

Total time:  
2-4 hours



Difficulty Level: Normal

#### Skill Points:

- Properly identifying a subject
- Composition
- Proper exposure

# HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH WINDOWS & DOORS



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Windows and doors are a favorite subject for many photographers. Not only do they have their own beauty, but they also create strong mood by creating distinct frames.

**KEY LESSON:** When photographing a window or door, ask yourself the following. "Is the window or door my subject, or is it a lead-in/frame for my subject. This is a common mistake- not establishing the purpose. If the window or door is the subject, this will dictate how you compose your shot.

## EQUIPMENT

### Camera

Any camera including a smartphone camera

### Lens + Lens hood

Any lens

### Post-processing software

Mobile or desktop

**Camera setup:** Camera functions are less important here. Use the settings that you are comfortable with.

## SAMPLE PHOTOGRAPHS



A



B



C



D



E



## ACTION ASSIGNMENT!

- 1- Study the sample photographs - from left to right:
  - A- This is a properly composed 'door shot' where the entire composition works to push the viewer's eyes toward the door, which is the subject.
  - B- This is a complex window and door photograph- where the windows and door as a group form the subject of the photograph. The brightest window in the upper left becomes a 'focal point' due to its contrast relative to the rest of the picture.
  - C- This door shot is right on the edge of being ill-composed. It's clear that the doorway is the intended final resting spot for the composition. However, the visual interest isn't very strong.
  - D- In this example the window gains the strength of being the subject through the 'motion' of the blowing window curtain.
  - E- This is a very complex window photograph. At first glance, it may appear as though the window is strictly a frame. However, it isn't really framing much of anything substantial. The composition in this shot is reliant on the repetition of shape. The circular window, the circular table, and the circular bar outside of the window reinforce the window as the subject.
- 2- Look for interesting windows and doors. Also take into account what surrounds them. Try to use the environment to highlight the window or door. Study the example photos.
- 3- This lesson is about developing an artist's eye for a specific type of image. Continue practicing over time.

## HOW DID YOU DO?

- Does your image highlight the window or door as the subject?
- Did you make use of the surrounding environment?