

PHOTOGRAPHY VOCABULARY

TYPES OF PHOTOGRAPHY

landscape photography	photography that shows different spaces within the world, sometimes vast and unending, and often including urban, industrial, macro and nature photography
portraiture	photography of a person or group of people that displays the expression, personality, and mood of the subject. The focus of the photograph is usually the person's face, although the entire body and the background may be included.
monochrome	photographs that are black and white or sepia. Sepia tones have a hue that resemble the effect of aging in old photographs (different shades of brown).
macrophotography	close-up photography, usually of very small subjects. Normally the size of the subject on the negative is greater than life size. However in modern use it refers to a finished photograph of a subject at greater than life size.
aerial photography	the taking of photographs of the ground from an elevated position. Normally the camera is not supported by a ground-based structure.
stock photography	the supply of photographs licensed for specific uses

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EQUIPMENT

darkroom	a room that can be made completely dark to allow the processing of light sensitive photographic materials
SLR camera	single-lens reflex camera is a camera that typically uses a mirror and prism system that allows the photographer to view through the lens and therefore see exactly what will be captured
a point and shoot	also called a compact camera, there are no additional manual settings or options. The camera focus, flash and all settings are automatically set by the camera allowing users to simply point the camera at the subject and press the shutter button.
negative	film for 135mm film cameras comes in long narrow strips of chemical-coated plastic or cellulose acetate. After each image is captured by the camera onto the film strip, the film strip is advanced so that the next image is projected onto unexposed film. When the film is developed, it is a long strip of small negative images.
negative image	a total inversion of a positive image, in which light areas appear dark and vice versa
tripod	used to stabilize and elevate a camera, a flash unit, or other photographic equipment. It has three legs and a mounting head to attach the camera
viewfinder	what the photographer looks through to compose and to focus the picture

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PHOTOGRAPHIC TERMS

exposure	the total amount of light allowed to fall on the photographic medium (photographic film or image sensor) during the process of taking a photograph
shutter speed	the effective length of time a camera's shutter is open i.e. the exposure time
aperture	a hole or an opening through which light travels. In photography, it is the opening that determines the angle of the rays that come to a focus on the image plane
rule of thirds	guideline which applies to the process of composing visual images. The guideline proposes that an image should be imagined as divided into nine equal parts by two equally-spaced horizontal and vertical lines, and that important compositional elements should be placed along these lines or their intersections
time-lapse photography	a technique whereby the frequency at which film frames are captured is much lower than that used to view the sequence. When played at normal speed, time appears to be moving faster e.g. an image of a scene may be captured once every second, then played back at 30 frames per second

VERBS

to take a photo	we don't normally say 'make' a photo, we say 'take' a photo!
to develop a photo	creating a 'real' touch and feel photo onto photographic paper from the negative
to frame the shot	to carefully compose the photo with your viewfinder
to crop it	to trim the photo to the required size and composition (normally electronically)
to capture it	to catch it in everlasting form