

PORTRAITURE

photographing a single person or a small group



LENSES

Lenses are labeled by their focal length.

Focal length is expressed in mm.



Lower number = wider shots



higher number = bigger zoom

As a rough reference, the human eye is said to see about the equivalent of 30-50 mm on a full frame camera.

Fixed Lenses

no zoom, fixed focal length



50mm

- for a slightly closer shot where you'd like more of your subject in the frame
- avoid distortion
- move yourself instead of relying on the lens



16mm



35mm



50mm



85mm



200mm





85mm

- for close-up shots with bokeh in the background
- allows you to be a distance from subject but they will appear closer



16mm



35mm



50mm



85mm



200mm



Zoom Lenses



70-200mm zoom lens

- a lot of versatility in one lens
- down to 70mm for a wider shot and to 300mm for closer shots



16mm



35mm



50mm



85mm



200mm





28-80mm zoom lens

- perfect for capturing more of the scenery while allowing you to zoom in and take closer shots



16mm



35mm



50mm



85mm



200mm



Why are lenses important for portraits?

- portraits naturally produce a variety of subject matter
- you will want to be able to have a options with your distance and location

Find ways to make the camera less obvious, and ways to help the subject feel and look natural.

A portrait should reveal something about the person's character, experiences, feelings, etc.

CONSIDER

lighting





eyes





detail



expression





background/props







TIPS

Set the proper exposure and then keep the camera out of the way until you see the perfect shot you want.

Set up like you're in a portrait session.
Take photographs while you're having a
conversation with your subject.

REMEMBER

You need to ask your subject permission before you begin shooting pictures of them.

If you've seen the expression that you want,
it's too late to click the shutter. You have to
do it just a fraction of a second before the
right expression.