

Seven Tips To Better Photography

As the title says it all I am giving you these 7 tips that will place you into a better place with your photography. If you follow these steps you will begin to see some positive results.

1. Very simply buy the very best camera that you can afford. You don't always need the top of the line such as the Canon Mark III or the Nikon D4. But you want to start with a very good camera. I would suggest buy a camera in the range of at least with interchangeable lens. As you learn and want to shoot many different styles you need a camera that will grow with you.
2. When you are ordering your camera look for one that is sold as a kit. If you buy your new camera with a really great lens such as a 24-70 mm f/2.8 you will save some money up front. A word of advice is to stay away from kits that come with battery grips, shutter triggers or a cheap cases. These items are sold a more bulk to get you to spend more money. Remember the more stuff you own does not make you a better photographer it is about having the right stuff for what you want to shoot.
3. Look deep into your idea of what you want to shoot. If you are going to photograph portraits you are going to need a few items to push you ahead of the curve. You should have at least one flash I suggest a speed light and a set of wireless triggers. You should also pluck up a reflector. Again you don't have to buy the very best buy you do want to look at these items to be reliable. You should also search for a low cost light stand. I have 3 of these just incase I am out and one breaks. I buy these from either EBay or Amazon and look at the ones from Cowboy Studios. Choose the lighter ones it is better to have portable then the big heavy ones these are made more for the studio setting.
4. Tripod: Dig around and find a tripod that is light and easy to setup. The first tripod I bought was from a local WalMart and it served me for a few years. They are so inexpensive I bought two of them again just incase on would fail on a shoot.
5. Location Location and Location. Find a really nice place to shoot. I have setup a small in home studio that allows me to really only do head shots. It is nice for learning how to shoot portraits and allows you to learn more about backgrounds. When I shoot outdoors I take the time to scout out locations where I know my clients and I will be safe as well as protecting my gear. Look at the backgrounds where you are thinking about shooting and even take some test shots. Take the shots home and look at them on you computer to get the feel for what you clients will look like in the settings. I shoot a lot of senior pictures and the location plays a important role in my photography.
6. Composition: I see so many people shoot from one standing location and angle in so many of my classes that I teach. When I shoot I like to check many angles. I will kneel down, lay down and sometimes go up on a step stool just to shoot many different angles. This again will set you a step away from the computation.
7. And the last step to make you a better photographer. You need to choose a photo editing package that you can learn and one that you will understand. Everyone does not need to buy the full Photoshop package. Many of my edits are completed using Lightroom. My editor of choose for the past many years in Photoshop Elements. It will allow you to perform many of the same edits that you can do in the full package and you will save hundreds of dollars. The main tips I am telling you about here is that you need to have a editor and learn how to complete your edits that you are looking for. If you jump around from program to program you will never really use all of the tool that you have choose to use.

I hope that these seven steps will help you get a jump on your photography. If you are planning on digging into photography as a side job or even a primary business follow these step and you will be on a pathway to success.