

Compositional Geometry

Your goal is to develop your sense of composition. Forcing yourself to shoot while looking at your subject in a different way will help you to expand on your photography skills and ultimately make you a better photographer. For this assignment focus on finding a subject that has a strong geometric aspect composed with strong lines and shapes. Shoot at least one subject for each of the following concepts:

1. Repetition
2. Perspective
3. Symmetry

Repetition

You will use repetition in two ways. Either you will be drawn to it because you see the repeating pattern, or you might find that by changing your camera position, you can create a repeating rhythm in the way that you organize things into your scene.



If we look closely repetition could be found all around us; on a grand scale, a row of trees, a field of flowers, in architectural designs etc. And if you look for repetition on a macro level you will discover a whole new world comprising of patterns within patterns within patterns. Try finding repetition in unexpected places.

Perspective

Linear perspective photography gives an impression of depth to the viewer by using real world parallel lines and making them converge in the plane of the photograph. This is also achieved by scaling the subject in the foreground against the background elements of the picture.



You can exaggerate the convergence and perspective effect by using a wide-angle lens to place greater emphasis on the objects that are nearer. This will distort the resulting photograph such that the closer subjects and objects will curve at the frame edge and render a very dramatic perspective effect that will emphasize the objects that are near and far at that same time.

Find Strong lines and shapes to help produce a creative linear perspective image



Among the many different elements that make patterns, the most powerful patterns are made by shapes. Triangles, Squares and Circles are the basic shapes commonly found in patterns. While triangles and squares produce a tension filled or dynamic effect in the picture, circles and curves produce more pleasing or soothing patterns.



You can either use a single perspective viewpoint to create the illusion of depth or utilize more than one to magnify the effect. To create this sense of depth, you will need to find two or more parallel lines in to fit in the photocomposition and make them converge by photographing them at an extreme angle.

Symmetry

Although there are several different types of symmetry, in photography the most common method of achieving symmetry is by creating an image which can be divided into two equal parts which are mirror images of each other. The line that splits a symmetrical object is called the Line of Symmetry. Symmetry can be either vertical (left and right halves being symmetrical) or horizontal (top and bottom halves being symmetrical).

In photography composition, symmetrical can be effectively used to create a sense of harmony, balance and proportion. It soothes the eyes and mind of the viewer.

One can always find great examples of symmetry in architecture like skyscrapers, details like doors and windows, ceiling patterns, , corridors, design of gardens landscapes etc. Reflections in water also make classic examples simply because of the compositional balance of the scene.



Symmetry is one thing that can become boring when used over and over again. So at times breaking it could be more fun. You can actually break the symmetry in a scene and still make it look balanced by adding a strong focal point in your photograph.



To be effective a symmetrical shot must have two essential elements a strong composition and an eye catching point of interest. Symmetry works best in situations where one least expects to find them.

