

# Composition in Photography: Simplicity

The first and perhaps the most important guideline to create successful composition is simplicity. Look for ways to give the center of interest in your pictures the most visual attention. One way is to select uncomplicated backgrounds that will not steal attention from your subjects.



The photo on the left captures very different subjects and places them all together so that it becomes difficult to focus on one thing.



The same photo can be cropped to show only one subject. This creates a simple, yet more powerful composition.



This photo contains a lot of background information that doesn't add much to the composition of the photograph. What might the photographer do to improve this composition? Is there anything that a photographer can do to change the composition after the photo has been shot?

## Assignment:

To practice simplicity in photographs, find a "busy" image in a magazine. Choose the subject matter of the photograph that you find most interesting. Create a background for this subject matter that will simplify the composition as a whole. Use pencil or colored pencil for this exercise.

