

FILLING THE FRAME

BLUEPRINT

By filling the frame you add instant impact to the image. You should avoid unnecessary clutter and bring a dynamic element to the photo.

Of course, filling the frame is not always appropriate, so you should think carefully when creating the image. If you aren't going to fill the frame, make sure that you use the space around the subject constructively or creatively. You can practice filling the frame in any genre of photography - it can be equally effective in portraiture, landscapes, abstract photography and so on.

Nothing should be in the image that will detract from the main subject or focal point. By filling your frame you will dramatically improve your skills as you learn how to use space in your images more effectively.

Filling the frame encourages you to really spend some time thinking about your subject. How can you bring forward the details or the patterns of your subject? How does the background add to or take away from the story you are trying to tell?



Examples of filling the frame in photography

1 DETAILS

One very easy way to combat boring, flat photos is to practice the simple idea of filling the frame.



When we fill the frame, we are attempting to make a photo's intention completely clear. We become aware of every part of the frame to make sure that every single element is working to complement our subject. Just bear in mind that the larger the subject, the more detail is included in the final image. You need to make sure that everything within the frame works well together.

TIP:

You should experiment with filling the frame if your subject has some truly interesting details in terms of colors and patterns.

2 MOOD

A dominant subject is more dramatic and imposing when it overshadows all other elements of the image.



Filling the frame in portraiture makes the image more intimate, as the viewer is much closer to the subject. So there's greater engagement and connection with the image. When it comes to filling the frame in landscape photography, it helps you emphasize interesting textures and patterns, and triggers the sense of awe and wonder.

TIP:

The subject that fills the frame will emotionally affect the viewer much more than a loosely framed subject.

3 THE ESSENTIALS

3 BACKGROUND

The easiest and most simple way to rid of a busy or cluttered background is to get in closer to your subject.



If you can't exclude the background completely, eliminate all distractions so that you can focus on what's important. Either move distractions out of the background or change your perspective. If the background is busy, you can tidy it up a bit or use a wide aperture to blur it.

TIP:

Don't be afraid to experiment! You can try to fill the frame until the background can no longer be seen.