

(Download pdf ebook) Focus On Composing Photos: Focus on the Fundamentals (The Focus On Series)

Focus On Composing Photos: Focus on the Fundamentals (The Focus On Series)

Peter Ensenberger

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



#1373962 in eBooks 2013-04-17 2013-04-17 File Name: B00CEG8Q8Q | File size: 33.Mb

Peter Ensenberger : Focus On Composing Photos: Focus on the Fundamentals (The Focus On Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Focus On Composing Photos: Focus on the Fundamentals (The Focus On Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Want to improve your photography? This is the book for you! By Mikel I have almost finished reading this book (I'm in the epilogue) and I just can tell you that this is a great book for anyone who has little or even intermediate experience in photography. It comes with many pictures that can guide you through this fascinating world. The chapter I enjoyed the most was the fourth; Rules of composition; I've got to admit that I've always heard about the Rule of thirds, but never about the Gestalt theory or the Rule of Space. I also liked the leading lines chapter. I think my photography will improve a lot once I begin to apply what I have learned here. If you have intermediate knowledge of photography I suggest checking the contents of the book and decide if you want to read about the topics listed there. Be careful, this is not definitely a book for an advanced photographer. Peter Ensenberger, have you written more photography books? 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great read well organized, written and illustrated. By RFranko Well illustrated and written. After reading I gave it as a gift to my daughter. Great book for basic composition without getting super technical or having to be a college Art or Design major. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Extremely User Friendly! By Linda LaCroix Focus on Composing Photos has helped me to see the world differently, while definitely helping me to take better photographs. I am fairly new to photography, but my guess is that even those who have more experience and more knowledge would find it interesting. I keep going back to certain chapters when I am working on particular concepts. Quality of the

paper and choice of illustrations is also of high.

As digital cameras and software packages become more advanced, seemingly by the minute, it has become easier than ever to overlook the basic elements which have always resulted in the best photographs, no matter how fancy (or primitive) the camera itself. Composition is the single most important aspect of creating great images, no matter what level of photographer you happen to be. No amount of digital wizardry can turn a badly composed image into a picture you would want to display. While many books on composition tend to overcomplicate the subject, this book breaks down everything you need to know into small, digestible chunks of information that you will actually remember once you're out and about taking pictures. Instead of plodding through long and complex pages of text, this book supplements the necessary information, such as the basics of the rule of thirds and how to get good highlights and shadows, with tons of gorgeous, full color images that actually show you what to do and how to do it, rather than just telling you what to try. You'll be amazed at the gorgeous images you'll create, whether your passion is for photographing your family, pets, travel adventures, nature, or anything else.

.com Exclusive: A Letter from Peter Ensenberger, Author of Focus On Composing Photos: "The Most Important Piece of Photo Equipment" Take a close look at the seven images above. See if you can find the common thread unifying these images. You may not be able to discern it right away. Give up? All were shot with my cell phone camera! As digital cameras go, the smart phone camera is about as rudimentary as they come. Getting halfway creative with such a simple tool can be challenging, requiring a lot more thought and experimentation by the photographer to get the most out of it. But it's possible to create solid images with any camera if you learn to employ good techniques. So now imagine how using even the most basic of point-and-shoot digital cameras gives photographers much more control over exposure options than my cell phone. And, while high-end DSLRs offer us the most technological sophistication, all those expensive bells and whistles are no more than newer tools at our disposal for capturing that vision. Expensive photo gear makes photography easier, but not necessarily better. Succinctly stated, cameras don't make good photographs; photographers make good photographs. In fact, you already possess the most important piece of photo equipment--it's between your ears. Studies estimate that 80 percent of the human brain is wired to process visual data. By honing your visual-awareness skills, you can train yourself to recognize the potential in every photographic situation. Armed with just a few basic techniques and an understanding of how these techniques impact composition, anyone can begin to make better photographs, no matter what image-making tool is in their hands. As your compositional knowledge and skill expands, of course, you'll be ready for a camera that offers you more options, making it easier to capture your vision. Your equipment's sophistication level should increase right along with your improved technique. It makes sense to start with a fairly basic model offering intuitive operation and simple controls with user-friendly menu functions. Advanced equipment with complicated features can become an impediment to the image-making process. The idea is to free your mind of technical concerns so you can concentrate on the artistic aspects of the photographic process. The easier the thought process for your camera's operation, the more likely you are to be successful at it. And the more success you have, the more you'll enjoy your photographic experiences. Exclusive: A Letter from Peter Ensenberger, Author of Focus On Composing Photos: "Five Quick Hits: What I've Learned About Photography Composition" The Importance of Light Awareness In my workshops, I preach the importance of light awareness. It's something all photographers must learn before they begin to see improvement in their images. The importance of working in the best possible light is what costs photographers so much sleep. It's a driving force. We get up early and stay out late in pursuit of the light. Light is an integral part of composition. Highlights and shadows become important compositional elements when artfully incorporated. The interplay of light and subject is the definition of photography. A poorly lit subject can ruin even the best composition. Using Visual Devices to Control Eye Movement The elements of composition are all around us--lines, shadows, colors, patterns, textures and space. They coalesce in apparent disarray. It's up to the photographer to make sense of it all by arranging these elements as artfully as possible so that the resulting photograph tells a story or informs the viewer. From an artistic standpoint, the objective of good composition is to provide balance and lead the viewer's eye. Placement of compositional elements should create energy and motion. Visual devices help keep the viewer's eye on the intended path and encourage exploration of the entire photograph. At the end of the path, eyes come to rest on the subject--the composition's visual payoff. Connecting with the Viewer For me, a successful photograph makes a connection on an emotional level. Maybe the subject resonates with me, or it reminds me of some past experience I've had. Maybe it takes me to a place I've never been. But that emotional connection holds me there, exploring every inch of the photograph, prolonging a pleasurable experience. The great photographs that we recognize as masterpieces of the medium are the ones that touch us on a gut level. They make a statement or raise a question. They involve us in their narratives, held not only in the grasp of skillful composition, but also in the emotions that the photographer was feeling. On Simplicity The most difficult part of the composing process is creating a simple, stand-alone image that conveys a clear message. That message must be concise and easily understood; because chances are good the photographer won't be there to help the viewer

figure it out. A successful photograph needs no explanation. Less Is More Sometimes viewers' interest is piqued when a composition encourages them to resolve at least part of the story. It gives observers the satisfaction of solving the mystery or providing their own punch line. Withholding pieces of information makes a photograph more interesting, allowing the viewers' imaginations to fill in the blanks or solve a conundrum. When a photograph allows the viewers to be a part of the story, it nudges them into a deeper mental involvement with the image. My philosophy of composition is summed up best in the words of photographer Joel Meyerowitz. He said, "You fill up the frame with feelings, energy, discovery and risk, and leave room enough for someone else to get in there." Exclusive: Featured Advice from Peter Ensenberger, Author of Focus On Composing Photos Read about taking advantage of photo opportunities in your own backyard in "Think Globally, Act Locally."