

To get the most out of your photography experience, quite often some expert advice and guidance can go a long way. The popularity of digital cameras has seen a big increase in the number of providers offering photography lessons for people with all levels of abilities and aspirations in a range of mediums, including online.

The benefits of taking lessons far outweigh the negatives, so whether you are struggling to understand your camera or want to take your photography to the next level, expert help can have many benefits.

Help to understand your camera

While one of the biggest attractions of modern cameras is their simplicity, underneath all of those automatic settings there is a world of apertures, shutter speed and F stops to explore. One of the first things good photography lessons should do is to help you understand and learn all of the features and abilities of your camera, and it should be explained in everyday terms. How to change settings, switch lenses and camera care are all subjects that should be covered early on in lessons.



The art of good images

The biggest benefit of lessons will be a trained eye that can help you understand what makes a good image. A photography teacher or lecturer should cover composition, the rule of thirds, lighting, the use of a flash and when to use certain settings on your camera, among many other things. Each subject should be covered in detail – and once again in plain English – with a lot of focus on examples that best highlight what is being discussed.



Face-to-face or online?

There are several ways you can access lessons. Online has become popular because it can be done from the comfort of your own home, but a drawback of this is any feedback or ideas from your peers may not be instantaneous. This is where a classroom situation often works best for budding photographers. Ideas can be bounced off your peers and images reviewed instantly by everyone. A teacher or lecturer can set an assignment of capturing an image of [flowers](#), for example, with the images brought in to the following lesson and the results shared around for everyone's benefit.



Types of lessons

Lessons are available online, can be conducted privately by a photographer in your home town, or run by an educational institution. Whichever way you choose, there is bound to be a range of different lessons available. For first timers there will be basic photography, while those who want to specialise could enrol in a course about wedding photography, for example. Sometimes professional photographers will even let those who are serious about their images tag along while they go about their work. This kind of guidance and experience can often be the best way to learn.



Post production

Shooting a photograph with [digital cameras](#) should be viewed as just the start of creating a striking image. Work done in post production - after it has been downloaded from the camera - can often make or break an image. Good photography lessons should explain how to use imaging software to enhance and improve your photos. While there are a lot of different types of software available, they essentially do the same thing and learning about such things as gradients, curves and saturation can help you understand your images better.

