



The Craft of Photography

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Part 1: Introduction to Photography

1. Chapter: Fundamentals of Photography

1.1 The history of photography

The history of photography is a fascinating journey through the development and evolution of one of the most important visual arts. From the earliest experiments to today's digital era, photography has fundamentally changed the way we see and document the world.

1.1.1 The precursors of photography

The beginnings of photography can be traced back to the preceding centuries, when artists and scientists began to explore methods of fixing images.

- **Camera Obscura:** Even in ancient Greece, the camera obscura was used to project exterior views onto interior walls. This principle was refined over time and laid the foundation for the development of photography.
- **Heliography:** In the early 19th century, experiments by Joseph Nicéphore Niépce led to heliography, a method of fixing images on light-sensitive surfaces. His "View from the Window at Le Gras" from 1826 is considered the oldest surviving photographic image.

1.1.2 Birth of photography

The actual birth of photography can be attributed to the Frenchman Louis Daguerre, who developed the process of the daguerreotype.

- **Daguerreotype:** In 1839, Louis Daguerre presented his groundbreaking invention to the world. The daguerreotype used a silver-plated copper plate that was exposed to mercury vapor by exposure and then fixed with salt water. This made it possible to create detailed and durable images.

1.1.3 Further development of photography

After the introduction of the daguerreotype, photography developed rapidly.

- **Collodion process:** In the 1850s, the collodion process, in which glass plates were coated with a light-sensitive solution, led to a faster exposure time and opened up new possibilities for portrait photography and documentation.
- **Dry plate and roll film:** The introduction of dry plate in the 1870s and later flexible roll film allowed for greater flexibility and mobility for photographers. George Eastman, founder of Kodak, revolutionized photography with his pocket camera and the idea "You press the button, we do the rest".

1.1.4 The era of color photography and digitization



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- **Color Photography:** In the 1930s, color photography gradually became accessible. Subtractive color mixing made it possible to reproduce colors in photos.
- **Digital Revolution:** The introduction of digital cameras in the 1990s marked a turning point in photography. Images could now be captured, stored and edited electronically.

The history of photography is marked by technological breakthroughs, creative innovations and the fascination of capturing moments and worlds in images. Today, thanks to smartphones and social media, photography has become a ubiquitous form of self-expression and communication.

1.2 How a camera works

The way a camera works is a complex interplay of technologies that makes it possible to capture light and convert it into a photographic image. A modern camera is made up of various components that work together to achieve this goal.

1.2.1 Lens and light focusing

The lens is one of the most important parts of a camera. It consists of several lenses that focus the incident light and direct it to the sensor. The shape and arrangement of the lenses in the lens influence factors such as sharpness, distortion and light scattering in the image.

1.2.2 Aperture and shutter speed

The aperture and exposure time are crucial for the exposure of a photo.

- **Aperture:** The aperture is an opening in the lens that regulates how much light falls on the sensor. It is expressed in aperture values (e.g. $f/2.8$, $f/8$), with a wider aperture (smaller number) catching more light and producing a shallower depth of field.
- **Exposure time:** The exposure time determines how long the sensor is exposed to light. It is measured in fractions of a second (e.g. $1/1000$, $1/60$) and influences the motion representation in the image. Shorter exposure times capture motion faster and prevent blurring.

1.2.3 Image sensor and light sensitivity

The image sensor is the digital counterpart to photographic film. It consists of light-sensitive pixels that convert the incident light into electrical signals. The size of the image sensor and the number of megapixels affect the image quality and level of detail.

- **Light sensitivity (ISO):** ISO values indicate how sensitive the sensor is to light. Low ISO values (e.g. ISO 100) are suitable for bright situations, while high ISO values (e.g. ISO 1600) are used for poorly lit environments, but with a higher amount of noise.

1.2.4 Viewfinder or screen

Modern cameras offer several ways to view and compose the image.



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- **Optical viewfinder:** In SLR cameras, the image is reflected into the optical viewfinder via mirrors and prisms. This allows a direct view of the subject.
- **Electronic viewfinder:** An electronic viewfinder is used in mirrorless cameras and some advanced compact cameras. Here, the image is displayed digitally on a screen.
- **LCD screen:** Most cameras have an LCD screen that displays the live image. This screen is also used for menu navigation and to display captured images.

1.2.5 Triggers and image processing

The trigger is the button or mechanism that triggers the recording process. As soon as the shutter button is pressed, the aperture opens for the set exposure time, the light hits the sensor, and the image is captured.

Modern cameras also have powerful image processors that can convert RAW data into JPEG files and perform various image optimizations.

The way a camera works is a complex process that makes it possible to capture moments and capture them in visually appealing images. An understanding of these basic principles is crucial to mastering the craft of photography.

1.3 Exposure, shutter speed and aperture

Exposure is a central concept in photography, controlled by the combination of shutter speed and aperture. It affects how much light reaches the image sensor and thus the brightness and quality of the image. An understanding of these elements allows photographers to achieve the desired exposure for their shots.

1.3.1 Shutter speed

The shutter speed indicates how long the shutter of the camera remains open to allow light to reach the sensor. It is measured in fractions of a second, for example, 1/1000, 1/250, 1/30, etc. The faster the shutter speed, the less light reaches the sensor and the more movements are frozen.

- **Fast shutter speed:** A fast shutter speed (e.g. 1/1000) freezes motion and is ideal for action shots, sports photography, or fast movements.
- **Slow shutter speed:** A slow shutter speed (e.g. 1/30) captures motion and can be used for creative effects such as motion blur.

1.3.2 Aperture

The aperture is the aperture in the lens that regulates the incidence of light. It is expressed in aperture values, such as f/2.8, f/8, etc. A smaller aperture value means a larger aperture and more light.

- **Large aperture (small value):** A large aperture (e.g. f/1.8) produces a shallow depth of field. The subject is sharp, while the background is blurry. This is ideal for portraits.
- **Small aperture (large value):** A small aperture (e.g. f/16) creates a greater depth of field. Both foreground and background are sharp. This is suitable for landscape photography.



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1.3.3 Exposure compensation

Sometimes the camera can misjudge the exposure, especially in complex lighting conditions. Exposure compensation allows the photographer to adjust the exposure suggested by the camera metering system.

- **Positive (+):** Positive exposure compensation increases exposure and makes the image brighter.
- **Negative (-):** Negative exposure compensation reduces exposure and makes the image darker.

1.3.4 Exposure metering

Cameras have different modes for metering:

- **Multi-field metering:** The camera analyzes the entire image and calculates an average exposure.
- **Spot metering:** Exposure is only measured at a small point in the center of the image.
- **Center-weighted metering:** The camera measures the exposure in the center of the image and also takes into account the environment.

The correct combination of shutter speed and aperture is crucial for adequate exposure. An understanding of these elements allows photographers to achieve the desired creative effects and control the quality of their images.

1.4 Sensor size and image quality

The sensor is the heart of any camera, as it converts the incoming light into an electrical signal that eventually becomes a digital image. The size of the sensor has a direct impact on a photographer's image quality, noise and creative possibilities.

1.4.1 Sensor size and resolution

The sensor size affects the amount of light that hits the sensor, and thus the image quality and the ability to capture details.

- **Smaller sensors: Compact cameras** and some mirrorless cameras have smaller sensors. These can tend to produce faster noise at higher ISOs and possibly capture less detail in dimly lit scenes.
- **Larger sensors:** SLRs and some mirrorless cameras use larger sensors that can capture more light. As a result, they are usually better suited for shooting in low light conditions and offer higher image quality.

The resolution of a sensor is measured in megapixels. Higher megapixel counts allow for larger prints and allow images to be cropped without losing much quality. However, a higher resolution does not necessarily mean better image quality, as other factors also play a role.

1.4.2 Image Quality and Noise Characteristics

Image quality depends on several factors, including sensor size, resolution, and noise behavior.



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- **Noise:** Noise manifests itself in distracting, random color or brightness elements in an image. Small sensors tend to produce noise more quickly, especially at higher ISO settings.
- **Dynamic Range:** Dynamic range is the area between the brightest and darkest parts of an image. Larger sensors often have a wider dynamic range, which means they can capture detail in the highlights as well as in the shadows.

1.4.3 Creative potential

The sensor size also affects the depth of field - the area in the image that is in focus. Larger sensors make it possible to create a shallow depth of field effect, where the main subject is in focus and the background appears blurred. This can be an impressive way to highlight the main subject.

1.4.4 Crop-Factor

The crop factor refers to the effect that the sensor size has on the image section. Smaller sensors have a higher crop factor, which means that the image section is narrower. Larger sensors capture more wide-angle view.

The choice of camera and sensor depends on individual needs and the desired area of application. Larger sensors often offer better image quality and more creative possibilities, while smaller sensors can fit into more compact cameras.

1.5 Image formats and resolution

Choosing the right image format and resolution is crucial to optimize photos for various uses, whether it's printing, online publishing, or image editing. Learn more about the different aspects of image formats and resolutions.

1.5.1 Image formats

There are different image formats in which photos can be saved. The two most common formats are JPEG and RAW.

- **JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group):** JPEG is a widely used compressed image format that reduces file size by removing certain image information. It is ideal for general use, online sharing, and printing in smaller sizes.
- **RAW:** RAW is an uncompressed format that stores all the image information captured by the camera. This provides more flexibility in post-processing, as you can adjust exposure, white balance, and other settings afterwards. RAW files are larger in size and require special software for editing.

1.5.2 Resolution

The resolution of an image refers to the number of pixels that make up the image. It is usually given in megapixels. Higher resolution means more detail in the image, allows for larger prints, and gives more scope for cropping photos.



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- **Web resolution:** A lower resolution is sufficient for publishing on the Internet. 72 dpi (dots per inch) is a common standard for web images because screens have a lower pixel density.
- **Print Resolution:** Higher resolutions are required for printing to ensure good image quality. 300 dpi is a common standard for high-quality printing.

1.5.3 Scaling and interpolation

Scaling images refers to resizing them. When an image is enlarged, it is called interpolation. However, this can lead to a loss of quality as the software adds extra pixels to achieve the larger size.

1.5.4 File Size and Compression

The file size of an image depends on the resolution, image format, and compression. Higher compression reduces the file size, but it can lead to a loss of quality. It's important to find the right balance between file size and image quality.

The choice of image format and resolution depends on your specific requirements. For everyday use and online sharing, JPEG with a low to medium resolution may be sufficient. However, if you're planning on professional editing and larger prints, the RAW format with a higher resolution could be beneficial.



2. Chapter: Camera Technology

2.1 Types of cameras (DSLR, mirrorless, compact camera)

There are different types of cameras, each with different advantages and disadvantages. Choosing the right camera depends on your photographic needs, level of experience, and preferences.

2.1.1 DSLR (Digital Single Lens Reflex)

DSLR cameras are one of the most traditional and widely used types of cameras.

Advantages:

- **Optical viewfinder:** DSLRs offer an optical viewfinder that shows the subject directly. This allows for precise image composition and an immediate photography experience.
- **Variety of lenses:** DSLRs can be used with a wide range of interchangeable lenses, allowing for great flexibility in choosing the right lens for different situations.
- **Battery life:** Due to the larger body size, DSLRs often have longer battery life.

Disadvantages:

- **Size and weight:** DSLRs tend to be larger and heavier than mirrorless cameras and compact cameras, making them less portable.
- **Mirror Mechanism:** The mirror mechanism in DSLRs can cause vibration and interfere with live view operation.

2.1.2 Mirrorless cameras

Mirrorless cameras are a newer generation of cameras that remove the mirror mechanism of a DSLR.

Advantages:

- **Compact size:** Mirrorless cameras tend to be smaller and lighter than DSLRs, making them more convenient for travel and everyday wear.
- **Fast autofocus:** Mirrorless cameras use phase detection AF technology that works in real time and enables fast and accurate focusing.
- **Electronic viewfinder:** Some mirrorless cameras offer electronic viewfinders with real-time preview, which are useful in difficult lighting conditions or when focusing manually.

Disadvantages:

- **Battery life:** Due to the smaller body size, mirrorless cameras often have shorter battery life.
- **Limited lens selection:** Although the lens selection for mirrorless cameras is growing, it can still be more limited than DSLRs.



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2.1.3 Compact Cameras

Compact cameras are small, easy to use, and often intended for general use.

Advantages:

- **Small and portable:** Compact cameras are very small and lightweight, making them ideal for traveling.
- **Ease of use:** They are often easy to use in automatic mode and require little technical knowledge.
- **Inexpensive:** Compact cameras are usually more cost-effective than DSLRs or mirrorless cameras.

Disadvantages:

- **Limited control:** Compact cameras often offer fewer manual adjustment options and creative control.
- **Image quality:** Image quality may be limited compared to DSLRs or mirrorless cameras, especially in low-light conditions.

The choice between these types of cameras depends on your needs. If you want full control, lens variety, and higher image quality, a DSLR or mirrorless camera might be your best bet. For ease of use and portability, a compact camera might suffice.

2.2 Lenses and their characteristics

Lenses are crucial to the way your photos look. They affect the perspective, depth of field, image quality, and many other aspects of your shots. Here are some important characteristics of lenses and their importance:

2.2.1 Focal Length

The focal length of a lens affects the angle of view and magnification of a subject. It is given in millimeters (mm).

- **Short focal length (wide-angle lenses):** Wide-angle lenses have a short focal length and capture a wide angle of view. They are well suited for landscapes and group shots.
- **Medium focal length (standard lenses):** Standard lenses have a medium focal length and roughly correspond to the angle of view of the human eye. They are versatile.
- **Long focal length (telephoto lenses):** Telephoto lenses have a long focal length and are suitable for capturing distant subjects. They create a compressed perspective and are well suited for portraits and sports photography.

2.2.2 Aperture

The aperture controls the amount of incident light and affects the depth of field.

- **Large aperture (small value):** A large aperture (e.g. f/1.8) lets in a lot of light and creates a shallow depth of field. This results in a blurred background and works well for portraits.



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- **Small aperture (large value):** A small aperture (e.g. f/16) lets in less light and creates a greater depth of field. This is ideal for landscape shots.

2.2.3 Image Stabilization

Some lenses have image stabilization technology that minimizes camera shake and allows for sharper handheld shots.

2.2.4 Autofocus vs. Manual Focus

Most lenses offer autofocus (AF), which allows the camera to focus on the subject. However, some photographers prefer manual focus (MF) to have more control over sharpness.

2.2.5 Spezialobjektive

There are also special types of lenses:

- **Macro lenses:** These allow you to capture extremely close subjects to capture fine details, such as in macro photography of insects or plants.
- **Fisheye lenses:** Fisheye lenses produce distorted, spherical images and capture an extremely wide angle of view.
- **Tilt-shift lenses:** These lenses allow the lens to tilt and shift, resulting in creative effects such as miniature appearance and correction of perspectives.

2.2.6 Objektivanschluss

It is important to make sure that the lens fits your camera. Different camera manufacturers have different lens mounts.

Choosing the right lens depends on your photographic intent. Different lenses offer different creative possibilities and can make the difference between an average photo and an extraordinary one.

2.3 Camera settings (ISO, white balance, focus)

The settings of your camera have a significant influence on the final result of your shots. Here are some key camera angles and what they mean:

2.3.1 ISO setting

ISO affects the light sensitivity of the sensor. Higher ISO values increase sensitivity, but are associated with a higher noise level.

- **Low ISO (e.g. ISO 100):** Suitable for bright lighting conditions as it produces less noise. However, it also delivers less sensitivity in dark situations.



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- **High ISO (e.g. ISO 800 or higher):** Suitable for low light conditions or fast movements. However, it also creates more noise in the image.

2.3.2 White balance

The white balance determines the color temperature of the image and helps to preserve natural colors under different lighting conditions.

- **Daylight:** Suitable for shooting in normal daylight.
- **Cloudy:** Suitable for balancing warm colors in cloudy conditions.
- **Incandescent light:** Compensates for the cool colors of incandescent or fluorescent lamps.

2.3.3 Fokusmodus

The focus mode determines how the camera focuses on the desired subject.

- **Single autofocus (AF-S):** The camera focuses once when the shutter button is pressed halfway. Well suited for static subjects.
- **Continuous autofocus (AF-C):** The camera continuously maintains focus as the subject moves. Ideal for moving objects.
- **Manual Focus (MF):** The photographer focuses manually. Useful in difficult lighting conditions or when using special focus methods.

2.3.4 Focus Points and Areas

Modern cameras offer a variety of focus points and areas to precisely focus on the subject.

- **Single focus point:** You select a single point for the camera to focus on.
- **Multiple focus points:** The camera automatically selects the best one from several focus points.
- **Tracking Focus:** The camera tracks a moving subject and continuously adjusts the focus.

2.3.5 Exposure metering

Exposure metering determines how the camera calculates exposure.

- **Multi-field metering:** The camera analyzes the entire image and calculates an average exposure.
- **Spot metering:** The exposure is only measured at a small point.
- **Center-weighted metering:** The camera measures the exposure in the center of the image and also takes into account the environment.

The correct setting of these parameters depends on the specific shooting situation. A good understanding of these camera settings will allow you to achieve the desired effects and increase your photographic creativity.

2.4 Autofocus and metering modes



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Your camera's different autofocus and metering modes give you a wide range of ways to control and adjust your shots. Here are the main modes and how to use them:

2.4.1 Autofocus Modes

Single autofocus (AF-S): In this mode, the camera focuses on the selected focus point and holds the setting until the shutter button is half-pressed. Suitable for static subjects where the focus does not need to be changed.

Continuous autofocus (AF-C): The camera keeps the focus continuously on the subject, even when it is moving. Ideal for moving or rapidly changing subjects, such as sporting events or wildlife photography.

Automatic autofocus (AF-A or AI Focus AF): The camera switches between single autofocus and continuous autofocus, depending on the movement of the subject. It's a versatile option for different shooting situations.

Manual Focus (MF): Here you can manually adjust the focus by rotating the focus ring of the lens. Useful in difficult lighting conditions or when you need complete control over focus.

2.4.2 Belichtungsmessmodi

Multi-field metering (matrix metering or evaluative metering): The camera analyzes the entire image and calculates an average exposure. Suitable for a wide range of scenes where there are different ranges of brightness.

Spot metering: Exposure is only measured at a small point in the center of the image. Useful for exposing precisely to a specific subject or region.

Center-weighted metering: Exposure metering takes place in the center of the image and also takes into account the environment. Suitable for portraits or situations with dominant light or dark areas in the center of the image.

Bracketing: The camera automatically takes multiple shots with different exposure settings. This is useful to ensure that you get the right exposure for difficult lighting conditions.

Choosing the right autofocus and metering mode depends on the type of shot you are shooting and your creative intentions. It is important to understand and master these modes in order to achieve optimal results.

2.5 Camera accessories (tripod, flash, filter)

In addition to the camera and lenses, there are a variety of accessories that can expand your photography skills and help you create better images. Here are some essential accessories:

2.5.1 Tripod



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A tripod is an essential tool for stabilizing your camera and capturing sharp images, especially in low-light situations or long exposures.

- **Tripod:** The most common type of tripod. It provides stability and flexibility in various shooting situations.
- **Monopod:** Lighter and more portable than a tripod. Ideal for situations where you need more mobility.

2.5.2 Flash unit

An external flash unit allows you to control light and reduce shadows for better exposure and portraits.

- **Clip-on flash:** Attached to the camera's hot shoe. It offers more power and control over the light than the built-in flash.
- **Studio Flash:** Larger flash unit for professional studio shooting. It offers precise settings and higher performance.

2.5.3 Filter

Filters are screwed in front of the lens to create different effects or to influence the light.

- **UV filter:** Protects the lens from dust and scratches. It usually does not affect the image quality.
- **Polarizing filter:** Reduces reflections and increases contrast. It can also make the sky appear bluer.
- **ND (Neutral Density Filter):** Reduces the amount of light hitting the sensor to allow for slower shutter speeds, such as for running water or motion effects.

2.5.4 Remote shutter release

A remote shutter release allows you to trigger the camera from a distance without touching it. This is especially useful for long exposures or self-portraits.

2.5.5 Camera bag and backpack

A high-quality camera bag or backpack will protect your gear from shocks, dust and weathering.

2.5.6 Replacement batteries and memory cards

Additional batteries and memory cards ensure that you have enough power and storage space for longer recording sessions.

Choosing the right accessories depends on your photographic needs and style. High-quality accessories can expand your creative possibilities and help you get better shots.



Chapter 3: Image Composition and Composition

3.1 The rule of thirds and other design principles

The design of an image is crucial for the visual impact and communication of your photography. Here are some key design principles, including the rule of thirds:

3.1.1 The rule of thirds

The rule of thirds is one of the most basic design principles in photography. It states that the image is divided into nine equal squares by drawing two horizontal and two vertical lines. The important elements of the image should be placed along these lines or in the intersections.

- **Horizontal lines:** The rule of thirds can be used to place the horizon, such as the horizon in the lower or upper third of the image for an interesting composition.
- **Vertical lines:** Vertical elements such as trees or towers can be placed along the vertical lines to add structure to the image.
- **Cut lines:** The intersections of the rule of thirds are ideal for placing main subjects or viewpoints.

3.1.2 Symmetry and balance

Symmetry creates visual balance and order in the image. It can create a strong, central composition or be used for interesting reflections.

3.1.3 Leading Lines

Leading lines are lines in the image that guide the viewer's eye through the scene and create the depth of the image. Roads, rivers or fences can serve as guiding lines.

3.1.4 Frames within a frame

By using natural or architectural elements in the foreground, you can create a "frame-within-a-frame" that draws attention to the main subject in the image.

3.1.5 Diagonal lines

Diagonal lines create movement and dynamism in the image. They can be used to create interest and excitement.

3.1.6 Golden ratio

Similar to the rule of thirds, the golden ratio is based on mathematical ratios used in art. It can be used to place important elements in the image.

3.1.7 Negativraum



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Negative space is the empty space around the main subject. It can be used to highlight the main subject and create a calm, minimalist aesthetic.

Knowing these design principles can help you create more engaging and expressive images. However, keep in mind that rules can also be broken to create unique and creative effects.

3.2 Angle and perspective

The angle and perspective from which you photograph a subject will have a huge impact on the visual impact and emotional resonance of your shots. Here are some key considerations about point of view and perspective:

3.2.1 Eye level

Photograph the subject at eye level to create a natural and familiar representation. This is especially effective when taking portraits or shots of animals.

3.2.2 Bird's eye view

Shoot from top to bottom for a bird's-eye view. This can be useful for emphasizing the size of a subject in relation to its surroundings.

3.2.3 Frog's Perspective

Shoot from bottom to top for a frog's perspective. This can help to make buildings or objects appear more imposing.

3.2.4 Wide-angle perspective

The use of a wide-angle lens creates greater spatial depth and emphasizes the distance between foreground and background. This is ideal for landscape photography.

3.2.5 Tele-perspective

Using a telephoto lens compresses perspective and can bring distant objects closer. This is especially useful for portraits and wildlife photography.

3.2.6 Depth of field and perspective

The choice of aperture affects the depth of field and thus how much of the image is sharp or out of focus. A shallow depth of field (wide aperture) can be used to make the main subject stand out from the background and emphasize perspective.

3.2.7 Diagonal lines and perspective

Use diagonal lines to create depth and dynamism. These can be used to guide the viewer's eye through the image and create a three-dimensional effect.



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3.2.8 Experiment

Experiment with different angles and perspectives to create unique and interesting effects. Change your position and height to try different angles and get the most out of your subject.

Choosing the right angle and perspective depends on your creative intent and the message you want to convey. Different perspectives can depict the same subject in a completely different way and make your photographic representation more diverse.

3.3 Image section and image format

The framing and format of the image are important design elements that determine how your subject is placed within the picture frame and what the finished image ultimately looks like. Here are some considerations for framing and image format:

3.3.1 Image detail and composition

The framing determines which parts of the subject are included in the image and which are omitted. Careful framing can greatly influence the visual impact and message of an image.

- **Narrow image section:** Here, the subject is shown close and without much environment or background. This emphasizes the details and emotions of the subject.
- **Wide image section:** More surroundings or backgrounds are shown in the image. This can provide more context to the viewer and clarify the subject's relationship with the environment.

3.3.2 Golden ratio and rule of thirds

The golden ratio and the rule of thirds, which have already been mentioned in other sections, are also relevant for framing. They help to position the motif harmoniously and appealingly.

3.3.3 Image Format

The image format refers to the aspect ratio of the image, i.e. the ratio of width to height.

- **Square (1:1):** A square format can be a creative way to place the subject centered and balanced.
- **Landscape (16:9 or 3:2):** A wider format works well for landscape shots because it emphasizes the vastness of the scene.
- **Portrait (4:5 or 2:3):** A higher format works well for portraits because it emphasizes the vertical extent of the subject.

3.3.4 Panorama

The panorama format includes a particularly wide field of view and is well suited for landscapes or scenes that extend over a large area.

3.3.5 Experimentation and Adaptation



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Experiment with different framing and formats to see which ones best suit your subject and intended message. Remember that there are no rigid rules, and it is important to be creative and try different options to create the best possible image.

3.4 Symmetry, contrasts and coloring

The use of symmetry, contrast, and coloring are powerful design elements that can help attract attention, create visual interest, and influence the mood of an image.

3.4.1 Symmetry and asymmetry

- **Symmetry:** Symmetrical compositions are balanced and have a calming effect. A perfect balance can be either horizontal, vertical or radial.
- **Asymmetry:** Asymmetrical compositions are more dynamic and unexpected. Here, elements are deliberately placed unbalanced to create tension.

3.4.2 Contrasts

- **Brightness contrast:** Contrasts between light and shadow create depth and dimension in the image.
- **Color contrast:** Contrasting colors can attract attention and create visual impact.
- **Size contrast:** Different proportions between objects create visual tension.

3.4.3 Coloring

- **Warm-cold contrast:** Using warm and cold colors in an image can create a powerful visual impact.
- **Color harmony:** Harmonious color combinations can create a pleasant and uniform image.
- **Monochrome:** Using a single color or shade can create an elegant and evocative atmosphere.

3.4.4 Colored accents

Use pops of color to draw the viewer's eye to a specific element in the image.

3.4.5 Negative space and minimalism

The deliberate use of negative space (empty space around the main subject) or minimal elements can create a calm, simple, yet powerful aesthetic.

3.4.6 Experimentation and trial and error

The use of symmetry, contrasts and colouring opens up a wide range of design possibilities. Experiment with different combinations to achieve the mood and visual impact you want. Remember that the conscious use of these elements can elevate your photography to a higher level of design.



Chapter 4: Light and Lighting

4.1 Natural light and times of day

The use of natural light is crucial to the mood and quality of your photographs. Different times of the day offer different lighting conditions and open up a wide range of possibilities for creative shots.

4.1.1 Golden Hour

The "golden hour" is the time just after sunrise and just before sunset. The light during this period is soft, warm and creates gentle shadows. This is ideal for portraiture, landscape photography, and outdoor shooting.

4.1.2 Blue Hour

The "Blue Hour" occurs just before sunrise and after sunset. The sky takes on a deep blue color that creates a magical atmosphere. It is well suited for atmospheric city shots and long exposures.

4.1.3 In the middle of the day

The light at midday can be harsh and create strong shadows. However, it's also ideal for landscape photography in the desert or on the beach, where the bright light can make the scene glow.

4.1.4 Cloudy skies

A cloudy sky produces soft, diffused light that is suitable for portraits and macro shots. Clouds can also make the sky more interesting.

4.1.5 Bad weather

Rain, snow or fog can create unique moods and change the aesthetics of your photographs. Take advantage of these opportunities to create atmospheric images.

4.1.6 Backlight

Shoot with the sun or other light source behind your subject. This can result in silhouettes or a beautiful background glow.

4.1.7 Soft Shadows Indoors

When shooting indoors, avoid direct sunlight as it can create harsh shadows. Instead, use indirect light through windows or soft artificial light sources.

Choosing the right time of day and using natural light opens up opportunities to create moods and improve the visual quality of your shots. Experiment with different lighting conditions and discover the magic of natural light in your photography.



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Chapter 4: Light and Lighting

4.2 Artificial lighting (flash, studio lights)

The use of artificial lighting allows you to precisely control the lighting conditions in your photography and achieve creative effects. Here are some important aspects of artificial lighting:

4.2.1 Flash Light

- **Clip-on flash:** An external flash unit that plugs onto the camera's hot shoe. It can be used to add extra light in dark situations or reduce shadows.
- **Flash Unleashed:** The flash is triggered wirelessly by the camera, allowing for more flexibility in the placement and angle of the flash.
- **Bounce flash:** The flash is directed at a surface such as a wall or ceiling to diffuse the light and soften it.

4.2.2 Studieleuchten

- **Studio flash:** Larger flash units used in a photo studio to create professional lighting. They provide more power and control over the light.
- **Continuous light:** Continuous light sources that can be used to evenly illuminate the subject and are useful in videography.

4.2.3 Light Shapers and Modifiers

- **Softbox:** A large box with diffused walls that produces soft and even light.
- **Umbrella:** A reflective or translucent umbrella that diffuses and distributes light.
- **Beauty Dish:** A bowl-shaped reflector that creates soft light and subtle shadows.

4.2.4 Hard and soft lighting

Hard light creates sharp shadows and accentuates textures, while soft light creates smooth transitions and less harsh shadows.

4.2.5 Color Temperature and White Balance

Make sure that the color temperature of the artificial lighting matches the environment or is deliberately used to create certain moods.

4.2.6 Experimentation and practice

Using artificial lighting requires practice and experimentation to achieve the desired results. Play with different light sources, angles, and light shapers to figure out how to make the most of light to bring your creative visions to life.



4.3 Light quality and lighting mood

The quality of the light and the mood created are crucial for the atmosphere of your photographs. Different light sources and conditions can evoke different emotions and effects. Here are some important aspects of light quality and mood:

4.3.1 Hard Light

- Harsh light creates sharp, defined shadows and accentuates textures. It lends itself well to highlighting details and textures.
- At noon or when there is strong sunlight, the sun produces harsh light. This can be used for high-contrast and dramatic shots.

4.3.2 Soft light

- Soft light creates smooth transitions between light and shadow and minimizes harsh contrasts. It is ideal for portraits and situations where soft, flattering lighting is desired.
- Cloudy skies or the use of diffusers create soft light.

4.3.3 Uniform light

- Uniform light without visible shadows can create a calm and balanced mood. It works well for still life or product photography.
- Use multiple light sources or reflectors to achieve uniform illumination.

4.3.4 High-contrast light

- High-contrast light with strong shadows can create a dynamic and energetic mood.
- This can be created by direct sunlight or targeted lighting with strong contrast.

4.3.5 Warm and Cold Light

- The color temperature of the light can greatly influence the emotional effect of an image.
- Warm light (e.g. during the golden hour) creates a cozy and romantic mood.
- Cold light (e.g. blue skies during the blue hour) can create a cool and mysterious atmosphere.

4.3.6 Experimentation and Adaptation

By experimenting with different light qualities and moods, you can tell different visual stories and influence the emotions of your photographs. Take your time to explore the different possibilities of light and find out how you can best use it to achieve the desired effects.

4.4 Shadows and highlighting



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Shadows and highlighting are crucial elements in photography that can significantly affect the depth, dimension, and visual tension of an image. They play an important role in creating contrasts and highlighting shapes and textures. Here are some considerations for shadowing and highlighting:

4.4.1 Shadows

- Shadows create contrast and depth in the image by creating dark areas that contrast with the light.
- They can be used to emphasize shapes and contours, creating a three-dimensional effect.
- Experiment with different light angles to achieve different shadow lengths and directions.

4.4.2 Highlighting

- Highlights are the brightest spots in the image that are directly illuminated by light.
- They draw attention to specific areas and create visual appeal.
- Overexposed highlights can lead to loss of detail, so careful exposure is important.

4.4.3 Balance of shadows and highlights

- A good balance of shadows and highlights creates a pleasant visual impact.
- Avoid excessively harsh shadows or excessively bright highlights, unless they serve a specific creative purpose.

4.4.4 Control by light sources and directions

- The placement of the light source affects the position and intensity of the shadows and highlights.
- Change the angle of the light source to create different shadow patterns and accentuate shapes.

4.4.5 High-Key and Low-Key Photography

- High-key photography uses bright lighting and minimal shadows to create an airy and bright atmosphere.
- Low-key photography uses dark shadows and concentrated light to create a mysterious and dramatic mood.

4.4.6 Post-processing and dynamic range

- In the post-processing phase, shadows and highlights can be further adjusted to achieve the desired look.
- High-quality cameras with wider dynamic range can capture more detail in shadows and highlights.

The deliberate use of shadows and highlights can help increase the visual depth and aesthetic value of your photographs. Experiment with different lighting conditions and settings to get the best results.



5.Kapitel: Belichtungstechniken

5.1 Long exposure and night photography

The long exposure and night photography allow you to capture fascinating effects and moods that are not possible in daylight. Here are some important aspects of long exposure and night photography:

5.1.1 Tripod and Stability

- Due to the longer exposure times, a sturdy tripod is essential to avoid camera shake.
- If necessary, use a remote shutter release or the camera's self-timer to minimize vibration when triggering.

5.1.2 Langzeitbelichtungseffekte

- **Light trails:** Moving light sources such as cars or stars leave impressive traces on the image.
- **Water movement:** Long exposure can make flowing water appear like a silky mist.
- **Night Sky:** Long exposure allows you to capture the night sky with stars, shooting stars, and even the Milky Way.

5.1.3 Blue Hour and Nocturnal Mood

- The Blue Hour, just after sunset, offers a special atmosphere for night shots.
- Experiment with the city's different light sources to capture a unique urban vibe.

5.1.4 Noise Reduction

- Noise may occur during long exposures. Enable the camera's noise reduction or use noise reduction in the post-processing phase.

5.1.5 Manual settings

- Since the camera may have difficulty measuring the exposure correctly in dark situations, it is recommended to make manual adjustments.
- Use a low ISO setting to minimize noise and adjust the aperture and shutter speed accordingly.

5.1.6 Experimentation and Practice

- Night photography requires patience and practice to find the right settings and create creative effects.
- Experiment with different exposure times, locations, and techniques to create unique night shots.

Long exposure and night photography open up fascinating possibilities to create unique and atmospheric images. Take the time to learn and refine the techniques to create stunning nighttime shots.



5.2 HDR-Fotografie (High Dynamic Range)

HDR photography is a technique in which multiple images are taken with different exposures and then merged into a single image. This technique makes it possible to achieve an extended dynamic range and a better balance between the brightest and darkest areas of a subject. Here are some important aspects of HDR photography:

5.2.1 Aufnahmeprozess

- Take a series of images of the same subject, adjusting the exposure. This can usually be three images: one underexposed, one correctly exposed, and one overexposed.
- Use a tripod to make sure the images are stable and perfectly stacked on top of each other.

5.2.2 HDR Fusion Software

- Use image editing software that supports HDR fusion. Popular options include Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom, or specialized HDR software such as Photomatix.
- Upload the images to the software and follow the instructions to merge them into a single HDR shot.

5.2.3 Natural and Creative Application

- HDR can be used for realistic, natural results to reveal all the details in shadows and highlights.
- It can also be used for creative effects to create dramatic, surreal-looking images.

5.2.4 Avoid excessive HDR

- While HDR can be great for capturing extended dynamic range, it's important not to overdo it.
- Excessive HDR can lead to unrealistic-looking images that lose aesthetics.

5.2.5 Local contrast and micro details

- HDR can also be used to accentuate local contrast and micro-details, which can result in impressive textures and textures.

5.2.6 Practice and Fine-tuning

- HDR photography requires practice and fine-tuning to find the right balance between images and achieve the desired look.
- Experiment with different exposures and settings to get the most out of HDR technology.

HDR photography is a powerful technique for capturing an expanded tonal scale and more detail in your images. It can be used in various photographic situations to achieve both realistic and creative results.

5.3 Macro photography and close-up photography



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Macro photography allows you to capture the world of the smallest details and create fascinating images of small objects or living beings. Here are some important aspects of macro photography and close-up photography:

5.3.1 Macro Lenses and Close-Up Lens

- Use special macro lenses to take extreme close-up shots. These lenses are designed to capture sharp images at close range.
- Alternatively, you can use close-up lenses or macro extension tubes to convert your existing lenses into macro lenses.

5.3.2 Focus and depth of field

- In close-ups, the depth of field is often very shallow. Make sure you focus on the detail you want.
- Small apertures (high f-values) can increase depth of field, but beware of diffraction blur.

5.3.3 Tripod and Stabilization

- Since even the smallest movements can lead to blurring, a stable tripod is essential for macro photography.
- If necessary, use a remote shutter release or the camera's self-timer to minimize vibration when triggering.

5.3.4 Illumination and diffusion

- Close-up photography often requires special lighting to minimize shadows and reflections.
- Use a diffused light source or light tent to create soft, uniform light.

5.3.5 Hintergrundgestaltung

- A calm, blurred background helps to highlight the main subject.
- Experiment with different backgrounds to get the best visual impact.

5.3.6 Creative Perspectives

- Play with unusual angles and perspectives to create unique and intriguing images.

5.3.7 Patience and practice

- Macro photography often requires patience and practice to master the techniques and get the best results.
- Take the time to familiarize yourself with your equipment and try out different techniques.

Macro photography allows you to explore and photograph an amazing world of small details. It requires patience and care, but the rewards in the form of fascinating images are definitely worth it.



5.4 Motion blur and stop motion

Motion blur and stop motion are techniques that can capture or slow down movement in your photographs to create unique visual effects.

5.4.1 Motion blur

- Motion blur occurs when the subject or camera moves during exposure.
- You can deliberately use motion blur to show movement and dynamism in your images.
- Use a slow shutter speed and keep the camera steady while shooting to accentuate movement.
- Alternatively, you can move the camera along with the movement of the subject for an interesting blurry effect.

5.4.2 Stop-Motion

- Stop motion is a technique in which a series of frames is taken to create the illusion of movement as they are played one after the other.
- This technique is often used in animation, but can also be used in photography.
- Place the subject slightly altered for each shot to show the movement gradually.
- In the post-processing phase, the individual images can be combined into an animated GIF or video.

5.4.3 Long Exposure for Motion

- Use a slow shutter speed to capture motion over a longer period of time.
- This can be used to show the flow of water, the movement of clouds, or other slow movements.

5.4.4 Experimentation and creativity

- Motion blur and stop motion open up creative possibilities for capturing movement and time in your images.
- Experiment with different techniques to create unique visual effects.

5.4.5 Practice and patience

- Both techniques require practice and patience to achieve the desired results.
- Take the time to experiment with different settings and approaches.

Motion blur and stop-motion are techniques that can capture movement and time in your images in fascinating ways. Use them to tell dynamic and creative visual stories.



Chapter 6: Portrait Photography

6.1 Poses and expression

The way your subjects pose and present their expressions can have a significant impact on the impact of your photographs. Here are some important aspects of poses and expression:

6.1.1 Naturalness

- Make sure your subjects feel natural and relaxed in the chosen pose. Obsessive poses can seem unnatural.
- Encourage your model to feel comfortable and express their personality.

6.1.2 Direction of view

- The direction of view can greatly influence the mood of an image.
- Direct eye contact can create intimacy and connection, while looking away from the camera can create mystery.

6.1.3 Posture and lines

- Posture can express energy, self-confidence and dynamism.
- Experiment with different postures to convey the message you want.

6.1.4 Expression and emotions

- The facial expression and body language can convey strong emotions and stories.
- Encourage your model to express different emotions to get diverse shots.

6.1.5 Posing Tips

- Avoid stiff poses. Use movement and dynamism to convey liveliness.
- Use props or environments to make poses more natural.
- Avoid overly trendy poses that could quickly look outdated.
- Take the time to experiment with different poses and get the best results.

6.1.6 Communication and guidance

- As a photographer, it's important to give clear instructions and guide your model.
- Encourage your model to be confident and expressive.

6.1.7 Portrait and posing shoots

- For portrait and posing shoots, communication between photographer and model is particularly important.



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- Create a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere so that the model feels comfortable and can express its natural self.

Posing and expression are crucial elements in portrait and people photography. The ability to get your model into the right pose and capture real emotion can be the difference between an average shot and an impressive one.

6.2 Lighting and portrait lighting

The way you use light in portrait photography can greatly affect the mood, aesthetics, and visual impact of an image. Here are some important aspects of lighting and portrait lighting:

6.2.1 Natural light

- Take advantage of natural light to create soft, flattering lighting for portraits.
- Shoot in the golden hour or on a cloudy day for diffused, soft light.

6.2.2 Artificial Lighting

- Studio flashes or continuous light sources can provide controlled and uniform lighting for portraits.
- Use light shapers such as softboxes or shades to create soft and diffused light.

6.2.3 Hauptlichtquelle

- The main light is the dominant light source that illuminates the face of the model.
- Position the main light in front, side or behind the model, depending on the desired effect.

6.2.4 Aufhelllicht (Fülllicht)

- A fill light is used to reduce shadows and create softer contrasts.
- Use reflectors or a weaker light source on the opposite side of the main light.

6.2.5 Backlight

- Backlight separates the model from the background and creates contour lights.
- This can create an atmospheric atmosphere and make the model stand out.

6.2.6 Split Lighting, Loop Lighting und Rembrandt Lighting

- Split lighting splits the model's face in half, with one side illuminated and the other in shadow.
- Loop lighting creates a small shadow in the form of a bow on one half of the cheek.
- Rembrandt Lighting creates a distinctive triangular light under one eye.

6.2.7 Shadowing and control



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- Use shadows to highlight shapes, contours, and dimensions.
- Place the light so that it creates shadows to your liking.

6.2.8 Experimentation and Adaptation

- Each light source and position produces different effects. Experiment with different setups to achieve the look you want.

Lighting is a central aspect of portrait photography, influencing your ability to capture your model's personality and emotional depth. By understanding the different light sources and techniques, you can take your portrait shots to the next level.

6.3 Image editing for portraits

Photo editing is an important step in refining portrait shots and getting the most out of your images. Here are some important aspects of portrait photo editing:

6.3.1 Color Correction and White Balance

- Match the colors to create the look and mood you want.
- Correct the white balance to achieve natural skin tones and a balanced color palette.

6.3.2 Exposure and contrast

- Adjust the exposure to brighten dark areas and darken overexposed areas.
- Increase or decrease contrast to enhance depth and visual impact.

6.3.3 Skin Retouching and Smoothing

- Use skin retouching tools to remove blemishes, blemishes, or wrinkles.
- However, be careful to maintain the texture of the skin to maintain a natural look.

6.3.4 Sharpening and Noise Reduction

- Use the Sharpen tool to accentuate the details on your face and eyes.
- If necessary, apply noise reduction to minimize distracting image noise.

6.3.5 Whitening eyes and teeth

- Accentuate the eyes by brightening them and enhancing the shine.
- If necessary, subtly whiten the teeth to emphasize a radiant smile.

6.3.6 Vignetting and background editing

- Add a slight vignetting to bring the focus to the model.
- Edit the background to remove or mitigate distractions.



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6.3.7 Filters and Effects

- Use filters and effects to create the style you want, be it vintage, black and white, or artistic alienation.

6.3.8 Preserving naturalness

- While extensive editing is possible, it is important to preserve the naturalness of the model.
- Do not exaggerate to avoid an unnatural or artificial look.

6.3.9 Before-and-after comparison

- Always compare your edited images with the originals to make sure you've achieved the desired result.

Photo editing is a creative process that helps increase the quality and aesthetic value of your portrait shots. Use the tools and techniques to realize your artistic vision and present your portraits at their best.



Chapter 7: Landscape and Nature Photography

7.1 Choice of point of view and composition of the image

Choosing the point of view and the right composition are crucial to creating a strong visual impact in your photos. Here are some important aspects when choosing the point of view and composition of the image:

7.1.1 Perspective and point of view

- Experiment with different perspectives and angles to find unique and interesting views of your subject.
- Shoot from low or high positions to influence the viewer's perception.

7.1.2 Rule of thirds

- Divide the image into nine equal segments by drawing two horizontal and two vertical lines.
- Place key elements along these lines or intersections to create a balanced and appealing image.

7.1.3 Centralization and Symmetry

- While the rule of thirds is often recommended, centralization and symmetry can also create a powerful effect.
- Symmetry is the process of placing elements evenly on both sides of the image.

7.1.4 Diagonal lines and movement

- Diagonal lines create dynamism and movement in the image.
- Use diagonal lines to draw the viewer's gaze through the image.

7.1.5 Framing and framing

- Use natural or artificial elements in the foreground to frame the main subject.
- Frames draw attention to the subject and add depth.

7.1.6 White space (negative space)

- Deliberately leave blank areas in the image to emphasize the main subject.
- White space can create a calm and minimalist mood.

7.1.7 Golden ratio

- Similar to the rule of thirds, the golden ratio divides the image into harmonious proportions.
- Positioning main elements along these proportions can result in aesthetically pleasing compositions.

7.1.8 Deliberate placement of elements



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- Pay attention to where you place your main subject and other important elements in the image.
- Avoid distractions or unnecessary details that could interfere with the main message of the image.

7.1.9 Experimentation and creativity

- The choice of point of view and composition of the image are creative decisions. Experiment to find your own style.

Choice of point of view and composition are key aspects of photography that affect your ability to create visually appealing and expressive images. Take time to try out different techniques and develop your composition skills.

7.2 Filter insert for landscape photography

Filters are essential tools in landscape photography to control lighting conditions and enhance the visual impact of your shots. Here are some important filters that are commonly used in landscape photography:

7.2.1 Polarizing filter

- The polarizing filter reduces reflections from non-metallic surfaces such as water or glass.
- It also enhances the contrast and saturation of colors, resulting in more vivid landscape shots.

7.2.2 Neutraldichtefilter (ND-Filter)

- ND filters reduce the amount of incoming light, which allows you to use longer exposure times.
- They are useful for creating motion blur in flowing water or clouds.

7.2.3 Verlaufsfilter

- Graduated filters are used to compensate for the difference in brightness between the sky and the landscape.
- They darken the sky and allow for a more balanced exposure of the entire image.

7.2.4 Farbverlaufsfilter

- These filters are similar to gradient filters, but add subtle color changes.
- They can be used to overlay the sky or other areas of the image with warm or cool shades.

7.2.5 UV-Filter

- Although they mainly serve as protective filters for the lens, UV filters can also help reduce blue casts in shots.

7.2.6 Infrarotfilter



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- Infrared filters block visible light and allow only infrared rays to pass through.
- They create a unique effect with a special color spectrum and can create fascinating landscape shots.

7.2.7 Filter holders and accessories

- Filter holders make it possible to use several filters at the same time.
- Be sure to choose the right size filters for your lens.

7.2.8 Filter combinations and experiments

- Experiment with different filter combinations to achieve different effects.
- Make sure that the filters achieve the desired effect without overemphasizing the image.

Using filters greatly expands your creative control over landscape photography. Understand the features and applications of different types of filters to get the best possible results.

7.3 Nature Photography: Flora and Fauna

Nature photography allows you to capture the beauty of the animal and plant world and create visually appealing images. Here are some important aspects of nature photography:

7.3.1 Patience and observation

- Nature photography requires patience and the ability to behave calmly so as not to scare away wild animals.
- Observe the behavior of animals to capture the right moment for your shot.

7.3.2 Telephoto lens

- A telephoto lens allows you to photograph animals from a distance without disturbing them.
- A long focal length also allows you to compress backgrounds to highlight the main subject.

7.3.3 Macro lens for plant life

- A macro lens is ideal for capturing details of plants, flowers and insects in all their glory.
- Be sure to throw enough light on the subject, as macro photography often requires a narrow aperture.

7.3.4 Natural Light and Golden Hour

- Take advantage of the soft and warm light during the Golden Hour to create a warm and atmospheric atmosphere.
- Avoid harsh shadows caused by direct sunlight, as they can cause you to lose detail.

7.3.5 Hintergrundgestaltung



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- Pay attention to the background to minimize distractions and highlight the main subject.
- A blurred background draws attention to the animal or plant.

7.3.6 Eye contact and expression

- Animals often have expressive faces. Try to make eye contact to create emotional connection.

7.3.7 Recording behavior

- Capture the behavior of animals in action, whether it's flying, eating, or other activities.
- These moments tell stories and bring your images to life.

7.3.8 Respect for nature

- Be respectful of the environment and animals. Avoid disturbances and harmful behavior.

7.3.9 Image Editing

- Editing can help accentuate details and boost the mood.
- Be careful to maintain your faithfulness to nature and not to overdo it.

Nature photography requires a combination of technical skill, patience and a love of nature. Take your time exploring the surroundings and enjoy the process of capturing the amazing beauty of the flora and fauna.

Chapter 8: Architecture and Urban Photography

8.1 Perspective and lines

The way you use perspective and lines in your photos can significantly affect the visual impact and message of your images. Here are some important aspects of perspective and lineage:

8.1.1 Frontal perspective

- A frontal perspective shows the subject directly from the front.
- This perspective can create intimacy and closeness, drawing attention to facial expressions and details.

8.1.2 Frog and bird's eye view

- The frog's eye view involves shooting from the bottom up, while the bird's eye view is the shooting from top to bottom.
- These perspectives can create drama and highlight the importance of the subject.

8.1.3 Diagonal lines



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- Diagonal lines create dynamism and movement in an image.
- They can be used to direct the viewer's gaze through the image or to create a special mood.

8.1.4 Vanishing points and convergence

- Vanishing points are points on the horizon towards which parallel lines seem to converge.
- This technique can be used to create depth and perspective, especially in urban scenes.

8.1.5 Horizontal lines

- Horizontal lines can bring calmness and stability to an image.
- They can be used to depict landscapes or serene scenes.

8.1.6 Vertical Lines

- Vertical lines create a sense of height and strength.
- They are well suited for architectural shots or portraits.

8.1.7 Lines as guiding elements

- Lines can be used to direct the viewer's gaze through the image and draw attention to the main subject.
- You can subtly control the gaze and enhance the composition of the image.

8.1.8 Experimentation and creativity

- Experiment with different perspectives and linemaking techniques to create unique visual effects.
- Pay attention to how the different lines and perspectives affect the mood and meaning of an image.

Deliberate use of perspective and lines can enhance your photos in a variety of ways. These techniques will help you control the visual dynamics and amplify the message of your images.

8.2 Dealing with different lighting conditions

The ability to adapt to different lighting conditions is crucial to creating high-quality photos in different situations. Here are some tips for dealing with different lighting conditions:

8.2.1 Golden Hour and Blue Hour

- The Golden Hour (just after sunrise and before sunset) offers soft, warm light with soft shadows.
- The Blue Hour (just before sunrise and after sunset) creates cool, diffused light and an atmospheric atmosphere.

8.2.2 Harsh Sunlight



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- In bright daylight, harsh shadows and strong contrasts are created.
- Use reflections or shaded areas to soften the light.

8.2.3 Cloudy skies

- Cloudy skies produce diffused, uniform light that is perfect for portraits and macro photography.
- Take the opportunity to work without harsh shadows.

8.2.4 Backlight

- Backlighting can lead to interesting effects, such as silhouettes or backlighting.
- Be sure to adjust the exposure accordingly to preserve details in the foreground.

8.2.5 Artificial light

- Use white balance to correct the color temperature of artificial light.
- Experiment with white balance settings to achieve various creative effects.

8.2.6 Mischlichtverhältnisse

- Mixed light may occur indoors with windows or outdoors under roof overhangs.
- Make sure that the light sources are in a balanced relationship with each other.

8.2.7 Long exposure in the dark

- Use a tripod and, if necessary, a remote shutter release to avoid camera shake.
- Experiment with different exposure times to achieve the desired effect.

8.2.8 Benefits of reflectors and diffusers

- Reflectors can be used to cast light into shadow areas and balance exposure.
- Diffusers can be used to convert harsh light into soft, diffused light.

Dealing with different lighting conditions requires adaptability and creativity. Each lighting situation offers unique opportunities to create fascinating photos. Pay attention to how the light affects your subjects and adjust your settings accordingly for the best possible results.

8.3 Architectural Photography: Buildings and Details

Architectural photography allows you to capture the beauty, structure, and details of buildings. Here are some important aspects of architectural photography:

8.3.1 Choice of point of view

- Experiment with different viewpoints to find the best view of the building.
- Consider the lines and shapes of the building, as well as the surroundings.



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8.3.2 Focusing on details

- Emphasize special architectural details, such as ornaments, windows or doors.
- Macro lenses can be used to capture tiny details.

8.3.3 Lines and symmetry

- Pay attention to lines and symmetry to emphasize the structure of the building.
- Use the golden ratio or the rule of thirds to achieve a balanced composition.

8.3.4 Weitwinkelobjektive

- Wide-angle lenses are useful for capturing entire buildings or building complexes in one shot.
- Pay attention to distortions at the edges of the image and, if necessary, correct them in post-processing.

8.3.5 Backlight and shadows

- Play with backlit to create silhouettes or interesting lighting effects.
- Use shadows to highlight the structure and depth of the building.

8.3.6 Blue Hour and Artificial Light

- The Blue Hour offers an atmospheric atmosphere for nocturnal architectural shots.
- Artificial light can be used to create a warm and inviting mood.

8.3.7 Post-processing of architectural images

- Be sure to correct converging lines and distortions to ensure a realistic appearance.
- Accentuate detail and texture with exposure compensation and sharpening.

8.3.8 Experimentation and creativity

- Architectural photography allows you to play with shapes, lines and light. Experiment to achieve unique effects.

Architectural photography requires careful composition and the ability to capture the distinctive features of a building. Understand the basic techniques and practice to improve your skills in this particular photographic discipline.



Chapter 9: Image Editing

9.1 Basics of image processing (brightness, contrast, color)

Image editing is an essential step in refining your photos and achieving the desired visual result. Here are the basics of image editing in terms of brightness, contrast, and color:

9.1.1 Brightness and Exposure

- Adjust the brightness to brighten dark areas and darken overexposed areas.
- Make sure important details don't get lost in the shadows or highlights.

9.1.2 Contrast

- Increase or decrease contrast to enhance or soften the shadows and highs in an image.
- Make sure that the contrast does not make the image look unnatural.

9.1.3 Color Correction and White Balance

- Adjust the color balance to achieve natural colors. For example, correct yellow tint indoors.
- The white balance helps to adjust the color temperature of the image to the real light.

9.1.4 Saturation

- Control the saturation to adjust the intensity of the colors.
- Make sure that the colors do not look exaggerated.

9.1.5 Tonwertkorrekturen

- Adjust tonal levels to optimize contrast and balance between highlights, midtones, and shadows.
- Prevent important details from being lost in overexposed or underexposed areas.

9.1.6 Gradient Filters and Masks

- Use gradient filters or masks to specifically adjust specific areas in the image.
- This allows for precise editing of brightness, contrast, and color.

9.1.7 Non-Destructive Editing

- Use layers and adjustment layers to make changes without altering the original image.
- This allows you to adjust or undo edits later.

9.1.8 Before-and-after comparison

- Always compare the edited image with the original to make sure you've achieved the changes you want.



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Photo editing is a creative process that can take your photos to the next level. Experiment with different settings to achieve the look you want, making sure to preserve the natural vibe of the image.

9.2 Raw development and image retouching

Raw development and image retouching are advanced steps in image editing that allow you to unleash the full potential of your photos. Here are the basics of raw development and image retouching:

9.2.1 Raw Development:

- Raw files contain more image information than JPEGs and offer more scope for adjustments.
- Use professional image editing software to open and edit raw files.
- Correct white balance, exposure, contrast, hue, and saturation for the best results.
- Adjust the tonal levels to optimize shadows and highlights.

9.2.2 Bildretusche:

- Retouching involves removing imperfections, dust, scratches, or other distracting elements in the image.
- Use tools such as the Clone Stamp, Healing Brush, or Area Healing Brush to do retouching.
- Proceed carefully to achieve natural results and not leave obvious traces of processing.

9.2.3 Hautretusche:

- For portraits, skin retouching can be used to remove blemishes, blemishes, or wrinkles.
- Be sure to preserve the texture of the skin and not overdo it to maintain a natural look.

9.2.4 Dodge and Burn:

- The Dodge technique lightens certain areas, while the burn technique darkens dark areas.
- This can help accentuate the texture and depth in the image.

9.2.5 Use of layers and masks:

- Use layers to make different adjustments separately and increase flexibility in editing.
- Masks allow you to selectively adjust areas in the image without affecting the entire image.

9.2.6 Vignetting and graining:

- Vignetting can be used to shift focus to the main subject by darkening the corners of the image.
- Adding grain can create a vintage look or minimize distracting image noise.

9.2.7 Creative Effects:

- Experiment with different filters, effects, and styles to create a unique atmosphere.
- Make sure that the creative effects match the mood of the image.



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Raw development and image retouching open up a world of creative possibilities. Be sure to maintain the balance between enhancement and naturalness to create photos that are both aesthetically pleasing and authentic.

9.3 Use of filters and effects

The use of filters and effects in image editing can give your photos a special atmosphere and add creative touches. Here are some tips for using filters and effects:

9.3.1 Selection of filters:

- Choose filters based on the mood and message you want to convey in your image.
- Avoid excessive use of filters so as not to interfere with the natural appearance of the photo.

9.3.2 Black and white conversion:

- The black and white conversion can bring out details and contrasts.
- Experiment with different conversion methods to achieve the look you want.

9.3.3 Vintage Effects:

- Vintage filters can give your photo an old, nostalgic look.
- Adjust the intensity of the effect for a subtle change or a more dramatic effect.

9.3.4 Colored accents:

- Emphasize certain colors in the image while converting the rest of the image to black and white.
- This draws attention to the colored element and creates a strong visual contrast.

9.3.5 Texture Overlay:

- Add textures such as wood, paper or rust over the image to create an interesting surface texture.
- Make sure that the texture harmonizes with the subject and does not overwhelm the image.

9.3.6 Light leaks and lens flares:

- These effects can create a warm and nostalgic mood.
- Use them sparingly and purposefully to focus on specific areas of the image.

9.3.7 Miniature Effect (Tilt-Shift):

- The miniature effect makes your photo look like a miniature world.
- This can produce interesting results, especially in city scenes or landscape shots.

9.3.8 Creative Blur Effect:



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- Experiment with blur effects to create a dreamy or abstract mood.
- Adjust the intensity and area of blur accordingly.

9.3.9 Before-and-after comparison:

- Always compare the edited image with the original to make sure that the effect achieves the desired result.

The use of filters and effects opens up a world of creativity. Experiment with different styles and techniques to add a personal touch to your images, but be careful not to overly alter the image or distract from the main subject.

9.4 Special techniques (HDR, Panorama)

Special techniques such as HDR (High Dynamic Range) and panorama expand your photographic possibilities and allow you to capture impressive and expansive scenes. Here are some tips on how to use these techniques:

9.4.1 HDR (High Dynamic Range):

- HDR allows you to capture and combine multiple exposures of the same subject to capture a wider dynamic range.
- Shoot the same subject with different exposures (normal, underexposed, overexposed).
- Use image editing software to merge the shots into a single HDR shot.
- Carefully adjust the settings to achieve natural results without making the image look too surreal.

9.4.2 Panorama:

- Panoramas capture a wide scene or landscape that can't be captured with a single shot.
- Use a tripod to ensure that the camera remains stable while shooting.
- Photograph overlaps of each image for seamless montage.
- Use image editing software to stitch together the panoramic shots and adjust the edges.

9.4.3 Fischaugenobjektiv:

- A fisheye lens creates extreme distortion and can create creative and surreal effects.
- Experiment with different angles and settings to achieve the desired effect.

9.4.4 Miniature Effect:

- The miniature effect (tilt-shift effect) can be created in post-production to make a scene look like a model.
- Focus on the main subject and apply blur to the edge of the image.

9.4.5 Langzeitbelichtung:



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- Long exposures create motion effects, such as running water or blurry clouds.
- Use a tripod to minimize camera shake and adjust the exposure time accordingly.

9.4.6 Sternspuren:

- Star trails are caused by a longer exposure time during the night.
- Use a tripod and a low ISO setting to minimize noise.
- Experiment with different exposure times and locations to achieve different effects.

Special techniques can add an extra dimension to your photos and expand your creative abilities. Experiment with different settings and approaches to create unique and stunning shots.



Chapter 10: Image Management and Presentation

10.1 Organization of image collections

Effectively organizing your image collections is crucial to keep track of your photos and access them quickly. Here are some tips for organizing your photos:

10.1.1 Folder Structure:

- Create a well-structured folder structure on your computer or photo editing software.
- Divide by years, months, events, or themes, depending on what makes the most sense for you.

10.1.2 Dateibenennung:

- Use consistent and descriptive file naming to make it easier to identify your photos.
- Combine date, event, and short description for a clear identifier.

10.1.3 Metadata and keywords:

- Add metadata to your photos, such as date, location, and photographer.
- Use keywords and tags to tag photos for later searches.

10.1.4 Evaluation and selection:

- Use stars or ratings to flag your best photos.
- Narrow down your selection to the best shots to optimize storage space and keep track of everything.

10.1.5 Backup and Archiving:

- Make regular backups of your photo collection to prevent data loss.
- Think about moving older photos to external hard drives or cloud storage to free up space.

10.1.6 Use of Photo Management Software:

- Photo management software such as Adobe Lightroom or Capture One offer advanced organization and search functions.
- These tools allow you to add metadata, apply keywords, and easily sort your photos.

10.1.7 Geotagging:

- If your camera is GPS-enabled, you can geotag photos to capture the location.
- This can be especially useful if you have a lot of travel or landscape shots.

10.1.8 Regular maintenance:



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- Make time to clean up your photo collection on a regular basis.
- Delete duplicates, edit outdated photos, and update your metadata.

Not only does a well-organized collection of images make it easier to find photos, but it can also help better document your photographic journey and highlight your best work.

10.2 Selection and post-processing of the best images

Selecting and post-processing the best images is a critical step in refining your photographic results and achieving professional results. Here are some steps to selecting and post-processing your best shots:

10.2.1 Bildauswahl:

- Take the time to carefully consider and evaluate your recordings.
- Use stars, ratings, or color codes to indicate your favorites.
- Reduce the number of selected images to those that best reflect your vision and message.

10.2.2 Before-and-after comparison:

- Compare the original photo with the edited version to ensure that the editing achieves the desired result.
- Make sure that the editing improves the image without making it look unnatural.

10.2.3 Processing steps:

- Start with global adjustments such as brightness, contrast, and color balance.
- Then make more specific adjustments, such as removing impurities, emphasizing details, or adding effects.

10.2.4 Non-destructive editing:

- Use layers and adjustment layers to make changes without altering the original image.
- This allows you to adjust or undo customizations later.

10.2.5 Image Style and Consistency:

- Be sure to maintain a consistent image style when editing a series of photos.
- This helps to present your work as a cohesive series.

10.2.6 Export and storage:

- Choose the right file format and resolution for the intended use.
- Save a high-resolution version for print and an optimized version for use on the web.

10.2.7 Self-criticism and feedback:



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- Take the time to take a critical look at your edited photos.
- Ask for feedback from friends, colleagues, or other photographers to get an objective assessment.

Selecting and post-processing the best images takes practice and patience. It is important to develop and continuously improve your skills over time. Be sure to make your creative choices consciously and preserve the natural appeal of your photos.

10.3 Printing and presentation (exhibitions, online galleries)

Once you've edited your photos, you may want to print or showcase them, whether in exhibitions or online galleries. Here are some steps to prepare for printing and presenting your photos:

10.3.1 Druckvorbereitung:

- Choose the right printing process, be it inkjet, laser or fine art printing.
- Make sure you have proper color calibration to ensure that the printed colors match those on the screen.
- Use high-quality photo paper or canvas for printing to ensure the best quality.

10.3.2 Setting and Presentation:

- Choose a suitable frame or other presentation method that matches the style of your photos.
- Make sure that the frame does not overwhelm the image, but emphasizes it appropriately.

10.3.3 Online presentation:

- Create a website or use online gallery platforms to showcase your photos digitally.
- Organize your photos into themed albums or series for an engaging presentation.

10.3.4 Social Media and Portfolio:

- Use social media to get your photos in front of a wider audience.
- Create a professional portfolio to show your best work to potential clients or prospects.

10.3.5 Exhibitions:

- Apply for photography exhibitions in galleries, art centers, or other suitable venues.
- Think about presenting your photos in a series or cohesive concept.

10.3.6 Labeling and description:

- Add titles, descriptions, and maybe even backstories to your photos.
- This can help the viewer better understand your intention and vision.

10.3.7 Quality Assurance:



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- Carefully check the quality of printed photos to ensure that they reach the desired standard.
- Make sure that the online presentation looks and works well on different devices.

Showcasing your photos is a way to show your work to the world and share your creative skills. Make sure that the presentation supports your vision and intention and adequately reflects the quality of your photos.



Chapter 11: Photography in Special Situations

11.1 Wedding Photography

Wedding photography is a demanding and at the same time extremely rewarding photographic discipline. Here are some essential aspects of wedding photography to keep in mind:

11.1.1 Preparation and planning:

- Meet with the newlyweds to discuss their expectations, desires, and preferences.
- Make a list of the key moments you want to capture during the wedding, such as the dressing, ceremony, kiss, first dance, etc.

11.1.2 Equipment:

- Use a camera with high resolution and good low-light performance.
- Have a selection of lenses with you, from wide-angle to telephoto, to cover different perspectives.

11.1.3 Photographing the ceremony:

- Be sure to be unobtrusive during the ceremony so as not to disturb the mood.
- Photograph a variety of angles to capture the reactions and emotions of the bride, groom, and guests.

11.1.4 Group and family recordings:

- Organize group shots of family and friends in advance.
- Use a clear and friendly way to direct the groups and make sure that all the necessary recordings are made.

11.1.5 Creativity and details:

- Capture creative shots of details such as rings, flower arrangements, table decorations, etc.
- Pay attention to emotional moments between the newlyweds and their guests to paint a comprehensive picture of the day.

11.1.6 Image editing:

- Edit the photos carefully to optimize colors, contrast, and exposure.
- Create a mix of color and black and white shots for different moods.

11.1.7 Fast Delivery:

- Strive to deliver the edited photos to the newlyweds as soon as possible to satisfy their anticipation.



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- Create a selection of high-quality images to share with family and friends.

11.1.8 Contracts and communication:

- Make sure you have clear contracts that spell out the services, prices, and delivery times.
- Keep open communication with the newlyweds to make sure you understand and fulfill their wishes.

Wedding photography requires not only photographic skills, but also excellent communication skills and the ability to work in a rapidly changing environment. It is important to be respectful and sensitive to the emotions and needs of the newlyweds, while using your creative skills to capture this special day.

11.2 Event and Sports Photography

Event and sports photography requires the ability to capture dynamic moments and capture the atmosphere of an event. Here are some important aspects of these types of photography:

11.2.1 Eventfotografie:

- Plan ahead and research the event to identify the most important moments and people.
- Capture a mix of artistic footage, mood images, and documentary photos to tell the story of the event.
- Be discreet and unobtrusive so as not to disturb the natural atmosphere of the event.

11.2.2 Sports Photography:

- Understand the rules and procedures of the sport you are photographing in order to anticipate the decisive moments.
- Use a quick shutter and continuous autofocus to capture fast movements.
- Use burst mode to capture a series of images and not miss the perfect moment.

11.2.3 Exposure and Motion:

- Adjust exposure to freeze motion or create targeted motion blur.
- Experiment with different shutter speeds to achieve the desired effect.

11.2.4 Equipment:

- Use telephoto lenses to capture subjects from a distance and get close to the action.
- Look for fast memory cards to allow continuous shooting without interruptions.

11.2.5 Emotions and reactions:

- Capture not only the actions, but also the emotions of the people, be it the joy of a winner or the disappointment of a loser.
- Be prepared to react to unexpected moments to get authentic shots.



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11.2.6 Image composition:

- Pay attention to the background and cleverly frame the main subject to create visual interest.
- Keep an eye out for lines and shapes that can enhance the dynamics of the sport or event.

11.2.7 Safety and ethics:

- Respect privacy and the rules of the event or sport.
- Be mindful of your own safety and that of the other participants as you try to get the best shots.

Event and sports photography requires speed, skill and the ability to spot the right moment. It is important to capture the essence of what is happening and at the same time use creative composition techniques to create impressive and meaningful photos.

11.3 Travel Photography and Documentation

Travel photography and documentation allow you to capture the beauty and diversity of the world and tell stories of different places and cultures. Here are some key aspects of travel photography and documentation:

11.3.1 Research and planning:

- Research your destination in advance to identify the best photo opportunities.
- Make a list of landmarks, places, and cultural events that you want to capture.

11.3.2 Capturing the Culture:

- Capture not only landscapes, but also people, everyday life, local markets and traditions.
- Be sure to capture the cultural diversity and uniqueness of the destination.

11.3.3 Landscape Photography:

- Use the right light, be it the golden hour or the soft light in the morning.
- Use different angles and compositional techniques to create stunning landscape shots.

11.3.4 Straßenfotografie:

- Be unobtrusive and respect people's privacy while capturing street scenes.
- Capture spontaneous moments and faces to convey the energy and character of the place.

11.3.5 Local gastronomy:

- Snap photos of culinary delights and local dishes to capture the culinary culture.
- Experiment with different angles to emphasize the texture and presentation of the food.

11.3.6 Photo documentation:



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- Tell a story through your photos, whether it's a travel chronicle or a thematic series.
- Consider the frame order and transitions to create a coherent narrative.

11.3.7 Emotions and moments:

- Capture both the external beauties and the inner emotions, be it joy, melancholy, or enthusiasm.
- Be prepared to react quickly to capture fleeting moments.

11.3.8 Post-processing and selection:

- Edit your photos to optimize colors, contrast, and exposure.
- Carefully select the best photos to best tell the story of your trip.

Travel photography and documentation require flexibility, patience, and the ability to adapt to different environments. It's about taking pictures not only of places, but also of people and stories to capture the essence of the destination and share it with others.

11.4 Nude Photography and Erotic Photography

Nude photography and erotic photography are art forms that capture the human body in an aesthetic and sensual way. Here are some information and tips on these specific areas of photography:

11.4.1 Respect and ethics:

- Respect the privacy and desire of the people involved before taking such photos. Clear communication and consent are crucial.
- Make sure you behave ethically and maintain the integrity of your work.

11.4.2 Light and shadow:

- Use light to accentuate the shapes and curves of the body. Natural light or soft studio lights can create sensual atmospheres.
- Shadows can help hide certain parts of the body or accentuate subtle contours.

11.4.3 Image composition:

- The composition of the image should be aesthetically pleasing and appealing. Notice lines, shapes, and the overall structure of the image.
- Experiment with different perspectives and angles to achieve interesting and creative results.

11.4.4 Sensuality and expression:

- Try to capture the sensual side of the model in a natural and artistic way. The expression and emotions play an important role.
- Use props or elements that reinforce the mood and context of the image.



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11.4.5 Black & White Photography:

- Black and white nude photography can have a timeless and artful quality. It emphasizes shapes, contrasts and emotions.
- Play with different shades of gray to add depth and texture.

11.4.6 Image editing:

- Image editing can help amplify mood and artistic expression.
- However, be careful not to process too much to preserve the naturalness of the body.

11.4.7 Sensitivity and limitations:

- Be sure to respect the sensitivities of the people involved and respect their personal boundaries.
- Clear communication about your intentions and the type of photos you want to create is crucial.

Nude and erotic photography requires sensitivity, empathy and a deep understanding of the model and its needs. It is important to treat the art form with respect and a sense of responsibility. If you are interested in this, you should do your research thoroughly and understand the ethical and professional standards in this industry.

12.1 Smartphone Photography

Smartphone photography has become an extremely popular and powerful way of taking pictures. Here are some tips to get the most out of your smartphone photography:

12.1.1 Using the camera app:

- Learn about the features of your camera app, including settings for exposure, focus, HDR, and panorama.
- Experiment with different modes to see how they affect your photos.

12.1.2 Image composition:

- Pay attention to basic composition rules such as the rule of thirds, lines, and symmetry.
- Use the touchscreen to adjust the focus and exposure to specific areas of the image.

12.1.3 Pay attention to light:

- Take advantage of natural light to create atmospheric photos. The golden hour is also advantageous in smartphone photography.
- Make sure that the light source is not directly behind the subject to avoid overexposure.

12.1.4 Personal Style:



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- Develop your own photographic style, whether it's through the choice of subjects, filters or image editing.
- Experiment with different perspectives and angles to create unique shots.

12.1.5 Image editing:

- Use photo editing apps to adjust colors, contrast, and exposure.
- However, be careful not to edit too much to preserve the natural beauty of the photo.

12.1.6 Additional Lenses and Accessories:

- Consider using external lenses or attachments to extend the functionality of your smartphone camera.
- A sturdy tripod can be useful for minimizing blur and camera shake.

12.1.7 Panorama and HDR Mode:

- Use panorama mode to create stunning landscape shots.
- HDR mode can be helpful in high-contrast situations to capture details in light and dark areas.

12.1.8 Storage Capacity and Backup:

- Make sure you have enough space on your smartphone to be able to take a lot of photos.
- Back up your photos regularly to avoid data loss.

Smartphone photography offers a convenient and accessible way to capture moments and express your creative abilities. With a little practice and attention to detail, you can create stunning photos with your smartphone.

12.2 Drohnenfotografie

Drone photography makes it possible to capture unique perspectives and breathtaking aerial shots. Here are some important aspects of drone photography:

12.2.1 Drohnenauswahl:

- Choose a drone that suits your needs, whether it's for professional shooting or hobby photography.
- Pay attention to the flight time, camera quality and stability of the drone.

12.2.2 Drone Regulations and Permits:

- Find out about local laws and regulations regarding drone flights and photography.
- If necessary, apply for the necessary permits or licenses.

12.2.3 Flugvorbereitung:



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- Before flying, check the condition of the drone, battery level, and GPS connection.
- Choose a suitable place for take-off and landing, safe and far enough away from obstacles.

12.2.4 Kamerasteuerung:

- Use the gimbal to keep the camera stable and minimize camera shake.
- Experiment with different angles and camera positions that are only possible from the air.

12.2.5 Flight Modes and Movements:

- Practice basic flight maneuvers, such as climbing, descending, turning, and pivoting, to gain control of the drone.
- Use automatic flight modes such as Follow-Me or Waypoints to create complex shots.

12.2.6 Exposure and White Balance:

- Adjust the exposure and white balance to match the lighting conditions to capture realistic colors and details.
- Make sure that the sun does not shine directly into the camera to avoid overexposure.

12.2.7 Safety and Respect:

- Do not fly near crowds, airports, nature reserves, or other sensitive places.
- Be careful not to disturb birds and other animals.

12.2.8 Image editing:

- Edit your drone photos like other photos to optimize colors, contrast, and exposure.
- If necessary, remove propeller shadows or other distracting elements.

Drone photography opens up fascinating opportunities to explore the world from a bird's eye view and create unique shots. However, it is important to follow the rules and safety guidelines and be respectful of the environment and people.

12.3 360-degree photography and virtual reality

360-degree photography makes it possible to create interactive images that immerse the viewer in an immersive environment. Here are some key aspects of 360-degree photography and its application in virtual reality:

12.3.1 Equipment:

- Use a dedicated 360-degree camera or 360-degree shooting accessory to capture all-round views.
- Make sure the camera is stably positioned to minimize camera shake.

12.3.2 Recording technique:



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- Be sure to shoot in all directions to create a full 360-degree view.
- Make sure there are no moving objects moving between shots to facilitate seamless stitching.

12.3.3 Image editing:

- Use specialized software to merge and edit your 360-degree images.
- Edit colors, contrast, and exposure to create a consistent and engaging view.

12.3.4 Application in Virtual Reality:

- Use virtual reality content platforms to showcase your 360-degree photos in immersive environments.
- Viewers can rotate the view in all directions, allowing them to explore their surroundings.

12.3.5 Creative Use:

- Experiment with different locations and perspectives to create captivating and interesting 360-degree shots.
- Think about the narrative and context you want to convey through your 360-degree photos.

12.3.6 Virtual Tours:

- Create virtual tours of buildings, landmarks, or landscapes to give viewers an immersive experience.
- Add interactive hotspots to insert additional information or links.

12.3.7 Compatibility and Sharing:

- Make sure your 360-degree photos work well in popular virtual reality platforms and applications.
- Share your created content via social media or websites to make it accessible to a wider audience.

360-degree photography offers an exciting way to create interactive and immersive experiences. It can be used in many fields, be it in the tourism industry, real estate marketing, or simply to provide viewers with a unique visual experience.



Closing remarks

Photography is a wonderful art form that allows us to capture the world around us in a unique and captivating way. In this comprehensive textbook on the "craft of photography" we have covered a wide range of topics, ranging from the basics of camera technology and photography principles to advanced techniques and specialties.

We explored the history of photography, understood how cameras work, and learned the importance of exposure, shutter speed, and aperture. We looked at sensor size, image quality and different image formats. We got to know the different types of cameras and lenses and looked at important settings such as ISO, white balance and focus.

We looked at various aspects of image design, from compositional rules to perspective to light and shadow. We explored techniques for different photographic genres such as portrait, landscape and nature photography. We learned how to edit images, whether it's basic adjustments or advanced techniques like HDR or panorama.

We have also covered important aspects of photography presentation, whether in exhibitions, online galleries or on social media. We have dealt with special areas such as wedding photography, event and sports photography, travel photography, drone photography and virtual reality.

Photography is a constant learning process, and the more you practice, the more you will improve your skills and develop your own style. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced photographer, I hope this textbook has provided you with valuable insights and guidance to further develop your photography skills and realize your creative visions.

Now it's time to take your camera and put what you've learned into practice. Capture moments, tell stories, and share your view of the world through the wonderful art of photography. Good luck and have fun taking pictures!



Glossary of photographic terms

Here is a glossary with explanations of the main photographic terms covered in this textbook:

- **Aperture:** The aperture in the camera that regulates the amount of incoming light. A wider aperture (smaller f-number) lets in more light and creates a shallow depth of field, while a smaller aperture (larger f-number) lets in less light and creates a greater depth of field.
- **Exposure:** The amount of light that hits the camera detector (sensor or film). Correct exposure results in well-exposed images.
- **Shutter speed:** The length of time that the camera's shutter is open to allow light to shine on the sensor or film. It affects the sharpness of movement in the image.
- **ISO:** A measure of the camera detector's sensitivity to light. Higher ISO values are useful in dark environments, but they can lead to noise.
- **Sensor size:** The physical size of the sensor in the camera. Larger sensors tend to have better image quality, especially in low-light conditions.
- **Resolution:** The amount of detail that an image contains, measured in pixels. A higher resolution means more detail in the image.
- **DSLR:** Digital SLR camera. A camera in which the image is reflected through a mirror in the optical viewfinder.
- **Mirrorless camera:** A camera without a mirror in which the image is projected directly onto the sensor. These cameras are more compact and lighter than DSLRs.
- **Lens:** A collection of lenses that captures the light and projects it onto the sensor or film. Different lenses have different focal lengths and characteristics.
- **White Balance:** The setting that adjusts the color temperature of the light to preserve natural colors.
- **Autofocus:** A system that enables the camera to automatically focus on the main subject.
- **HDR (High Dynamic Range):** A technique in which multiple photos are combined with different exposures to obtain an extended dynamic range.
- **Image composition:** The way the elements are arranged in the image to create an aesthetically pleasing and balanced image.
- **Golden hour:** The time just after sunrise or before sunset, when the light is soft and warm, creating long shadows.
- **Bokeh:** The blurred area in an image caused by a shallow depth of field.
- **Drone photography:** The art of taking photos from the air using drones.
- **360-degree photography:** Shots that capture an all-round view and allow viewers to rotate and move around in the frame.
- **Virtual Reality:** A technology that allows the viewer to immerse themselves in a computer-generated immersive environment.

This is just a selection of the many terms used in photography. This glossary is intended to serve as a reference for you as you deepen your photography skills and knowledge.



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Recommended literature and websites

Here are some recommended literature and websites that can help you further deepen your knowledge and skills in photography:

Books:

1. "Understanding Exposure" von Bryan Peterson
2. "The Photographer's Eye: Composition and Design for Better Digital Photos" von Michael Freeman
3. "Light Science & Magic: An Introduction to Photographic Lighting" von Fil Hunter, Paul Fuqua, and Steven Biver
4. "The Digital Photography Book" von Scott Kelby
5. "National Geographic Photography Field Guide: Secrets to Making Great Pictures" von Peter K. Burian und Bob Caputo
6. "Read This If You Want to Take Great Photographs" von Henry Carroll
7. "The Art of Photography: An Approach to Personal Expression" von Bruce Barnbaum
8. "Magnum Contact Sheets" von Kristen Lubben
9. "On Photography" von Susan Sontag
10. "Photography: The Definitive Visual History" von Tom Ang

Websites and online resources:

1. **DPReview** (dpreview.com): A comprehensive source for camera and lens reviews, photography tips, and breaking news from the photography industry.
2. **Petapixel** (petapixel.com): A photo blog with a wealth of tips, news and stories from the world of photography.
3. **Digital Photography School** (digital-photography-school.com): A website with tutorials, tips and advice for photographers of all levels.
4. **Fstoppers** (fstoppers.com): A place for photography tutorials, news and community discussions.
5. **Strobist** (strobist.blogspot.com): A blog specializing in unleashed flash photography, with plenty of tutorials and resources.
6. **500px ISO** (iso.500px.com): A 500px blog showcasing inspirational photography, stories, and tips.
7. **Photography Life** (photographylife.com): A resource portal for photography tutorials, equipment assessments, and recommendations.
8. **Adobe Lightroom Tutorials** (helpx.adobe.com/lightroom/tutorials.html): Official tutorials from Adobe for the Lightroom image editing software.
9. **YouTube** (youtube.com): An invaluable resource for video tutorials and photography channels covering a wide range of topics.
10. **Coursera** (coursera.org) and **Udemy** (udemy.com): platforms where you can take online photography courses from professional photographers and experts.

Remember that photography is an ever-evolving art form, and there is always something new to learn and discover. Use these resources to expand your knowledge and improve your skills as you continue your photographic journey.



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Exercises and projects to deepen the learning content

Absolutely, exercises and practical projects are crucial to consolidate the knowledge acquired in this textbook and develop your photography skills. Here are some exercises and projects you can do:

Grundlagenübungen:

1. **Understand exposure:** Experiment with different shutter speeds, apertures, and ISO settings to see the impact on exposure.
2. **Adjust white balance:** Shoot the same subject in different lighting conditions and adjust the white balance accordingly.
3. **Practice focusing:** Practice manual and automatic focusing on different subjects to master focus techniques.

Kompositionsübungen:

1. **The rule of thirds:** Photograph different subjects and place them along the thirds lines to apply the rule of thirds.
2. **Symmetry and patterns:** Look for symmetrical motifs and repetitive patterns to draw the viewer's eye.
3. **Take advantage of the golden hour:** Photograph the same subject during the golden hour and at other times of the day to experience the difference in light.

Genre-specific projects:

1. **Portrait Project:** Create a series of portraits that capture different moods and personalities.
2. **Landscape Photography:** Explore different landscapes and use different techniques to capture the atmosphere.
3. **Street Photography:** Photograph city life, people, and surroundings to tell a story about the place.
4. **Macro Photography:** Capture extreme close-ups of small objects to reveal details that are usually overlooked.

Kreativitätsprojekte:

1. **Motion Blur:** Experiment with different shutter speeds to create or freeze motion blur in your photos.
2. **Double Exposures:** Create artistic double exposures by layering two different subjects on top of each other.
3. **Color accents:** Photograph a scene in black and white and accentuate a single color element.

Image editing projects:

1. **HDR composition:** Create an HDR photo by combining images with different exposures and using the image editing software.



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2. **Panorama Puzzle: Photograph a** scene in multiple images, then stitch them together to create a seamless panorama.
3. **Retouching and alienation:** Take a photo and practice the basics of image retouching to remove blemishes or distracting elements.

Remember that practice and practical application are key to improving your photography skills. Take time for these exercises and projects to put what you've learned into practice and develop your creative vision.



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Examples of images to illustrate the concepts





Trends for the professional orientation of professional photographers

Professional photography is an ever-changing field that is influenced by technological advancements, cultural trends, and the changing tastes of audiences. Here are some trends that could influence the professional orientation of professional photographers in the coming years:

- 1. Sustainable photography:** Sustainability and environmental awareness are important issues that also have an impact on photography. Professional photographers could increasingly look for ways to integrate environmental issues and sustainability projects into their work.
- 2. Virtual reality (VR) and 360-degree photography:** The demand for immersive experiences and virtual tours could encourage photographers to enter the world of VR photography to create interactive content.
- 3. Social media and influencer marketing:** The increasing importance of social media and influencers opens up opportunities for photographers to create high-quality content for these platforms.
- 4. Videography:** The boundaries between photography and videography are becoming increasingly blurred. Professional photographers may also consider offering video services to meet the increasing demand for video content.
- 5. Authenticity and diversity:** The demand for authentic and diverse images is increasing. Photographers could better represent different cultures, body types, and lifestyles in their works.
- 6. Drone Photography:** Drone photography offers unique perspectives and is becoming increasingly sought after in areas such as real estate, tourism, and landscape photography.
- 7. Image editing and retouching:** Advances in image editing software allow photographers to make their images even more creative and develop their personal style.
- 8. Storytelling:** Photographers could increasingly move to telling stories through their images, whether in photojournalism, documentary photography or advertising photography.
- 9. Live Streaming and Events:** The rising popularity of live streaming and virtual events opens up the ability for photographers to capture these moments in real-time.
- 10. Niche Markets:** Specialization can be beneficial for professional photographers, whether in areas such as food, pet, or sports photography.
- 11. Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Incorporating AI into photography can help the creative process, whether it's image analysis or automatic image optimization.
- 12. Print and the art market:** Despite the digital age, the printing of photographs and their presentation as works of art remains relevant in the art market.

The professional orientation of professional photographers will depend heavily on how well they adapt to these trends and how creatively they can integrate them into their work. It is important to be flexible and continuously educate yourself in order to remain competitive and meet the evolving needs of the market.



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