An essential aspect of creativity is not being afraid to fail.

— Edwin Land

Photograph Yellow

Your subject should be something yellow. Try filling the entire frame with the color - creating a bold, graphic image. You can also isolate your subject with a shallow depth of field. Narrowing your color palette to a single hue is a fantastic technique to help you explore the world around you, be it natural or mannade.













50mm Prime | f/1.8 | 1/160 seconds | ISO 100

Creativity takes Courage.

— Henri Matisse

Photograph Critters

Let's break out of our comfort zones and get down and dirty with some bugs, You'll need your macro lens or a good zoom - and some steady nerves. Early morning, when it's a bit cooler, is ideal for this as most critters will be a bit lethargic with the chill. Come in with slow, deliberate movements so as not to frighten your subjects.













Creativity is piercing the mundane to find the marvelous.

- Bill Moyers

Photograph an Event

Event photography is a challenge not for the feint of heart. There are shots you simply cannot miss. This sort of photography keeps you on your toes with light that fluctuates often and subjects who aren't always aware you are there. Try setting your camera on burst mode and experiment with Shutter Priority when shooting at an event.

V-03











Creativity is the power to connect the seemingly unconnected.

— William Plomer

Photograph your Pet

Our pets make wonderful subjects. Don't have one? Borrow one! Your challenge is to create a portrait showcasing your pet's unique character traits. Remember to get down to their level! We all see pets from above. Offer us a different perspective - make us connect with your subject - and you'll get a successful image.













Creativity is not the finding of a thing, but the making something out of it after it is found.

— James Russell Lowell

Photograph a Key

Keys are items that we use everyday without a second thought. The photo challenge this time around is capturing the key in a way that is both thought provoking and unexpected. You're not limited to the key ring in your pocket, either. Hit up an antique shop to find a vintage set of keys for some added character.













Creativity has more to do with the elimination of the inessential than with inventing something new.

— Helmut Jahn

Photograph Flowers

It's a staple of the hobby - the floral shot. The challenge is to create an image that no one has seen yet. Go in close for a more abstract composition - if you do this, mist the flowers first to get some wonderful specular highlights. Should you decide to go wide, be sure to eliminate distracting elements either in camera or in post production.

V-06











50mm Prime | f/1.8 | 1/500 seconds | ISO 100

Creativity is a natural extension of our enthusiasm.

— Earl Nightingale

Photograph a Cemetery

Cemeteries contain an abundance of photographic opportunity, from the artistic to the historical. You can't help but find some amazing images. Your challenge is to find the right composition. Do you go wide and shoot the entire scene or do you hone in on the details of a specific headstone? Regardless, always be respectful of your surroundings.

V-07











Creativity comes from trust. Trust your instincts. And never hope more than you work.

— Rita Mae Brown

Photograph Smoke

This challenge will push your creativity and ingenuity to new heights. Get yourself some stick or cone incense (be sure to pick a scent that you enjoy!) and a dark background. Setup your camera on a tripod with a flash - preferably, off-camera. Experiment with airflow and fluid dynamics until you get the shot you're looking for. Experiment!!

V-08











18-55mm | f/10 | 1/100 seconds | ISO 100

One of the great joys of life is creativity. Information goes in, gets shuffled about and comes out in new and interesting ways.

— Peter McWilliams

Photograph Sea Shells

Shells make wonderful subjects to photograph - either as a still life or in their native environment on the beach. Go in nice and tight to capture the natural curves of the shell - or better yet, grab one that's still got a sea critter in it. Use them in the foreground to do a great beach shot or show the tide washing over them at sunset.













50mm Prime | f/1.8 | 1/100 seconds | ISO 100

Possessing a healthy imagination is a necessary ingredient for creativiy.

— Steve Vai

Photograph the Horizon

Shooting a level horizon is essential for a successful photograph - unless you're taking some artistic license and skew the skyline to suit the image making. Newer cameras offer up a live-view, horizon finder. Some of the better tripods will have a bubble level built in. Regardless of your tools, strive to get a nice level horizon in your shot - even if you have to do it in post production.













Creativity is the answer. I always prefer the creative solution to an expensive solution.

- Keenen Ivory Wayans

Photograph an Instrument

Musical instruments are works of art and can be used to create some wonderful images. From strings to brass to woodwinds - you can capture the instruments themselves - or photograph them being played. Offer up your unique vision of the tools of music and you'll find yourself creating some wonderful masterpieces of your very own.













You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.

- Maya Angelou

Photograph Coins

Here's another challenge of capturing images of common objects. Grab some pocket change and get your camera out. Attach a good macro lens - or try a close-up filter. For sure, you'll need a tripod to get those wonderful details tack sharp. Mix it up a little with some foreign currency and tell the story of the coin's long journey into your pigay bank!

V-12









