



Landscape Composition



Rainy Landscapes



Flash for Landscapes



Interiors



Streetlamp Starbursts



Snow Photography



Portrait Focal Length



Flower Abstracts



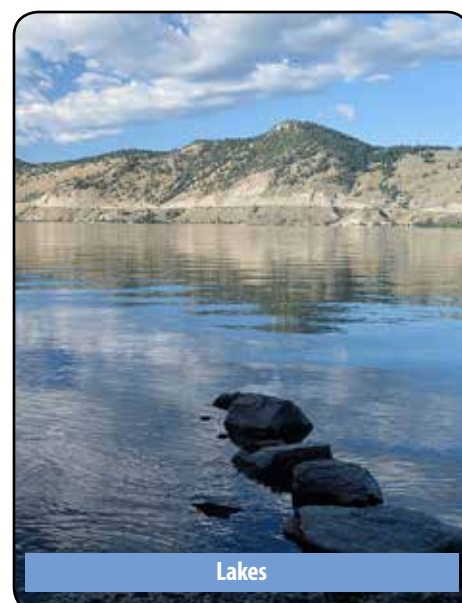
Backlit Flowers



Daylight Fill Flash



Beach Views



Lakes

### Landscape Composition (Fall)

FOUR SIMPLE WAYS TO ADD IMPACT TO YOUR SCENIC SHOTS

**Rule of thirds:** divide the scene into 3 x 3, and place important features along the third lines or where the line crosses.

**Leading lines:** the viewer's eye will be drawn along lines such as roads, rivers and fences, so compose the shot so that the lines lead to the subject.

**Frames:** look for ways to surround the subject with natural frames in the scene... such as the branches or trunks of trees. This helps draw in the viewer's eye.

**Foreground interest:** look for mossy river banks, clusters of flowers and textured rocks to lift the bottom of the frame.

### Rainy Landscapes (Fall)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Aperture Priority
Aperture	f/11-16
Shutter speed	Automatically Set
ISO	100 - 400

KEEP IN MIND:

- You'll be dealing with slow shutter speeds; use a tripod and a remote release.
- Apply exposure compensation of +1/3 to +2EV to brighten up the scene.
- Fit a lens hood and use a waterproof cover to protect the camera and lens.

KEY ADVICE:

Take plenty of microfiber cloths on the shoot and use them to keep the lens's front element clear of raindrops.

### Flash for Landscapes (Fall)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Manual
Aperture	f/11
Shutter speed	Varies
ISO	100

KEEP IN MIND:

- Low natural light levels on a dark, stormy day or at sunrise or sunset will make the light from your flash appear more obvious.
- Choose a scene that has a suitable subject close to the camera.
- Set an appropriate shutter speed to slightly underexpose the background.

**KEY ADVICE:** Although pop-up flash may work, a powerful flashgun off-camera will enable you to blend-in the light better.

### Interiors (Winter)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Aperture Priority
Aperture	f/11
Shutter speed	Automatically Set
ISO	400-800

KEEP IN MIND:

- Use a wide angle lens so that you can squeeze the camera into a corner.
- Look for elements that lead the eye, such as gaps between furniture and open doorways/windows.
- Avoid shooting when direct sunlight is coming through the windows.

**KEY ADVICE:** Bounce the light from a wirelessly triggered flashgun off a white ceiling or wall to brighten up dark areas.

### Streetlamp Starbursts (Winter)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Manual/Bulb
Aperture	f/14-f/22
Shutter speed	Varies
ISO	100

KEEP IN MIND:

- Look for a subject that includes plenty of small light sources.
- Set a narrow aperture—but avoid the narrowest, or the results will be soft.
- You'll need to use extremely long shutter speeds to get the correct exposure without using very high ISO settings.

**KEY ADVICE:** Shooting towards light can result in flare; fit a lens hood and be prepared to adjust your shooting angle.

### Snow Photography (Winter)

**Mind the middle grey:** compensate for your camera's standard metering; shoot in aperture-priority mode combined with matrix metering. Also use your exposure compensation dial; +1/3 or +2/3 allows more light and prevents clouded grey exposures.

**Trust your histogram:** it will give you a more accurate reading of the scene than your LCD screen, especially on bright, sunny days or snowy landscapes.

**Condensation is the enemy:** take care when transferring your camera from warm to cold temperatures and vice-versa. Store memory cards in a re-sealable plastic bag—don't leave them in-camera.

**Tread carefully:** unless footprints are intentionally part of your composition, be careful not to walk in areas you may want to frame.

### Portrait Focal Length (Spring)

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT LENS FOR FLATTERING SHOTS OF PEOPLE

**Wide-angle lens:** the angle of view of a lens is determined by its focal length. Wide-angle lenses have a focal length of 24 mm or lower: they allow you to fit more of a scene into the frame, making them useful for environmental portraits. But wide lenses also exaggerate perspective and create distortion, which can be unflattering for close-ups.

**Telephoto lens:** a telephoto lens (anything above a focal length of 85 mm) gives a narrow angle of view making it easier to isolate someone against a blurred background. The compression effect produced by longer-lenses means that they are generally more flattering for portraits, because facial features will appear more in proportion.

### Flower Abstracts (Spring)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Aperture Priority
Aperture	f/4
Shutter speed	Automatically Set
ISO	100

KEEP IN MIND:

- Although you won't have a strong focal point, you should still look for patterns, edges or points on the petals to focus on.
- Shoot in soft light. A window that isn't in direct sunlight is a great starting point.
- To isolate small details, use a macro lens, close-up filters or extension tubes.

**KEY ADVICE:** Use a tripod, a remote release and activate mirror lock-up to eliminate any vibrations from the camera.

### Backlit Flowers (Spring)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Aperture Priority
Aperture	f/4.5-16
Shutter speed	Automatically Set
ISO	100-400

KEEP IN MIND:

- Get low to the ground and position the lens so that you're shooting into the sun.
- Use a lens hood to shield the front element from stray light—if this isn't adequate, use your hand to cast a shadow over the glass.
- If the photo is too dark, dial in +1 to +2EV of exposure compensation and try again.

**KEY ADVICE:** The magnified Live View screen can make it easier to manually focus on the flower's most important details.

### Daylight Fill-Flash (Summer)

TIPS FOR USING FLASH IN BRIGHT LIGHT

**Sync speed:** a flashgun will only produce a correct exposure if the camera shutter speed is set to the flash sync speed or slower—this is typically 1/200

**Aperture:** setting a large aperture to blur the background can lead to an overexposed shot. This is because the camera has to set the flash sync speed, which may result in an overall exposure that is much longer than the scene requires.

**Reduce exposure:** to bring the overall exposure so it's within the flash's range, set a smaller aperture or use a neutral-density filter on the lens. Alternatively, activate the high-speed sync mode on a compatible flashgun.

### Beach Views (Summer)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Aperture Priority
Aperture	f/11-16
Shutter speed	Automatically Set
ISO	100-400

KEEP IN MIND:

- Use a wide-angle lens at a low height to emphasize patterns or details in the foreground sand.
- To reveal texture and form, shoot when the sand is being lit by low, raking sunlight.
- For a more abstract image, try using a slow shutter speed and moving the camera.

**KEY ADVICE:** Holding the camera in a portrait orientation will help to accentuate any ridges and ripples in the sand.

### Lakes (Summer)

BEGIN WITH:

Exposure mode	Aperture Priority
Aperture	f/11-16
Shutter speed	Automatically Set
ISO	100

KEEP IN MIND:

- Consider the camera height: at water level, a reflection will be taller but more blurred.
- Use a polarizer to cut through unwanted reflections on the water's surface.
- Try fitting a strong ND filter to enable the use of long exposures in bright sunlight, blurring the motion of the lakes surface.

**KEY ADVICE:** Extend the depth of sharpness by manually focusing at the hyperfocal distance (around one third into the scene).