Composition

" the pleasing selection and arrangement of subjects within the picture area"

Guidelines for Good Composition

Keep it simple Use rule of thirds Look for lines Vary perspective Avoid mergers Look for framing Leave some crop space

Keep it Simple

Highlight main subject
Put main subject slightly off-center
Move in closer
Use uncluttered background

Keep It Simple - Examples



Keep It Simple - Examples



Use Rule of Thirds

Think tic-tac-toe

Use Rule of Thirds Examples

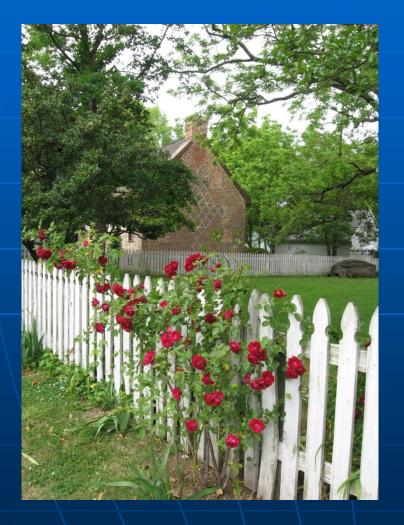


Look for Lines

 Leading lines, diagonals will engage viewer
 S-curves



Look for Lines - Examples





Vary Perspective

 Shoot from low angle, high angle, close-up, vertical photo





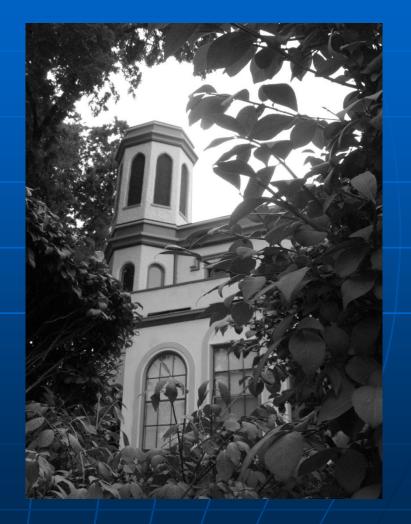
Avoid Mergers

 Use plain background
 Watch borders



Look for Framing

 Use foreground objects
 Use something to surround subject (eg, branch, window....)



PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!

...till use of guidelines becomes second nature.

"There are no rules for good photographs, there are only good photographs."Ansel Adams