## 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.
Asymmetrical Active, dynamic balance with unequal arrangements of elements.

## Rule of Thirds



Full-frame $\quad$ 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.

