

## Cameras

Quality	DSLR / Mirrorless Full frame	Mirrorless crop sensor or Compact	Phone	35mm Film
Size / weight	Poor to OK	G	VG	G
Noise	Poor to VG	VG	VG	Poor to G
Lighting scope	VG	G	OK to VG	Poor to OK
Seeing results	VG	VG	VG	No
Cost of equipment	Poor	OK	No	G to VG
Obtrusiveness	Poor	OK	VG	OK
Telephoto shots	VG	OK to VG	Poor to G	G

G = good      VG = very good

## Lenses

24-35mm for full frame is often the best choice – a fixed focal length (prime) lens, rather than zoom, will be smaller and lighter. A telephoto zoom may be useful.

## In my shoulder bag

- Camera and lens
- Additional lens
- Spare battery and memory card
- ID card
- Lens cloth
- Earphones
- Water and sunscreen?
- Portable waterproof jacket?
- Portable tripod? – low light shots
- Notebook and pen? – record location etc

## Exposure using 35mm (or equivalent) lens

- ISO (DSLR) 1000 to 1500
- Aperture – f/8 (aperture priority); shutter speed about 1/250 or shorter, set by camera
- Shutter speed – deliberate motion blur (1/4 to 1/30 – shutter speed priority)
- Manual good for slowing you down deliberately

## Focus

- Modern autofocus quick and can sense people and eyes
- Manual focus can be quicker and less obtrusive
- Set distance using autofocus, then switch to manual focus. Take care when shooting or holding the camera - don't move the lens mount!
- Explore depth of field – e.g. full frame camera, switch off autofocus, set focus to 3 metres on 35mm lens, f/8, DOF = 2 to 7metres see <https://www.photopills.com/calculators/dof>

## Planning

- Choose location and sorts of subjects
  - Is it dangerous? – should I go there or take a friend?
  - Are there cultural sensitivities?
  - Are there legal restrictions?
- Getting there
- Weather (advance warning and preparation)
- Manage expectations – 2 or 3 good shots per day?

## Visibility

- Shoulder / messenger bag – unobtrusive
- Wear dark colours
- Hat, e.g. peaked cap
- Comfortable trainers or shoes
- Avoid brand names on camera straps
- Black tape over brand name in some locations
- Be aware of people who may be watching you
- Walk slowly, avoid eye contact or wear sunglasses, wear earphones, look miserable!
- Work quickly but smoothly..... or
- Shoot from the hip, or crouch down.... or
- Stay in one spot and let people come in and out of frame without moving the camera
- Turn off beeps on camera or phone
- Take lots of shots around you..... e.g.
- Pretend to be a tourist (except in tourist unfriendly areas!)

## Conquer your fear

- People generally won't notice you, especially in a busy street
- It's legal almost everywhere in the UK
- Practise in least 'difficult' areas
- Avoid angry looking subjects
- If spotted, smile and turn away
- Have a stock excuse and be polite in the unlikely event you are challenged (Project? Course?)
- Worst case scenario – delete a photo if asked to
- Remember – stay positive, you're making art, not invading people's privacy

## General tips

- Work the scene with lots of shots from different angles
- Walk slowly and stop to take the photograph
- Anticipate situations, e.g. juxtaposition of person and wall poster – be patient
- Look out for the unusual
- Don't hesitate –make sure your camera is always ready and take the shot
- You need lots of luck to get that 'perfect' picture!