

Is the image free from dust specs, smudges and scratches?

Does the image include elements in the near, middle and far distances?

Is the image free from lens flare effects?

Was the image taken at an appropriate time of day?

Was fill flash used where needed?

Was good use made of the hyperfocal plane?

Does the image have a good tonal range?

Portraits

Is the image free of excessive contrast?

Was the correct choice made between flattery and revealing character?

Is the image free from handshake blur?

Does the image minimize unphotogenic features?

Is the image free from digital sensor noise?

Does the image emphasize photogenic features?

Have small blemishes been removed?

Was subject motion handled appropriately?

Is the lighting effective?

Either frozen or exaggerated

Does the image avoid clumsy or obvious post-processing?

Does the subject appear natural and relaxed?

Manipulation & Presentation

Has the image been over-sharpened?

Does the image reveal the subject's character and interests?

Is the image free from the artifacts of excessive JPEG compression?

Does the image tell a story or suggest history?

Has any manipulation contributed to the subject matter and its impact?

Is the image free of red-eye effects?

or is it just a PhotoShop demo?

Does any manipulation represent a fresh style with merit?

Was a good choice made of lens focal length?

No big noses from wide-angle lenses

Are the background and props appropriate?

Is the size of the printed or displayed image appropriate for the subject matter?

Are the eyes in sharpest focus?

If printed, is the image's resolution high enough to support the print size?

Does the lighting make the hair "alive"?

If used, is the framing suitable for the subject matter?

Do the clothing and accessories avoid drawing attention away from the subject?

Landscapes

Is the horizon *not* in the middle?

Do the lighting and viewpoint reveal the shape of the subject's head?

Does the image avoid wasting space on a featureless sky?

Is the subject free from unfortunate shadows on the face or elsewhere?

Is the sharpness of focus appropriate for the situation?