

How to take great photos



Share these tips and test them out.

The basics

1. Choose what you're going to photograph (this is called your 'subject') and decide if you want to take a picture of all or part of it (for example, if it's a person, do you want to include their whole body?)
2. Move the frame around until you're happy with how it looks.
3. Hold the camera steady, and press the button gently. Make sure the camera doesn't move as you press.
4. Check the picture—it's often a good idea to take another one so you can choose which one is best.

Getting the right light

1. Look at where the light's coming from and move the frame around until you're happy with how it looks. Try to keep the light source to the side or behind you.
2. Get the right distance away from the subject. Are you close enough?
3. You may need to stand, sit, or lie to find the best angle.
4. Keep an eye out for interesting shapes, colours, and textures to photograph.
5. You may want to use something on the foreground (at the front of the picture) to 'frame' it, for example, the branch of a tree, a window, or a doorway.

Taking pictures of people

1. Take the picture outside if you can.
2. Decide if you want to take a picture of their face (this is a portrait) or their whole body.
3. Find a good background for them to stand in front of—do you want it to be busy and colourful, or would that be too distracting?
4. Ask them to strike a pose and stay still while you take the photo.
5. Always take another picture, just in case they closed their eyes!

Taking pictures of groups

1. Ask the people to stand or sit in different positions—think about how you can fit them all in to the frame.
2. Try different backgrounds. What looks best?
3. People don't always have to look straight at the camera, and they don't need to smile. Try different poses, angles, and expressions.
4. Experiment with your own ideas—if it doesn't quite work, it's OK. Just try again!