WHY *COMPOSITION MATTERS*

Composition is how you arrange the elements in your frame. Good composition helps guide the viewer's eye, create visual impact, and strengthen the story you want to tell. These simple techniques work with any camera or phone.

Top Composition Tips

1. Rule of Thirds

Place your subject along the grid lines or at the intersections rather than in the center.
This creates balance and gives the viewer a natural path through the image.

Try it: Turn on your camera's grid and place the horizon on the top or bottom third—not the middle.

2. Fill the Frame

Move closer or zoom in to eliminate distractions. A tighter composition strengthens your subject and creates a more intentional image.

Try it: Take one photo from where you stand, then take three steps closer and shoot aga

3. Use Leading Lines

Look for lines—roads, fences, shadows, railings, that guide the viewer's eye toward your subject.

Try it: Position yourself so the lines point into the frame, not out of it.

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4. Simplify the Background

A busy background competes with your subject. Choose clean, uncluttered spaces or adjust your angle to reduce distractions.

Try it: Take a small step left or right to remove objects “growing” out of someone’s head.

5. Look for Light + Shadow

Light shapes your subject and sets the mood. Side light adds depth, backlight creates drama, and soft light reveals detail.

Try it: Walk around your subject and notice how the light changes from each angle.

Bonus: Before You Click

- Check your edges—anything weird creeping in
- Ask yourself: What’s the subject? What’s the story?
- Take 3–5 variations: vertical, horizontal, closer, lower angle, higher angle

Mini Assignment

Choose one subject and photograph it using three different composition techniques.
Compare the results and decide which choices strengthened the image.
Continue asking yourself – How could that image be better?

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