

PHRASES TO REWARD AND ENCOURAGE

Here are some suggestions to use when rewarding or encouraging a photographer. Just remember, these words will have been heard many times before, so use them as part of your own way of speaking, or better yet, develop your own library of words to be used. Use words that you are comfortable with, while ensuring they fit the image you are referring to.

- A compelling image because ...
- A difficult shot, well handled
- A pleasing sense of ...
(rhythm, balance, composition)
- A very creative choice of... ..
(composition, angle, viewpoint)
- A well-chosen time of day
- A well-trained eye caught this
- An excellent sense of mood
- Composition of the overall image is quite well handled
- Good attention to detail
- Good effort
- Good sense of timing
- Light was dramatically used to strengthen this image
- Notice the technique that was used
- Patience has produced this image
- Please take more of these
- The author's message is extremely clear
- The photographer has handled this situation nicely
- This image demonstrates a high degree of technical expertise
- This is a nice treatment for the subject
- We can see the strength that light has played in this image

PHRASES AVOID

- Bizarre / weird
- Busy
- Common / cliché / overdone
- Gimmicky / pretentious
- I don't like ...
- I don't understand ...
- I have one just like it
- I prefer. ...
- I would have ...
- If only
- I'm waiting to see what's coming
- Incorrect / wrong / improper
- Mundane / boring
- Needs a red canoe
- No main subject
- Poor image
- Poor lighting
- Snap shot / Grab shot
- Strange choice of subject
- Substandard / disappointing
- The previous image ...
- Wrong lens / composition / angle

INSTEAD, CONSIDER USING:

- Intriguing
- There are many potential images in this photo
- Classic / Proven / tried & true / solid / often used
- Technique may be more appropriate to a different subject
- A challenging shot...
- It would be interesting to find out...
- Many people enjoy shooting similar subjects
- (Do not use - examine your biases)
- If possible It could have been stronger if
- [Avoid this! Judge what's there]
- (Do not hold back scores)
- Unusual/different
- Impact may have been increased by ...
- The main subject is not clear
- This image seems to be about ...
- Good effort
- Challenging conditions
- With a little more time ...
- Unusual subject
- Technique may have suffered because of. ...
- (Do not compare)
- A better choice may have been ...

JUDGING VOCABULARY OF USEFUL TERMS

IMPACT:

- Brilliance
- Lead-lines
- Perspective
- Structure
- Centre-of-interest
- Focal point
- Highlights
- Shadows
- Clear
- framing
- Rim
- lighting
- Creative
- Disturbing
- Compression
- Expansion
- Rich colours
- Dynamic
- Heavy
- Hard-edge
- Imaginative
- Panning
- Zooming
- Emphasis
- Contrast
- Relationship
- Concentrations
- Mirror-image
- Isolation
- Strength
- Tension
- Saturation
- focus

MOOD:

- Balance
- Sensitivity
- Atmosphere
- Calmness
- Blending
- Lightness
- Tones
- Appeal
- Suggestive
- flowing
- Ethereal
- Tranquil
- Soft focus
- Harmony
- Diffusion
- Selective focus

GENERAL TERMS:

- Cropping
- Grouping
- Masking
- Enhanced
- Dilution (colour)
- Sharpness
- Detail
- Proportions
- Exposure
- Washed out
- Exposure range
- Viewpoint
- Field of view
- filtration
- Camera position
- format
- foreground
- Background
- Subject plane
- Texture
- Journalistic
- Statement
- Pleasing
- Wide Angle
- Rule-of-thirds
- Ratio (colour, tone)
- Accents
- Abstract
- Sheen
- Directional lighting
- Subtle
- Documentary
- Weakness
- Colour balance
- Control
- Organization