Control light and shadow for creative effect

## Lighting for Digital Photography

From Snapshots to Great Shots

Learn to use natural light and flash in your photographs

Syl Arena

# From Snapshots to Great Shots

Syl Arena



## Lighting for Digital Photography: From Snapshots to Great Shots (Using Flash and Natural Light for Portrait, Still Life, Action, and Product Photography)

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **CONTENTS**

CHAPTER 1: THE FIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF LIGHT

Photography Begins with Looking at Light

Poring Over the Picture

Poring Over the Picture

Start Your Obsession with Light

**DICCHThats a Curious Word** 

Direction

Intensity

Color

Contrast

Hardness

Lighting Lessons Are Everywhere

Chapter 1 Assignments

**CHAPTER 2: YOUR LIGHT-CAPTURING MACHINE** 

Using Camera Settings Smartly and Creatively

Poring Over the Picture

Poring Over the Picture

Whole-Stop Increments



Shutter Speed: Slicing Time Thick or Thin

Aperture: Controlling Depth of Field

ISO: Keeping Shutter and Aperture in a Desired Range

Equivalent ExposuresTying Shutter, Aperture, and ISO Together

Camera ModesWho Sets What

White Balance

RAW vs. JPEG

Post-Processing

Chapter 2 Assignments

#### CHAPTER 3: USING THE LIGHT AROUND YOU

Getting Started with Natural Light

Poring Over the Picture

Poring Over the Picture

Light: Natural, Artificial, Available, and Ambient

Deal with the Ambient Light First

The Daily Cycle of Sunlight

Shooting in Direct Sunlight

SkylightShooting in Open Shade

Deep ShadeShooting Under Trees

CloudsNatures Diffusion Panels

Windowlight

Chapter 3 Assignments

#### **CHAPTER 4: CREATING YOUR OWN LIGHT**

Getting Started with Artificial Light

Poring Over the Picture

Poring Over the Picture



Shooting Under Home and Office Light

Photographic Lights: Continuous

Photographic Lights: Flash and Strobes

Flash Basics

Moving Your Flash Off-Camera

Chapter 4 Assignments

### CHAPTER 5: LIGHTING FOR TABLETOP AND MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY

Learn to Light by Starting with Objects

Poring Over the Picture

Poring Over the Picture

Quick LookShoots and Concepts

Getting Started with Lighting on a Small Scale

Make It Look Like Cloudy Weather

You Dont Have to Light Everything

Define Shape with Rim Light

Embrace the Power of Backlight

Throw Light Everywhere

If Its Shiny, Light What It Sees

Chapter 5 Assignments

#### CHAPTER 6: LIGHTING FUNDAMENTALS FOR PORTRAITS

Getting Started with Portraits

Poring Over the Picture

Poring Over the Picture

Quick LookShoots and Concepts

Think About the Ambient First



Be Lazy, When You Can

Open Light

Big Equals Soft

Shutter and Flash Synergy

Finding Light in the Shadows

Dancing with the Sun

**Accuracy Matters** 

Over Under for Beauty

Sync About It

Chapter 6 Assignments

#### CHAPTER 7: ADVANCED LIGHTING FOR PORTRAITS

Adding Depth and Drama to Your Portraits

Poring Over the Picture

Poring Over the Picture

Quick LookShoots and Concepts

Concealing and Revealing

The Firing Line

Three Heads Are Better Than One

Syncing in Broad Daylight

Family, Friends, and Strangers

A Circus of Color

**Creating Sunset** 

A Field of White

Chapter 7 Assignments

APPENDIX: THE GEAR I USE

Kit Recommendations



Camera Gear Flash Gear Strobe Gear INDEX

