

# Civil Air Patrol



## Civil Air Patrol Photography

**Maj Robert Bowden**  
**CAP National PAO**



# Introduction

- 5 photography rules
- Styles of photography
- Photography equipment
- CAP.news media archive



# Photography Rules

- Plan ahead
- The background is more important than the subject
- Fill the frame
- The rule of thirds
- Photography triangle



# Plan Ahead

- Determine what type of event you will be photographing
- Will you be the only photographer?
- How will these images be used
- What is the location for the photos?

“Failing to Plan...Is Planning to Fail”

- Benjamin Franklin



# The Background

- A distracting background can ruin an amazing photo



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# Fill the frame

- Some photos can be saved by cropping after
- Do not be afraid to get close to your subject



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# Rule of thirds

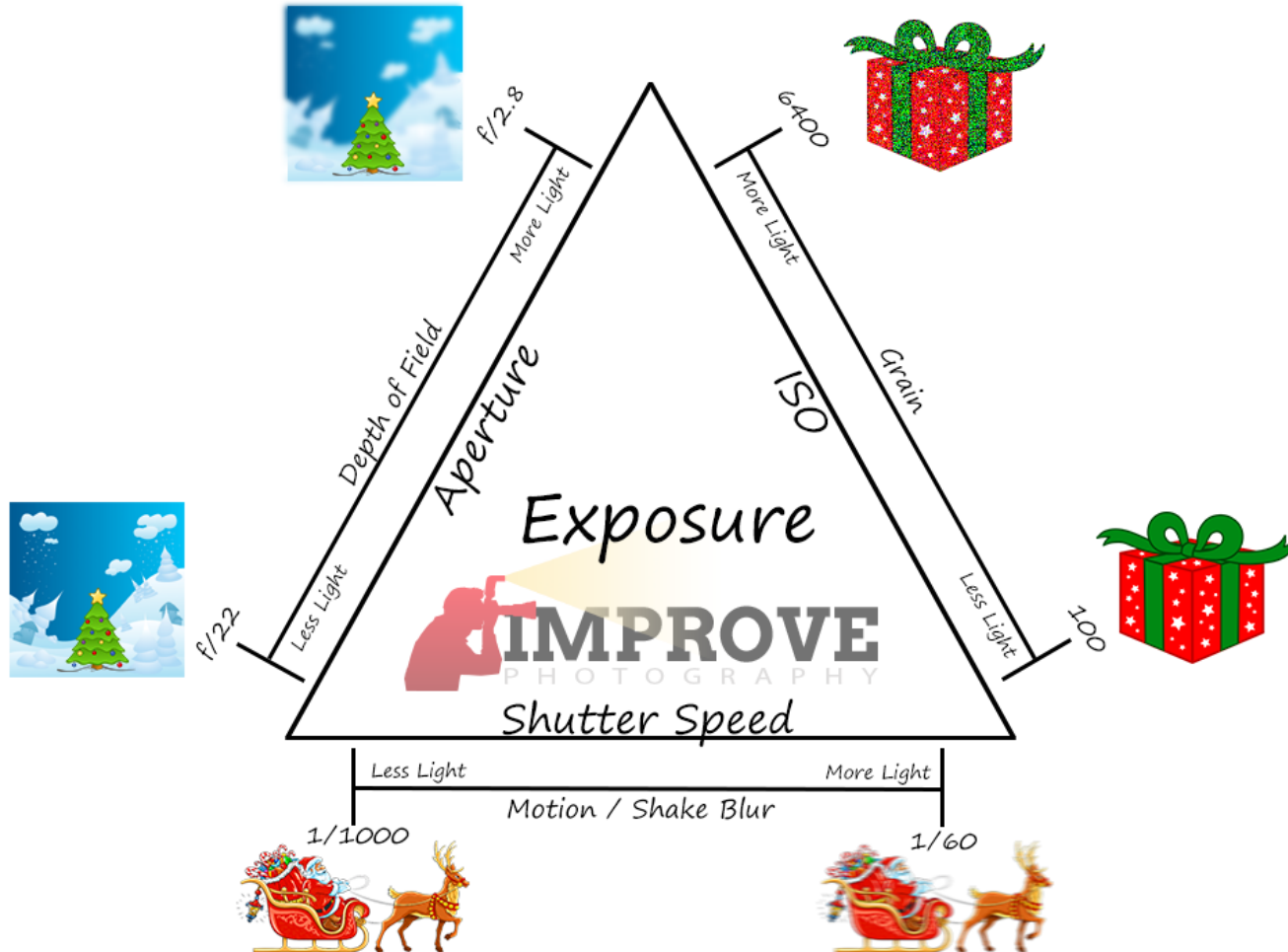
- What are the points of interest in this shot?
- Where am I intentionally placing them?



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# Photography triangle



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# Review your photos

- Blurry, out of focus, poor lighting, incorrect uniforms? DO NOT PUBLISH!
- Review every photo, every time
- Only publish the very best
- 10 amazing photos has a bigger impact than 100 so so photos.



# Styles of photography

- Vertical vs Horizontal
- Photo vs Video
- 1x1, 3x4, 4x5
- Panorama

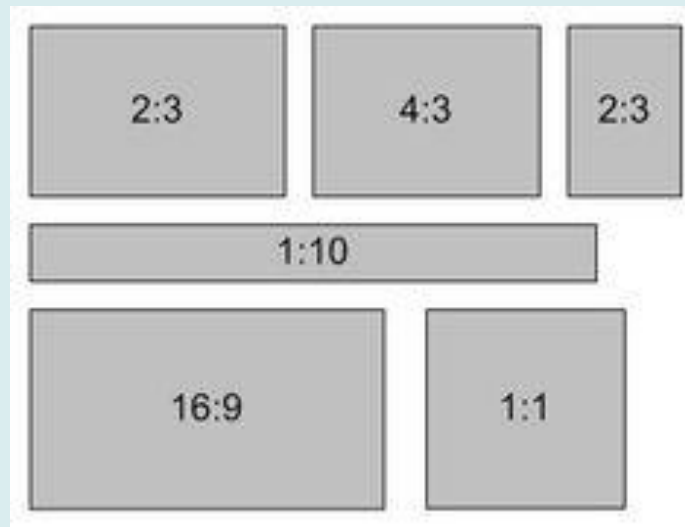


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# Layout

- Always shoot video horizontal!
- Native format for most cameras is 2:3
- Crop to different formats in post production





# Equipment

- You do NOT need \$10,000 worth of camera equipment to take a good photo
- A modern cell phone is often good enough for most CAP Photography
- Lighting is king!
- Studio lighting with your CELL PHONE for \$70



**A1 Flash**



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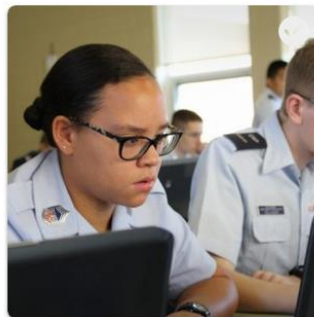
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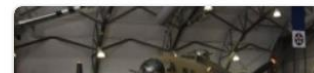
Thumbs-up!



Ready to solo



Sunset scene



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# CAP.news

- Activity Directors and PAOs email [rbowden@cap.gov](mailto:rbowden@cap.gov)
- Pick your 3-5 best images from major events, WITH captions!
- Think outside the box, what makes your photo unique or special compared to other activates.



# Contact Info

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