

Spacing - The Art of Balance in Composition

Photography 11 & 12

The Rule of Thirds offers us a good guideline for framing and composing photographs. It keeps us from placing objects of interest smack dab in the middle of the shot and it keeps us from placing horizon lines in spaces that can confuse the overall aesthetic.

Another key element to composing a photograph is **SPACING**. If Objects are evenly placed in a photograph, it often just doesn't look right. If, however, you space your objects unevenly throughout the frame it can create a quite unique and interesting pattern.

But let's be honest, this is strictly a guideline. If a shot works, it works and you can't argue it. Nevertheless, let's experiment with this principle of spacing to see what you can capture.

Below are images that are unevenly spaced and hold a dimension of interest that may be missed if the spacing was different.

The random spacing and pattern becomes quite interesting in both images.



Vertical lines that are not evenly spaced and seem to be suspended in frame can really be interesting.



Task:

Take a series of photographs (*do not recycle photos you have already taken*) that meet the following guideline. **Think about and look at how spacing is used in your scenes.**

You can use a DSLR and your phone's camera for this assignment.

- 1 photograph of vertical lines
- 1 photograph of horizontal lines
- 1 photograph using negative space with a cool subject
- 1 photograph of texture
- 1 photograph of multiple colours
- 1 photograph that you think works (Photographer's Choice)

Postproduction:

- Upload your photos to your computer.
- Edit images in Photoshop (Curves/Levels, Crop Tool), if needed.
- Use Photoshop or PowerPoint to display all your photos on the same canvas. Include the type of subject with each photo.
- Save file LastNameFirstNameComposition
 - o Ex. SmithBobRuleComposition
- Export file to JPEG or PDF.
- Complete and Save Self-Assessment form.
- Hand in PDF/JPEG and Self-Assessment form.