

TAKING BETTER PHOTOGRAPHS



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Hi, I'm Zack, and this the worst photo* I've ever taken

* OK, it's one of the worst.
I have taken so many terrible photos.



Not centered, Out of focus, Overexposed

NO, don't worry, I have not uploaded
this to Commons. Because it's terrible



CC-by-SA 4.0 - Zachary McCune



**Anyone can take
good photos**



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**Take many photos
+ follow simple rules**

1. Get ready



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A red OKTOMAT camera is shown from a front-three-quarter view. On top of the camera, a breadboard is populated with several electronic components, including what appears to be a camera module. The word 'OKTOMAT' is printed in a stylized font on the top surface of the camera. Overlaid on the center of the camera is the text 'Do you have your camera?' in a large, white, sans-serif font.

**Do you have
your camera?**



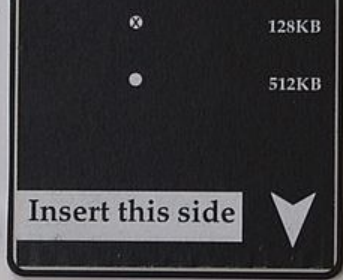
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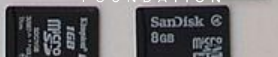
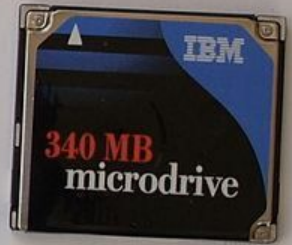
Is it charged? Do you have batteries?



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Do you have memory?



Do you know what you
need to photograph?



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CC-by-SA 3.0 - jmabel



Is your lens clean?



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CC-by-SA 3.0 - Pelz

**Do you know what app
you're using?**



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CC-by-SA 3.0 - Jaccoon



OKTOMAT

Good.
Let's go.



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2. Frame your image



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Center your subjects



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WIKIPEDIA FACT # 2044
The heads have bodies


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= more cropping



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Check your background



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Anything distracting?



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Good.
Let's go.



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3. Check the lighting



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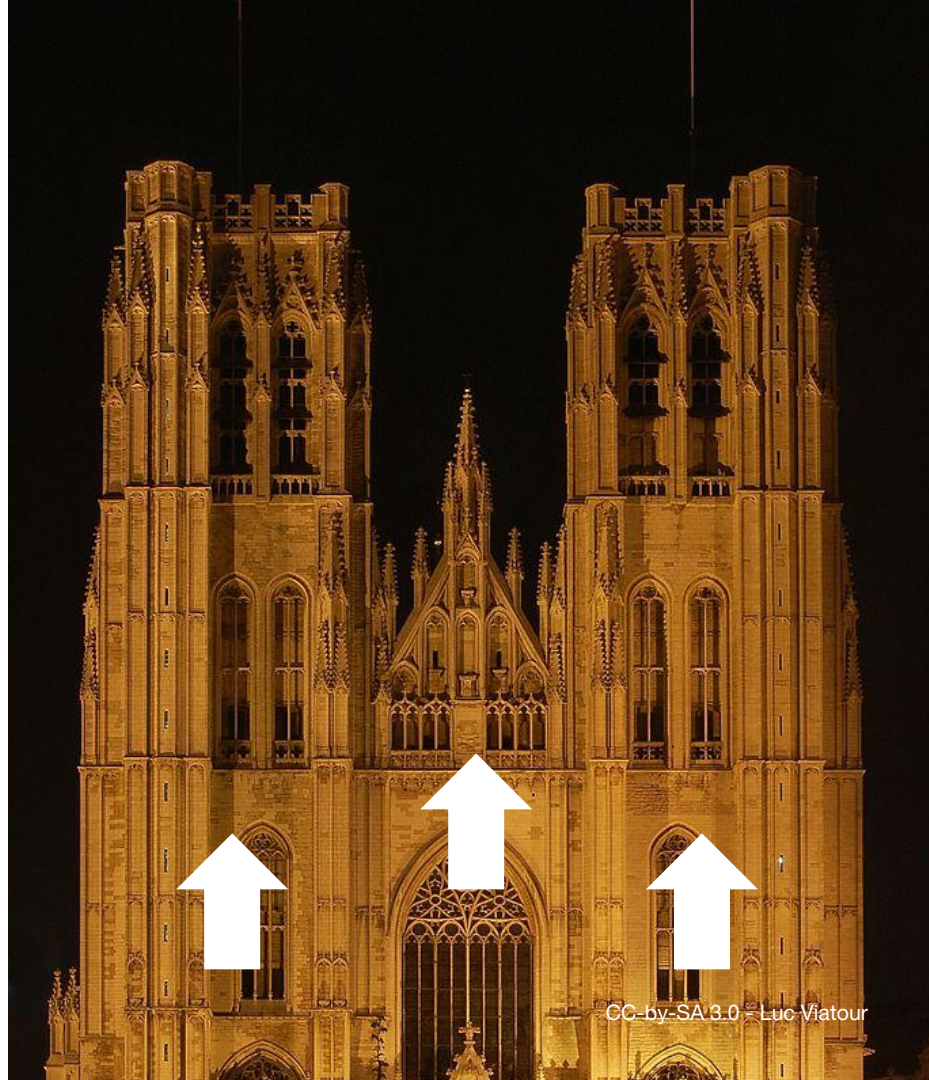
What is your lighting direction?



Fully Lit = IDEAL



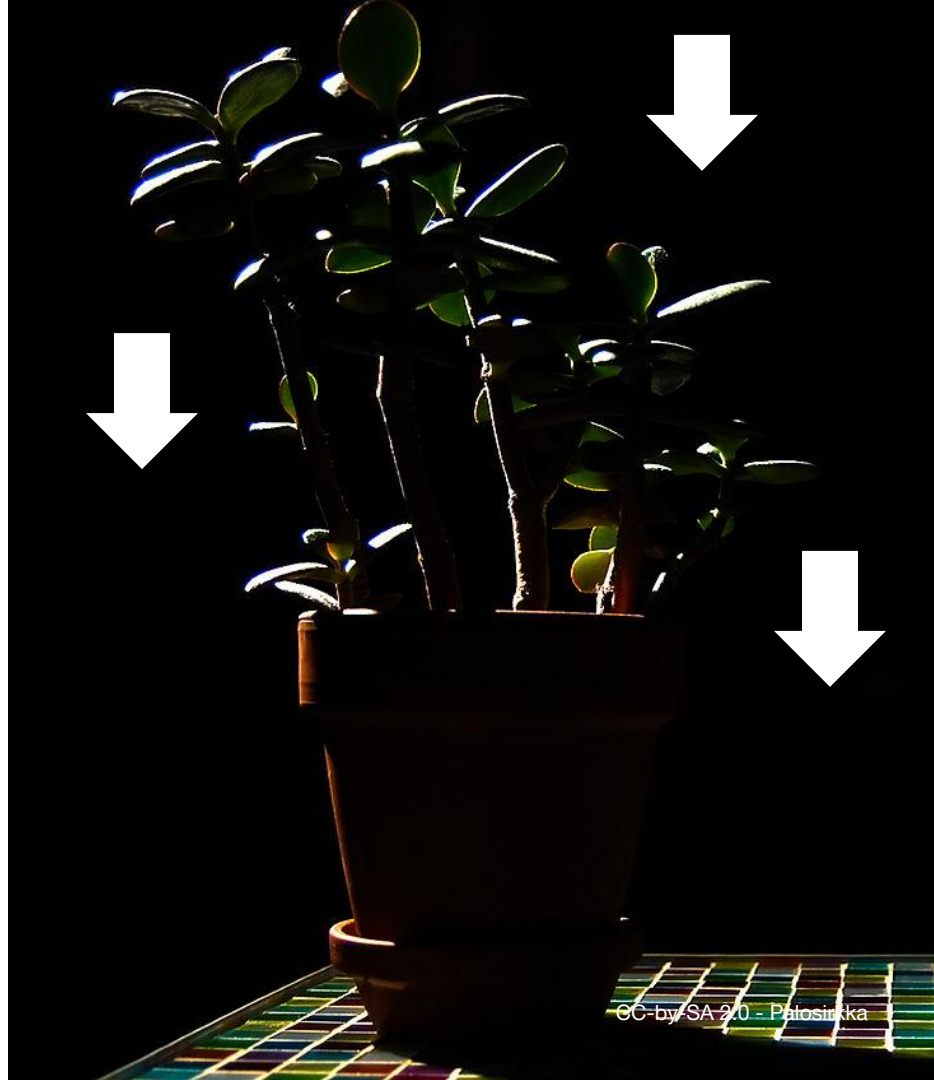
Front Lit = OK



**Side Lit
= NOT GREAT**



Back lit
= BAD



“In correctly exposed images, details in a significant part of image are retained.”

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Image_guidelines



CC-by-SA 4.0 - Zachary McCune

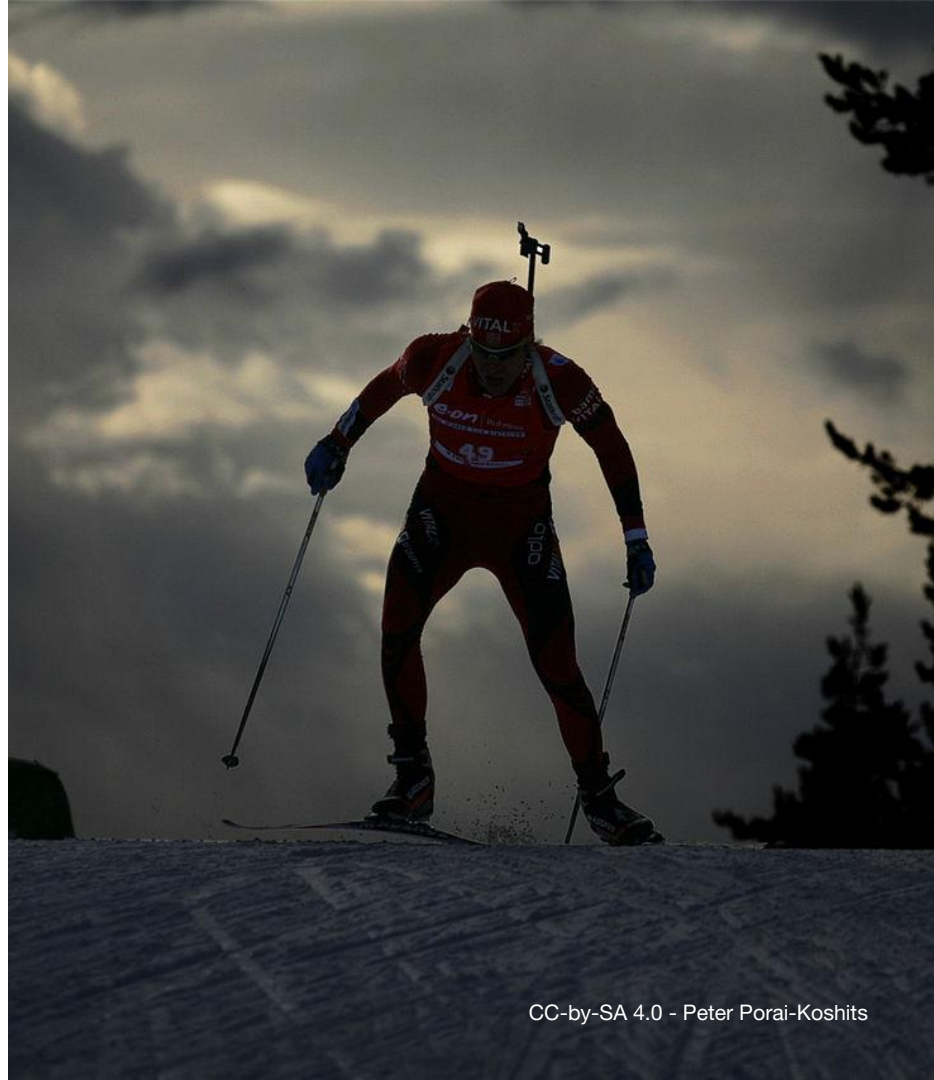
Overexposed:

Too much light.
Image appears blown out.
Details and color lost.



Under exposed:

Too little light to see subject details or actions



CC-by-SA 4.0 - Peter Porai-Koshits

Just right:

Details and colors clear.
Shadows show depth but do not obscure subject.



Focus & Shoot!



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- Make sure your subject is clear and detailed (“in focus”)
- Background details can be blurry, if desired
- Check framing, lighting, and focus
 - OK: Take a picture!

Let's practice!



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PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE



GET READY

- Do you have a camera?
- Is it charged?
- Do you have memory?
- Do you know what you're going to photograph?
- Is the lens clean?
- Are you **EXCITED?**



CC0 - Written by ZMcCune (WMF) - Designed by Blanca Flores

PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE

1. FRAME YOUR IMAGE

- Center your subject
 - Add space around subject to allow future cropping
- Check the background
 - Avoid distracting details
- Zoom in to get more detail

2. CHECK THE LIGHTING

- What is your lighting direction:
 - Fully lit - **IDEAL**
 - Front lit - **OK**
 - Side lit - **NOT GREAT**
 - Back lit - **BAD**
- In correctly exposed images, details in a significant part of image are retained.
- Whenever possible: take photos outside in natural light

3. FOCUS AND SHOOT!

- Make sure your subject is clear & detailed ("in focus")
- Background details can be blurred if desired
- Check framing, lighting, & focus
- **TAKE A PICTURE!**

Learn more: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Image_guidelines

Guide available:

**[https://commons.wikimedia.org/
wiki/File:TakingBetterPhotographs
_Postcard_Guide.pdf](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:TakingBetterPhotographs_Postcard_Guide.pdf)**

