

# High Performance Cameras for Ordinary People Or I Just Paid \$ 1,000 for this Camera – Now What?

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## Where Do I Stand?

Somebody once said that 90% of photography is knowing where to stand. That is just a cute way of talking about composition.

The best composition may not always be holding the camera at eye level and standing right in front of the subject.

It is probably a good idea to go ahead and shoot the “greenie” shot, but then walk around, sit down, stand on a chair, try to find a new way of seeing what you are seeing. What will make the people seeing your photographs linger longer and say, “Cool!” ?

Once you have determined the subject, the next step is to decide on the best approach or treatment of the subject. This has to do with composition, lighting, feel, and so forth.

What if I am making photos for an advertising campaign where the subject is “Senior citizens having fun?” The choices become staggering.

The seasoned photographer can make a huge number of decisions very quickly, and then execute the details accurately, and come back with great pictures. This is a skill that just about anybody can learn if they have the desire and time to do so. For the most part, it is independent of what kind of camera you have or how much money you spend on lenses and accessories, though good equipment certainly makes life easier and more enjoyable for an experienced photographer.

A tree is only interesting if the light is hitting it, or coming through it in an interesting way. Mountains, valleys, rocks, and streams are only good subjects because of the way the light is striking them. If I see a particularly interesting light pattern, the next thing is to try to find the best place to stand.