

Create Great Photographs on Your iPhone

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NMUG — 1 October 2025

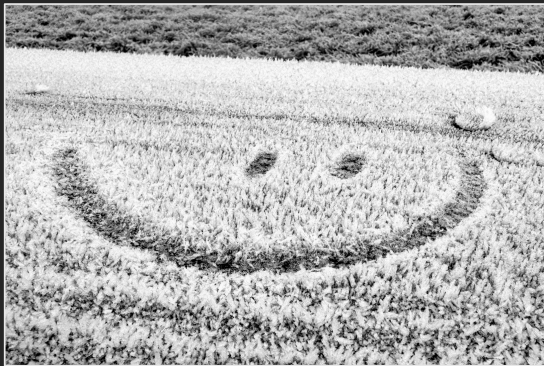
Art

Avoid the iPhone Camera's Weaknesses
Lean in to the iPhone Camera's **Strengths**

Strengths to Embrace

- The camera you **always have** with you!
 - iPhone rewards you for keeping your eyes open always!
 - With practice, can be shooting within seconds!
- **Small** and **light** — enable unusual points of view
 - Easy to hold up high (trigger with volume button)
 - Lens near the edge — shoot a few mm off the ground!
- Great in **mixed light**
 - Deep shadows don't lose detail
 - Can shoot into the sun!
- Powerful **Panorama Mode**
 - Available at all zooms
 - Tap to change to vertical!
- Powerful **Macro** mode (with caveats)
- **Night Mode** (for static low-light scenes)
 - Bracing with elbows can increase exposure times significantly
 - Use a tripod for maximal effect (small portable stand works fine)

Chance Encounters



Get Right Down!



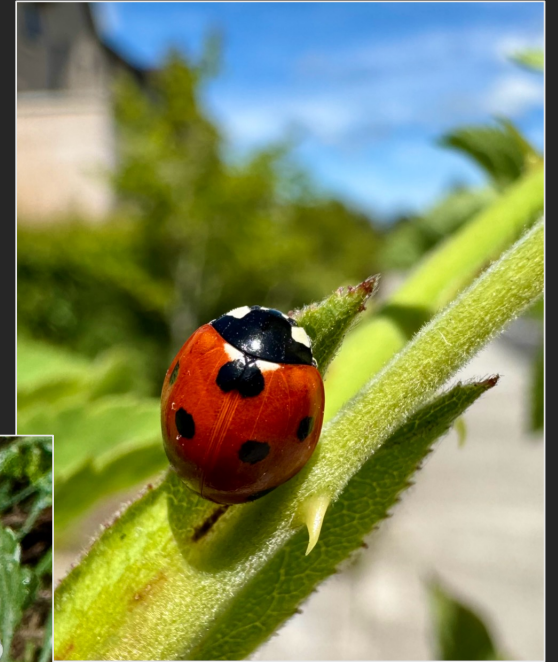
Mixed Light



Into the Sun



Mighty Macros



Into the Night!



Art

Universal Advice

Shoot Freely, Cull Mercilessly!

- What's the secret to sharing ten great shot?
Shooting a thousand and **never sharing 99%** of them!
- Experiment with lots of different **angles, points of view, zooms ...**
- **Throw away** what doesn't work!

BART'S 3-PASS PROCESS

1. delete shots with obvious flaws
2. reduce similar shots to just the best one
3. only keep what's actually good!

Consider Your Composition

- Give subjects **room to 'look' or move into**
- Try add a **sense of depth** — especially important in landscapes
 - **3 Layers Strategy** — foreground feature, the main landscape, and background interest
 - **Leading lines** — meandering paths, converging parallels, vanishing points, etc.
- Try find features to **naturally frame your shots**
 - A corner is often better than a full edge
 - Full edges work better in pairs — adjoining or opposite can work
- Keep An eye out for **symmetries** of all kinds — reflection, repetition, rotation ...

But beware ...

- Especially true for the 'rule of thirds'
- about $\frac{1}{3}$ from an edge is often good for a subject or feature
 - don't obsess over that 3x3 grid!

The “*rules*” of composition are more what you'd call “*guidelines*” than actual rules
(to paraphrase Captain Barbosa)

Great compositions are not mathematically perfect, they feel just right!

It's Good to Crop!

Let the **subject** determine the **aspect ratio**!
not your camera

- It's more than just OK to **crop**, it's vitally important!
- **Shoot a little wide**, crop to perfection
- **Fine-tune** your composition
 - Perfectly **centre round objects** in square crops
 - Linear features **exit right in corners**
 - **Symmetries** perfectly **centred**

Crop Before & After





Crop Before & After

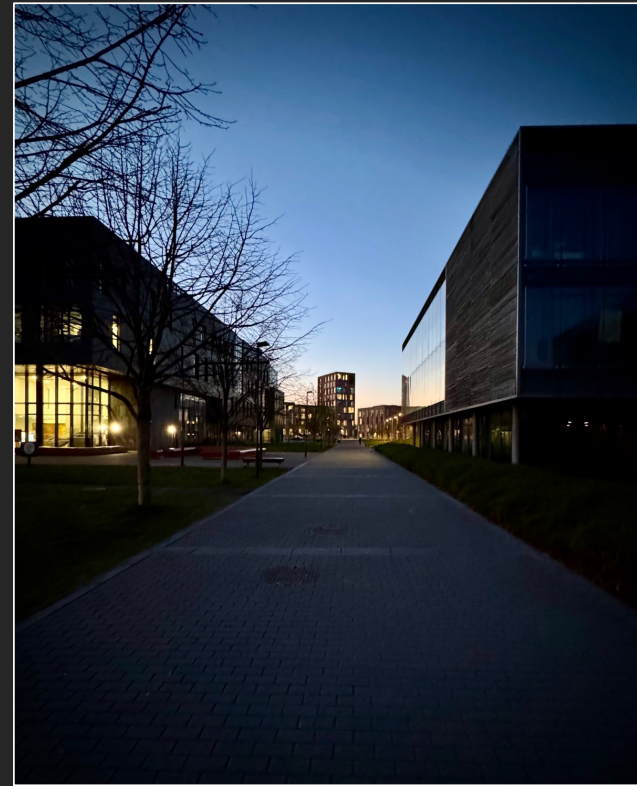




Correct Your Perspective

- Distorted perspectives can be **distracting**
 - Sloping horizons
 - Off-square buildings
- **Minimise** the effect **when shooting**
 - Enable the iPhone's level indicator feature
 - Try shoot buildings exactly face-on with the camera parallel to the ground
 - Be extra-careful with the wide-angle — leave extra space for correction!
- Use the iPhone's **Perspective sliders** (available in cropping mode)
 - Level your horizons — especially standing water
 - Tone down excessive keystoneing

Perspective Correction Before & After





... Or Lean In

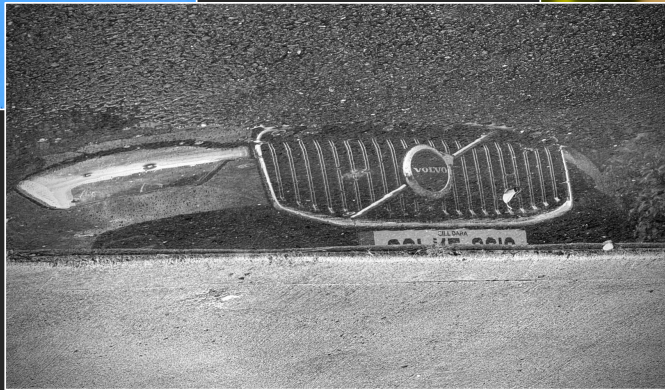
- When distortions feel **intentional**, rather than careless, they can be a feature, not a bug!
- **Avoid the awkward middle ground** where the image simply feels 'off'



Be Creative!

- Don't let a desire for realism constrain your creativity!
 - Consider intentionally shifting the mood with the **warmth slider**
 - Consider intentionally **blacking out shadows** — perhaps even **silhouettes**
 - Consider intentionally **blowing out highlights** — *'high key'*
 - Consider intentionally **reducing contrast & saturation** to emphasize mistiness
- Basic **black-and-white conversion** by sliding saturation to zero!

Un-natural Beauty!





Questions?

www.glass.photo/bbusschots

www.lets-talk.ie/photo
www.bartb.ie

