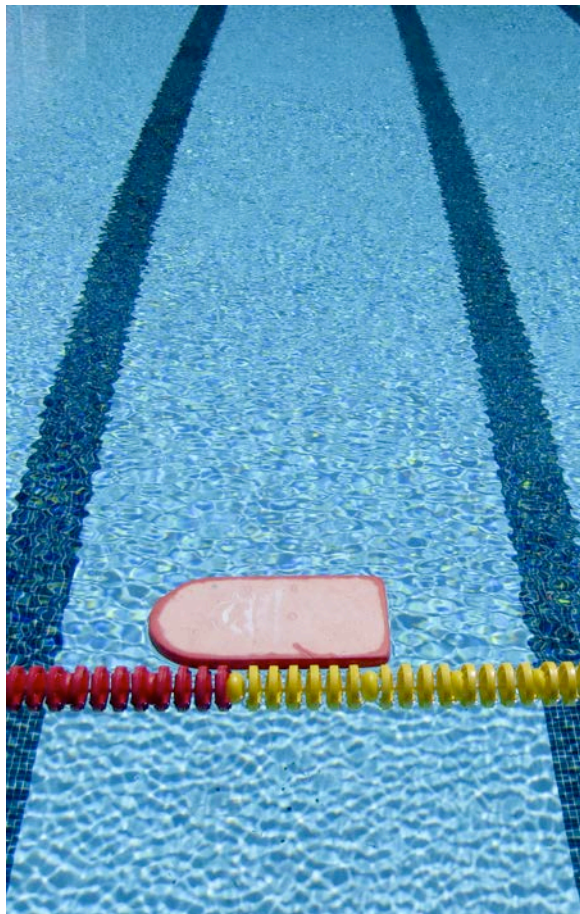
Chris Oseguera



Christine Flock



Danny Falore



Jennifer Orellana

The cameras are currently set to shoot monochromatic (Black & White) for the first couple of projects. Simplifying an image in this manor forces us to pay closer attention to the basics, which we need to learn, prior to introducing the complexity of color. In this project we are paying attention to composition. Here is a video talking about the importance of photographing in B&W prior to moving to color.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FeCcHtfx9QI>