

THREE-POINT LIGHTING ASSIGNMENT GUIDE

Step 1: Set Up Your Key Light

- Start by positioning your key light as you normally would (45/45 is a good starting point)
- Take a test shot and evaluate the exposure, contrast, and overall mood.
- Adjust position or power as needed until you're happy with the result.
- Record the flash power setting, distance from subject, and modifier used.
- Jot down a few notes on how the key light is shaping the subject.

Step 2: Add the Fill Light

- Bring in your fill light, positioned to open up shadows on the opposite side of the key.
- Start with a lower power setting—around half the intensity of your key light.
- Take a test shot, review the effect, and fine-tune as needed.
- Record power, distance, modifier, and your observations on shadow control.

Step 3: Add the Kicker or Rim Light

- Position your third light behind and to the opposite side of the key.
- Aim it toward the back/side of the subject for rim or hair light effect.
- Start with a low power (e.g., 1/32), and take a test shot.
- Evaluate how this light adds separation and highlight—adjust power or position as needed.
- Record flash setting, distance, zoom (if adjustable), and any notes about its effect.

Step 4: Compare With and Without the Kicker

- Take a final shot using all three lights.
- Then, without changing anything else, turn off the kicker light and take another shot.
- Compare the two images. Does the kicker enhance separation and depth? Do you prefer the image with or without it?

Step 5: Notes and Submission

Include the following in your submission:

- A short summary of your setup and settings for each light.
- Your thoughts on how each light contributed to the final result.
- Two comparison images: one with all lights, and one without the kicker.