

Day 2: The Importance of Natural Lighting

Seven Aspects of Light

Exposure/Brightness

"Exposure" has a more technically definition in the photography world, but we're going to simply compare it to "brightness". When we talk about the brightness, we're talking about how much light is in your image.

Quality

How good is your lighting? Is it shining directly onto your subject or more diffused?

Color

The color of your lighting will make a huge difference in the overall mood of your image. Remember how lighting changes throughout the day (from white to yellow to orange to blue).

Direction

From which direction is your light coming from? This is determined by the position of the sun in the sky, and where you decide to set up your scene.

Shadows

Shadows are the darkest part of your image. Try not to think in terms of color, think in terms of light.

Highlights

Highlights are the lightest part of your image. Again, try to think in terms of light instead of color.

Contrast

Contrast is the amount of difference between the shadows and highlights in your image.