

To be published in the April Newsletter.

Tips & Hints for taking Photographs: Prints and Digital Images

B General Photographic Guidelines

I. Composition

1. 'Rule of 3' Parts: top center bottom or left center right or foreground center background.
For example- lawn, flowers, sky. Avoid the Half & Half view – too straight.
2. The 'Rule of 3': works best if it is unevenly divided – just a little one way or the other.
For example – a little lawn, lots of flowers, some sky – more natural to the viewer.
3. Use the zoom toggle to move in and out to 'compose' the 'Rule of 3' part's of the 'view'.
Decide what it is you want to record and eliminate anything that detracts from it.

II. Content

1. Conflict- Look for something which is not obvious in the view that will show up later.
For example: the perfect flower with the water hose in the background.
2. Chopping- Avoid cutting off parts of objects in the view, most objects look better as a whole.
Look for the grid and or crosshairs in the view finder- keep main features inside these.
3. Check lighting- Know where the sun or lighting is in relation to the view- brightness/darkness.
Remember if your back is to the sun, then your shadow will be in the picture.

III. Control

1. Press the button gently – do not press the whole camera, which creates movement (burring).
This may be avoided by purchasing a camera with Image Stabilization preprogramming.
2. Just before pressing the button – Stop and hold your breath, just for that moment.
This improves the camera's image focus and maintains the chosen position 'view'.
3. Find support – Lean on a tree, top of a walking stick, monopod, or tripod (with a remote).
It is less tiring while waiting for the light to be right or for the butterfly to land!

A Power Point Presentation with image examples to be presented at the April meeting.

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For the Kanata-March Horticulture Society,
In conjunction with the 2010 K-MHS Photo Competition*