## **Composition Terms**

**Point** The simplest of visual elements, can identify a location in space.

Line A point in motion, has one dimension, length. Has position and direction in space.

**Shape** The specific outline or configuration of an object.

**Form** A three dimensional shape. Must be expressed in photography tonally, that is by a

variation in tone.

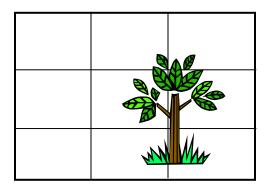
**Balance** Arrangement of picture elements resulting in visual stability.

Symmetrical Static balance with a central axis. Equal arrangements about a central

axis.

<u>Asymmetrical</u> Active, dynamic balance with unequal arrangements of elements.

## Rule of Thirds



**Full-frame** Printing all of the image on the film.

## Full-frame with black borders

Printing the entire image on the negative and a little space around it to give a black

border.

**Aspect ratio** A ration of Side A of the image vs. Side B.

**Object/ground** The differentiation between an object that has form and the formless background.

**Vantage point** The point in space from where the photo is taken.

**Framing** Controlling what parts of an object or scene appears in the photograph.

**Perspective** A visual clue that indicates apparent depth in an image.

Linear Perspective A depth clue in which parallel lines converge into the distance.

Objects further from the camera appear smaller.

Atmospheric Perspective A depth clue in which objects further from the camera appear

lighter in the print.

**Context** All of the information external to the image that contributes to or affects the image. This

may include: Who made it, when, where, and for what purpose.

## **Gestalt Psychology**

Study concerned with visual perceptions, memory and associations, the psychology of

art, and much more.