DSLR CHEATSHEET

for beginners

DSLR

Digital Standard Lens Reflex — the mirror that's placed between the image sensor and the lens.

SENSOR

The part of your camera that detects and records your image.

LENS

Used in conjunction with a camera body and mechanism to make images of objects.

APERTURE

Determines the amount of light that gets in. The aperture of your lens is measured in f-stops, such as f/2, f/11, etc.

DEPTH OF FIELD

Refers to how much of your image will be in focus.

ISO

Determines how sensitive your image sensor is. High ISO is more sensitive to light, but adds grain.

SHUTTER SPEED

The length of time when the film or digital sensor inside the camera is exposed to light.

EXPOSURE TRIANGLE

Three components of a perfect image: shutter speed, aperture, and ISO.

FLASH

Devices used to add extra light to a scene. They can be attached to your DSLR or held separately.

REMOTE

Completes the same function as the shutter button on your camera, but can be pressed at a distance.

FILTER

An accessory used to change the color or type of light that comes into your lens. Screwed or clipped to your lens.

METER

The stepped bar that looks like a ruler that's on the bottom of your viewfinder or on your display.

BOKEH

The blur effect produced in the out-of-focus parts of an image, taken with a narrow depth of field.

TRIPOD

A three-legged mount that hold your camera steady.

RULE OF THIRDS

Break the image into 9 squares, placing subjects at their intersections.

HDMI

High-Definition Multimedia Interface. Many DSLRs integrate it to transmit crystal-clear digital video.

Creative MARKET