

MODULE 1

ASSIGNMENT

FLASH PORTRAITS MADE SIMPLE • PHOTOGRAPHY TRAINING BY ED VEROSKY



INTRODUCTION

This assignment is designed to give you hands-on practice with three different lighting placements. Use your one-light TTL flash setup from Module 1 to create three distinct portrait lighting styles: Short Light, Broad Light, and Split Light.

This exercise will help you understand how small adjustments in lighting and posing impact your final image. The provided diagrams (featuring my digital mannequin) illustrate approximations of the different lighting placements and posing —use them as a guide, not rigid placements.

Submit your finished assignment when complete. Good luck!

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Use the diagrams as a guide, but trust your judgment.
- Small adjustments can make a big difference—observe and refine!
- Don't aim for perfection; the goal is to learn through experimentation.

Every great photographer starts with practice. This is your chance to refine your lighting skills—I can't wait to see your work!

SHORT LIGHT PORTRAIT

Short lighting places the key light on the side of the face farthest from the camera, creating more shadow and contrast. This style is great for slimming the face, adding dimension, and creating a more dramatic, moody, or artistic portrait. It's often used for character-driven or fine-art photography, but variations on this style are good for just about any style of portraiture.

How to do it:

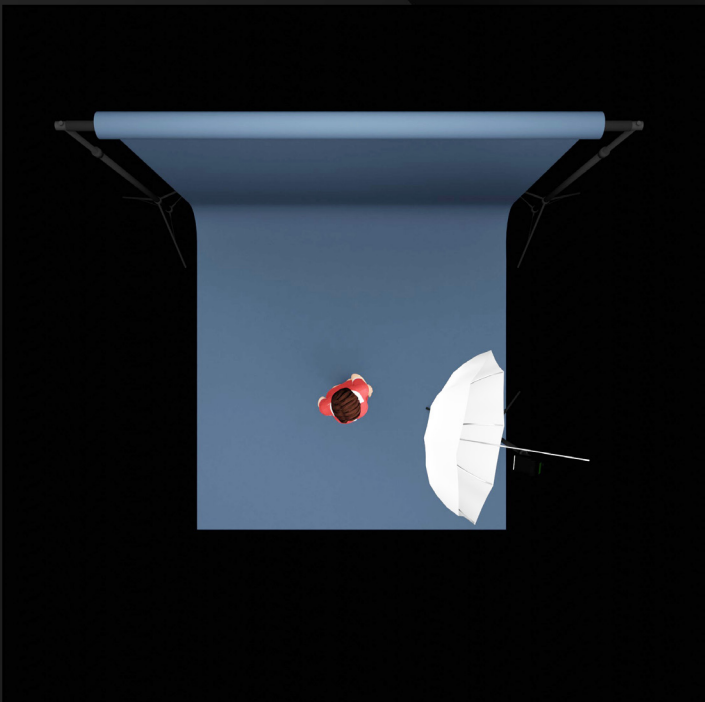
- **Position the light** at an angle to the subject so that the side of the face farthest from the camera is illuminated, while the near side has a shadow.
- **Adjust exposure** using Flash Exposure Compensation (FEC) as needed.
- **Fine-tune** by adjusting the subject's head turn or light position until you achieve a clear short light pattern.
- **Capture** the final portrait and note your camera and flash settings.

SHORT LIGHT PORTRAIT





Short light setup front view.



Short light setup top view.



Short light setup side view.

BROAD LIGHT PORTRAIT

Broad lighting positions the key light on the side of the face closest to the camera, resulting in a well-lit, open look. This technique makes the face appear wider. It's often used as a corrective style that helps create a fuller-looking face on those with narrow or thin faces, but it's used in general portraiture, too.

How to do it:

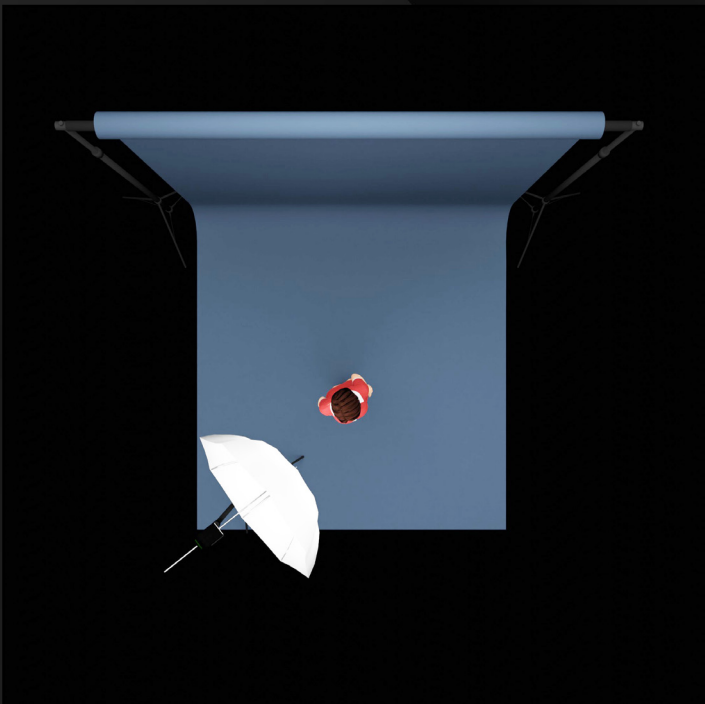
- **Shift the light** to illuminate more of the subject's face closest to the camera.
- **Adjust exposure** using Flash Exposure Compensation (FEC) as needed.
- **Capture** the final portrait and note your camera and flash settings.

BROAD LIGHT PORTRAIT





Broad light setup front view.



Broad light setup top view.



Broad light setup side view.

SPLIT LIGHT PORTRAIT

Split lighting divides the face into two equal halves—one side fully lit, the other in shadow. This setup creates high contrast, mystery, and intensity. It's often used for dramatic, cinematic, or edgy portraits and is popular in editorial and character photography.

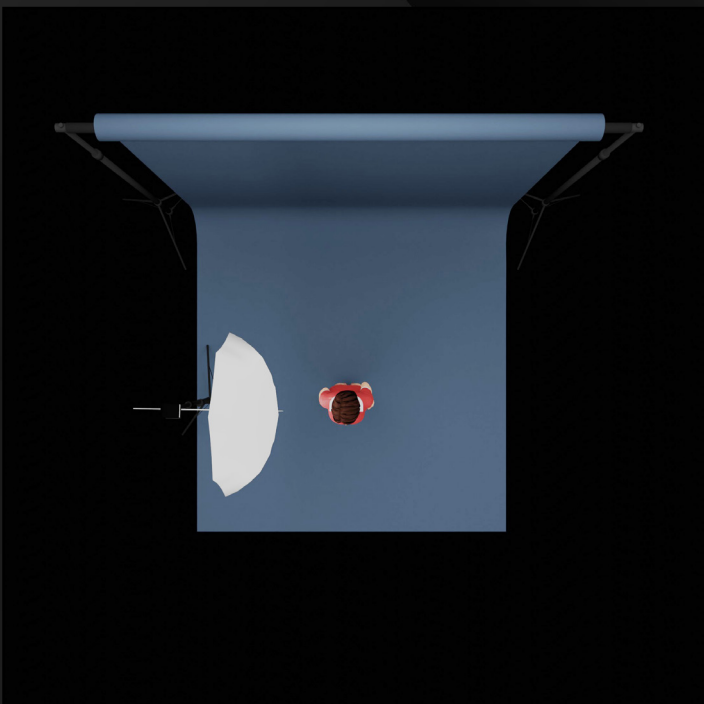
- **Move the light** so it falls directly from the side, dividing the face into one fully lit side and one shadowed side.
- **Test and fine-tune** light placement for a dramatic split effect.
- **Capture** the final portrait and note your camera and flash settings.

SPLIT LIGHT PORTRAIT





Split light setup front view.



Split light setup top view.



Split light setup side view.

COMPARE & ANALYZE

Look at all three portrait styles side by side. Ask yourself:

- Which lighting style is most flattering?
- How do shadows and highlights affect the mood?
- What did you learn about light positioning?
- Write down your observations to include with your images.

SUBMIT YOUR WORK

Compile your final portraits and notes into a bundle, PDF, or email and submit them for feedback.

Send to Ed at the following email address: ed@edverosky.com

Include in your subject line: **Assignment for Module 1**

MODULE 1

ASSIGNMENT

More Photography Resources at
EDVEROSKY.COM

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