

Glossary of Terms – Photography and the Web

This glossary is intended to cover some basic terminology related specifically to Bandwidth subject matter. For more definitions please see the links provided below.

Aperture

Aperture of the lens – adjustment of the iris, measured as f-number, which controls the amount of light entering the lens. Aperture also has an effect on focus and depth of field, namely, the smaller the opening [aperture], the less light but the greater the depth of field—that is, the greater the range within which objects appear to be sharply focused.

Source: *Wikipedia*

Aspect Ratio

The ratio of width to height in photographic prints.

Color

RGB = Red, Green, Blue

B/W = Black and White

Consent

In the world of photography, consent means to give approval for an image to be taken and reproduced.

Copyright

The exclusive legal right to reproduce, publish, sell, or distribute the matter and form of something (as a literary, music, or artistic work). [Unless a copyright is signed over to someone else, the photographer typically owns the copyright for an image he/she produced.]

Source: *Webster's Eleventh Edition*

Cropping

Cropping is the process of cutting part of an image out of a picture to make the final photograph fit within a given space. When a picture is cropped, it isn't enlarged but rather maintains its original dimensions. Cropping is usually utilized when a photographer wants to eliminate unnecessary or distasteful details of a picture.

Source: *Photography.com*

Depth of Field

The range of distances of the object in front of an image forming device (as a camera lens) measured along the axis of the device throughout which the image has acceptable sharpness.

Source: *Webster's Eleventh Edition*

Exposure

Exposure is a term that relates the amount of light that is "exposed," (shined upon) the film in a camera when a photograph is taken. When the film is properly exposed, the correct amount of light has reached the film for the correct amount of time.

Source: *Photography.com*

F-Number

F-Number, also known as a focal ratio, is the ratio of the diameter of the lens aperture to the length of the lens. On a camera, a photographer can alter the f-number by changing the f-stop setting on the camera's lens. Each increment of an f-stop (and, thus, f-number) represents a decrease of light entering the lens by half the previous intensity.

Source: [Photography.com](#)

Film format

Film Format refers to the various dimensions of film used to take photographs. The characteristic that film format primarily describes is the size of the film and the type of camera it uses. Film format can be either standard size (35 mm), medium format (between 35 mm and 4" x 5"), or large format (4" x 5" or larger).

Source: [Photography.com](#)

Film Speed

Film Speed measures the degree to which film is sensitive to light. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) or the American Standards Association (ASA) are both responsible for setting the ranges of film speed. Both digital and manual cameras depend on film speed ratings.

Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG)

JPEG, also known as Joint Photographic Experts Group, refers to a way of storing graphic image files. JPEG files work by using compression that calls for some of the file information to be deleted in order to save memory space. Since 1986, the International Standard Organization has been setting the standards for JPEG formatting.

Source: [Photography.com](#)

Lightbox

A Lightbox is like a shopping cart and is used to store a group of photos that you would like to eventually download or share with a colleague. You can put photos into a Lightbox, and then later download the images in that Lightbox, or send the Lightbox link to a friend/colleague for them to review.

Source: [Shutterstock](#)

Perspective

Perspective is a two-dimensional representation of a three-dimensional scene. In photography, this can be achieved by viewing 3-D objects from an angle rather than head-on. A photograph is also given perspective if there are objects in the foreground, middle distance, and background, giving the whole scene "depth."

Source: [Bigfoto.com](#)

Public Domain

Public domain comprises the body of knowledge and innovation (especially creative works such as writing, art, music, and inventions) in relation to which no person or other legal entity can establish or maintain proprietary interests within a particular legal jurisdiction. This body of information and creativity is considered to be part of a common cultural and intellectual heritage, which, in general, anyone may use or exploit, whether for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

Royalty Free Photography

Recently, royalty free photography has experienced a surge in popularity. By understanding the background of photography royalties, amateur and more experienced photographers can learn how to submit and protect their photographs.

Source: *Photography.com*

Resolution

Resolution, measured in dots per inch (DPI), refers to the quality of detail in a given image. The higher the DPI number, the more pixels the picture has per square inch. The more highly concentrated the pixels are within a photo, the higher the resolution of the resulting picture. Photographs that have high resolutions will appear crisper and less grainy. Its details will be sharper and its borders better defined.

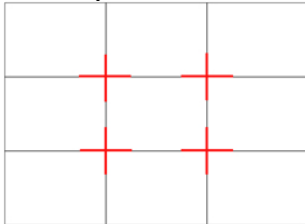
DPI = Dots per inch

MB = Megabyte

- ⇒ Low Resolution = 1–2 MB or approx. 72 dpi
- ⇒ Medium Resolution = 8–18 MB or 150–300 dpi
- ⇒ High Resolution = 30 MB or 300 dpi
- ⇒ Ultra High Resolution = 60.5 MB / 300 dpi / 18.8" x 12.5"
- ⇒ Large Format Image = 200 MB / 300 dpi / 34.2" x 22.8"

Rule of Thirds

The basic principle behind the rule of thirds is to imagine breaking an image down into thirds (both horizontally and vertically) so that you have 9 parts as follows:



Source: *Digital Photography School*

Shutter Speed

Adjustment of the speed (often expressed either as fractions of seconds or as an angle with mechanical shutters) of the shutter to control the amount of time during which the imaging medium is exposed to light for each exposure. Shutter speed may be used to control the amount of light striking the image plane; 'faster' shutter speeds (that is, those of shorter duration) decrease both the amount of light and the amount of image blurring from subject motion or camera motion.

Source: *Wikipedia*

Single-Lens-Reflex (SLR) Camera

Light entering the camera through the lens is reflected up by a mirror behind the lens onto a ground glass screen above. This screen is viewed through the viewfinder and a glass pentaprism (A **pentaprism** is a five-sided reflecting prism used to deviate a beam of light by 90°) which turns the image the correct way up. Other camera functions such as light metering and flash control also operate through the camera lens.

Source: *Bigfoto.com*

Stock Photography

Consists of existing photographs that can be licensed for specific uses. Book publishers, specialty publishers, magazines, advertising agencies, filmmakers, web designers, graphic artists, interior decor firms, corporate creative groups, and others use stock photography to fulfill the needs of their creative assignments.

Source: Wikipedia

Trademark

A trademark provides legal protection primarily for logos, corporate names, and images.

White Balance

On digital cameras, electronic compensation for the color temperature associated with a given set of lighting conditions, ensuring that white light is registered as such on the imaging chip and therefore that the colors in the frame will appear natural. On mechanical, film-based cameras, this function is served by the operator's choice of film stock. In addition to using white balance to register natural coloration of the image, photographers may employ white balance to an aesthetic end, for example white balancing to a blue object in order to obtain a warm color temperature.

Source: *Wikipedia*

Zoom Lens

A lens that can be adjusted to a wide range of focal lengths without a change in focus, thus an alternative for a number of individual lenses of various focal lengths. A difficult type of lens to design and manufacture, but very useful for the photographer who likes to travel light.

Source: *Bigfoto.com*