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Strobist Photo Trade Secrets, Volume 2: Portrait Lighting Techniques (One-Off)



Synopsis

Strobist Photo Trade Secrets volumes one and two are all about giving you the inspiration and tools to help make your photographs the best they can be. It doesn't take hundreds of pages of instructions or piles of complicated theories to take great photographs. Photo Trade Secrets uses microlessons--each with a simple-to-understand diagram, tips, and a clear description accompanying an inspiring image--so you can spend less time reading and more time shooting. Photo Trade Secrets postcard books are high-quality trade paperbacks, with perforated pages of thick card stock--so you can simply tear them out and take individual microlessons with you when you shoot. Whether you duplicate the photos in the book or use the techniques as a take-off point for creating your own dynamic family photos, killer commercial shots, or eye-catching masterworks, you'll find Photo Trade Secrets to be the fastest, most fun and effective way to take your photography to the next level. Grab your Photo Trade Secrets and get out there and shoot! Learn to Light Portraits Learning to light portraits is simple and fun, thanks to these 25 inspiring microlessons, which include images from contributors to photo lighting guru David Hobby's website. On the reverse side of each amazing photo you'll find a lighting diagram and helpful tips. Tear out individual cards and take them with you for quick reference on your next shoot! Examples

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Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Want to improve your photography? Then learn to see and control light. I wish Trade Secret Cards had been around when I was working my way up. This set is a virtual classroom that you can carry with you. There is no faster or easier way to learn how to light than this. Each card presents an image that will inspire you to get out and shoot, along with clear, simple-to-follow diagrams and instructions. Want a lighting genie? Try rubbing this collection of Photo Trade Secrets and see what happens." -Syl Arena, Editor, Speedliting.com

Learning to light portraits is simple and fun, thanks to these 25 inspiring microlessons, which include images from contributors to Strobist.com, the Web site of photo lighting guru David Hobby. On the reverse side of each amazing photo you'll find a lighting diagram and helpful tips. Tear out individual cards and take them with you for quick reference on your next shoot.

A few have complained that this volume is a waste of money because there are no camera settings. True, but the author has set his book up in a postcard style where you can rip out a particular shot and take it with you. He provides the finished photo and a detailed lighting diagram illustrating how it was done and information for selected shots such as aperture, speed and a shutter speed. One would normally select the ISO based on the conditions and based on how you want the background to look. Anyone with some common lighting knowledge will be able to replicate these images within 5- 10 minutes. No this is not for those that want to be spoon-fed.

I don't take time to write reviews often, but felt it was warranted this time, due to the bashing this book seems to have received from a few shooters. This book is very cool, just like the first one. It's all about using simple, minimal (in most cases), portable lighting to achieve dramatic looks. It doesn't give you the camera used, lens, f stop, shutter speed, or distance/power of the strobes. Scott Kelby does all that, and he is a terrific trainer, I have every one of his books, and they're really good. THIS BOOK is meant to spark your creativity. If you know what you are doing with strobes, light modifiers, and your camera rig, it wouldn't be hard to duplicate any of the shots here. But that's not the point. The author is showing you ways to use these minimal "recipes" as a starting point for your own creativity! If you're a novice, this is not the book for you. Buy the Kelby Books, and above all, spend a LOT of time shooting and getting to know your gear. If you're a serious amateur, and know your gear pretty well, this will help you on your way. If you're a pro, you'll love this book!

Great little book that cuts the nonsense and serves as a practical guide to dramatic portrait lighting using easy to understand diagrams and examples shot using only minimal equipment and common sense. Highly recommended for those photographers willing to learn quality lighting when short on time or requiring to come up with effective lighting solutions while on the go.

When I got the books, I was excited at the fact that the images were printed on one side and the lighting setups were on the opposite side. The pages are thick, very nice, glossy card stock, and perforated so that you may remove the pages and take them on location with you. The only thing I'd wish for would be more pages.. Glad this came in 2 volumes and I got them both at the same time. Both versions have a nice variety of images and lighting setups so I'd definitely advise getting them both.

If you already know and practice shooting flash from off the camera, then this is a useful book showing a photo on each page and on the back of the page showing the setup to get the shot. If you are not used to shooting a flash off camera, you should first get a book on how to shoot a flash off camera. Once you know the principles, then this book is useful. Getting this book first would be money not well spent.

I like this book it did help me out at first with lighting setups. Now I use it as a reference it's a good book if you're interested in being part of the strobist community.

Interesting how one book can get you to thinking and its follow up book can just smack you in the mouth to keep you focused... ! I highly recommend both to any strobist library.

This book-postcards are an awesome quick guide for lighting, I'm always looking for the secrets of the great strobists. The only thing missing are the shot settings info (lens, aperture, speed, iso) Great product.

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