

Lighting in Photography

We will be taking notes on the type and direction of light in the following photographs.



Image# 1 Natural Light

The light
from the
sun.



Artificial Light - 2

Light produced by electric lamps

Photographs made under artificial light





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DIRECT SUN



BACKLIT



SHADE







Can natural light be indoors?

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Flash



Standard flash



In this shot you can see that the flashgun was mounted on the camera, which was held vertically with the flash positioned to the side. This has created an unsightly shadow in the background. Ideally, you want to avoid this, and by bouncing the flash you'll create a more flattering portrait.

Bounced from the ceiling

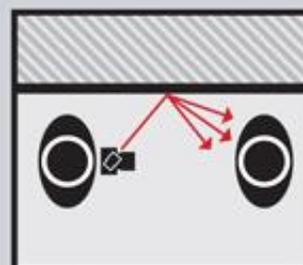
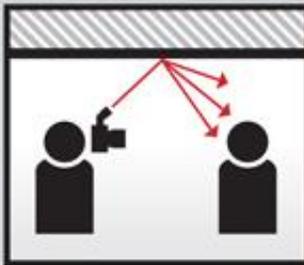
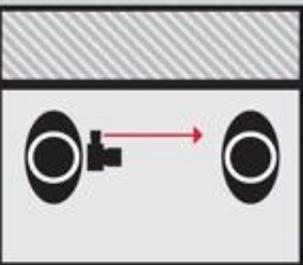


In this portrait we rotated the flash so it pointed up towards the ceiling. As a result, the light was bounced off the white surface, which altered its direction. The end result is a soft diffused illumination that comes from above the model. The improvement here is plain to see.

Bounced from the wall



In some situations the ceiling might be too high, painted in a non-reflective dark colour, or you just might want to create subtle side-lighting instead. If so, try bouncing the light off the wall. Be aware, however, that if there's a strong colour on the wall it too will be reflected, adding a tint to your subject.



Flash – off camera



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