

## Creative Exercises

**Create restrictions** for a day of shooting. Create any restrictions that you think would help you to break some of the patterns you normally fall into when shooting; here are a few examples:

- *Use only one prime lens*
- *Shoot only in B&W*
- *Shoot only from 4-5 P.M.*
- *Shoot only while sitting/laying down*
- *Fill the entire frame with the subject*
- *Leave negative space in at least three quarters of the frame*

**Choose a common object, and make a dozen unique abstract photos of that object.**

- *Depending on the size of the object, you may need a macro lens or telephoto lens.*
- *Shoot it from above, below, the front, back, sides.*
- *Practicing shooting this way can result in your seeing angles everywhere you go.*

**Choose a location and make photographs where the subject is:**

- *Light / Shadow / Line / Form / Texture/ Depth / Color / Patterns*

**Create emotion in your images that move your audience to feel something.**

### Double exposures

- Superimpose two images onto a single frame. Most DSLRs have a multiple exposure setting as a tool for creative photography

### Diptych

- Place two images side by side so that they add context to each other and tell a complete story. Pay close attention to light, tones, and exposures. (diptychs may include a big picture image and a detail shot of an element of that image).

### Shoot Through Objects

- Use very day objects like leaves, branches, fabric or glass to create some cool artistic effects in your images.

### Creative Focusing

Make shots that are obviously out of focus.

### Move your Camera

- **Pan**
- Rotate take a shot while you are whirling your body.
- Zoom

## Shoot from your Boots

Put your camera on the ground and take shots of your subject from that low angle to introduce a completely new and often random point of view.

If you publish something everyday (365 in a year) — you are bound to have a few good ideas.

## 52 Week Challenges

### Creative Bokeh

- Switch your lens to manual focus and use your widest aperture
- Find a scene with lots of lights, bigger the light source, the bigger the bokeh.
- Frame your image, manually turn the focusing ring until everything is blurred.

### Creativity

Workshops camera, lighting, post processing, night photography, composition, etc.

- Scott: Try to copy, then improve
- Dan: Don't look at other's photos.
- Going to same place and getting a different shot.
- Picasso painted thousands of paintings, but only a few became memorable. Einstein went through thousands of ideas before he found 1-2 memorable ones. Beethoven composed thousands of songs, but only a few have stuck in our collective memory. The more quantity we output, the more likely we are to have a few quality ones.

### Change perspective

- The next time you find yourself shooting the same subject the same way, take a step back and rethink your strategy. Are you a 100% vertical shooter like me? Then force yourself to take a horizontal frame. Are you always looking at details? Then use a wide-angle lens and force yourself to take in the big picture. Do you always [shoot at a narrow aperture](#) so as to get everything in focus? Then dial down your aperture and shoot at the widest possible setting (based on your lens) to focus in on one detail of the whole image.