

Lesson 1

How to quickly decide which of your amazing photos should hang at home

Make a quick first selection

- Identify and delete photo fail “accidents”*
- Identify and delete photo fail “oops”**
- Quickly rate your photos, giving 5 stars to best and 0 to worst

Consider the photo’s composition, sharpness and color

Is it well composed? Does it follow one of the composition rules?

- Rule of thirds
- Leading lines
- Golden spiral
- Other composition rule

Is it sharp? Check photo sharpness by looking at best photos at

- 100% size and always choose the sharpest photo.

Do the colors work?

- Make sure colors of photo fit with colors in space where they will hang.
(If necessary, adjust colors in photo.)

Check with yourself

Ask yourself:

- Does this photo help me relive a special experience, adventure, moment or achievement?
- Does this photo help me feel connected to people, places or things that are important to me?

How do I feel when I see this photo?

- Preview how your photo will look on the wall
- Take a photo of the space where the photo will hang (ex: in your living room).
- Using Photoshop, drag in the photos you’re considering as wall prints
- to preview how they’ll look in that space.
- Choose the one that makes you happy and looks the best!



*Photo fail “accidents” are NOT the fault of the photographer!
You can’t control if someone closes their eyes, sneezes or otherwise messes up your photo.

** Photo fail “oops” are your fault as the photographer.
Oops, you shot a blurry, over/underexposed photo that misses the top of your subject’s head. No biggie, everyone does it, even the pros! Just say “oops!” and move on.

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Handy shortcuts in Lightroom (for Mac and PC)

SELECTING

X	Mark as rejected	B	Add to quick selection
P	Mark as flagged	0 - 5	Rate photo from zero to five
U	Mark as unflagged	6 - 9	Label photo with different colors

VIEW

E	Loupe view library	C	Compare view
D	Loupe view develop	N	Survey view
G	Grid view		

COMPOSITION

R	Crop overlay on/off	O	Cycle through overlays
Shift	+	O	Grid overlay orientation