



Girlguiding Scotland Photography Tips

Photographs are a great way to show people the fun of guiding and taking good ones can make all the difference. We've put together a list of handy hints to help you make the most of your photographs.

Practical Tips

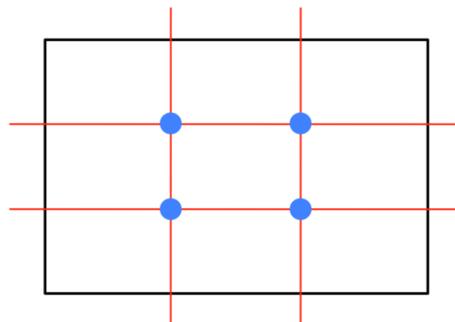
- Think about the background of your photos and what meanings they may have, for example a church might associate your photo with a particular religion and brick walls could suggest an urban setting
- Think about the lighting in your shot. If you are shooting with the light behind the scene, the faces of your subjects may be in shadow and not clearly visible. Try and find the best angle to get the best light for your photographs
- Especially if using a phone, use the flash as little as possible. If you're taking photos in really dark places or at night it will be required but in most other instances you can do without. If you're unsure just try taking a few test shots

Arty Tips

- Be creative - move closer and further away from your subject as well as changing from landscape to portrait and using different angles. This will help to make the shot more interesting and give you lots of options to choose from
- Don't always show girls looking at the camera - girls engaged with each other in activity feels less posed and more natural
- Keep your photo simple. Although you want your photo to be interesting you don't want it to be too messy
- Remember to focus! On most phones that requires you to tap the screen before taking the shot

Helpful Hints

- Try using the rule of thirds. Divide your shot into thirds; place the most interesting aspect of your shot on one of the cross over points. Most cameras and phones have a gridline function on them. (guidelines below)



- Think about how you hold the camera to get the best shot, a shaky camera will result in a blurry photograph
- Keep your audience in mind when taking photos, what would those who will see the image find most interesting? What does your photo say about the event or day?



Techy tips for your phone

To help focus your picture, you can turn on gridlines.

- iPhone: Go to "Settings," choose "Photos & Camera," and switch "Grid" on.
- Samsung Galaxy S5: Launch the camera app, go to "Settings," scroll down and tap "Gridlines on."
- HTC: Launch the camera app then go to "Camera Settings" then select "Grid."

When uploading your photos, whether through email, a messenger service or online storage such as Dropbox, always select the highest resolution possible. It is always best practice to send a separate e-mail to ensure the recipient has received photos because of the file size.

Please make sure that all photo permission forms are up to date and that everyone is happy getting their photo taken.

Looking for some support or advice on photography and promotion?

The communications and marketing team at Girlguiding Scotland are happy to help. Call us on 0131 226 4511 or email marketing@girlguiding-scot.org.uk