



Phone Photography Tips

Shooting with a phone does not change the basic rules of photography as it relates to composition, framing, perspective etc. There are many online resources that may help to get started. As such, there are no hard and fast rules, but following the guidelines below will help you get better results.

Keep your hands still while taking the photo

Most smartphones don't come with an inbuilt motion stabilizer, which means even slightest hand shake or vibration may cause blurred images. If need be, look for something you can put your phone on for support. It can act as a tripod alternative, especially for the macro shots where the depth of field is very small and little shake may result in out of focus subject.

Composition, Background and Perspective

There are many rules of composition like Rules of Third, Golden Ratio etc. Rule of thirds is most popular. Avoid distracting backgrounds behind your subject. This will help to contain the focus of viewers' eye on the subject. Get down on the level of subject to get interesting perspective. You can be creative with perspective. Some more recent phones even have portrait setting that blurs the background out.

Lighting

Lighting is one of the most important aspect of photography. Use the natural and artificial sources of light in best possible way. Generally, the flash on phone camera is not very strong and may also give a yellow color cast on subject. Low light causes a lot of pixelating, but sometimes you have no choice. If the light is low, get as close to the subject as possible.

Basic Tips:

- Keep the lens of your phone camera clean and smudge free.
- Use proper orientation depending upon subject (landscape/portrait).
- Take multiple shots. With digital, you have the freedom of taking a lot of photos without using all your film or memory!
- Do not destroy the image by over editing and adding tons of filters.
- Review your photo after you take it: is someone blinking? It is the image focused?
- Better to check your photos right away to ensure you have a great photo. Don't miss an opportunity – double checking is easy and quick.

Consent Forms

You are welcome to use our consent forms, although your hospital may want you to use their consent forms. If that's the case, your hospital consent form will work for Fisher House Foundation, too.

Sending photos

Remember to send the "full size" or original photo when emailing so you send the highest resolution photo possible. Do not text the photo or download from Facebook. The files will be too small for publication.