

Chico OLLI Volunteer Instructor: Cris Guenter

Taking and Editing Photos on the iPhone Session 1 Notes

Note; All iphone screenshots in class notes are from an iPhone 15.



iPhone photo taken 4/25/21 at 7:42 pm looking across Eaton Rd. to Wildwood Park - Cris Guenter

Beginning vocabulary

[iPhone Camera Basics - Apple Support](#)

[The almost painfully-long glossary of iPhone photo terms - Wolfe with an e's blog](#)

Additional Resources

[How to Take Burst Mode Photos on iPhone for Perfect Action Shots](#)

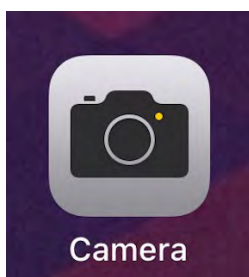
[How to Convert Your iPhone Live Photos into Long Exposure](#)

[Take Night Mode Photos with Your iPhone Camera](#)

Holding and Stabilizing the iPhone

- Pull elbows into body. Take a deep breath. Then shoot.
- Rest elbows, still close to body, on something stable like a fence, post or rock before you shoot.
- Use a good, portable tripod for smartphones.

(I use [Joby Grip Tight GorillaPod Pro 2](#).)

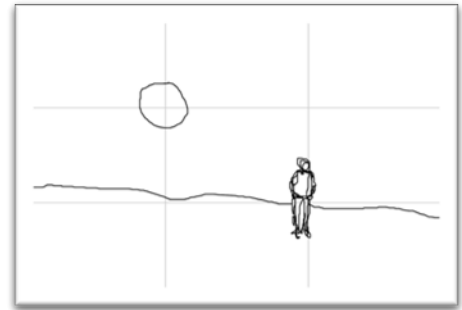


Camera icon on your iPhone
Tap it to access your iPhone camera.

On all models, open Camera and pinch the screen to zoom in or out.

Tap the shutter button or press either volume button to take a photo.

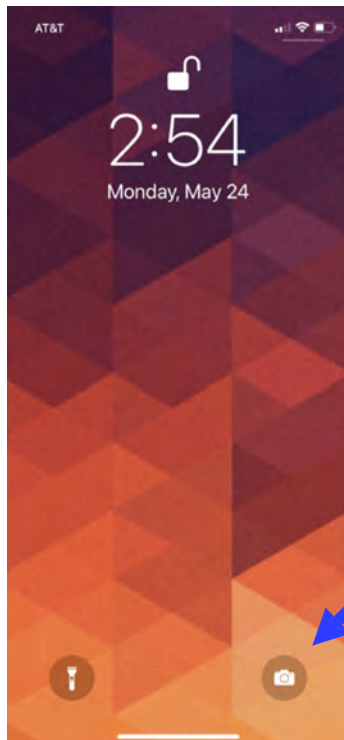
Rule of Thirds - The rule of thirds is the concept of dividing your shot with a 3 x 3 grid and aligning the subjects with the lines on that grid. Doing this leads to much more appealing and engaging photos.



Enabling the Grid on iPhone

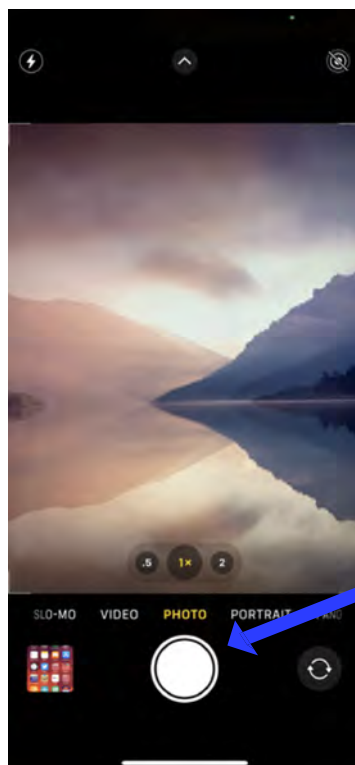
- Open Settings
- Select Camera. (Scroll down to find it beneath Music, TV, Photos...)
- Select **Grid** and turn it on
- Open the Camera app and you will see the grid. The grid is for your reference. It does not show up in your actual photos.





You can quickly access your iPhone camera from its locked position by doing a 2-sec hold on the camera icon on the lower right OR swiping left on the lock screen.

Camera modes are found along the bottom. Swipe left or right to select:



Time-Lapse -- a video recording mode that captures video at a very low frame rate; almost the opposite of slow motion

Slo-Mo -- captures live motion and slows it down

Cinematic -- record videos with a shallow depth of field

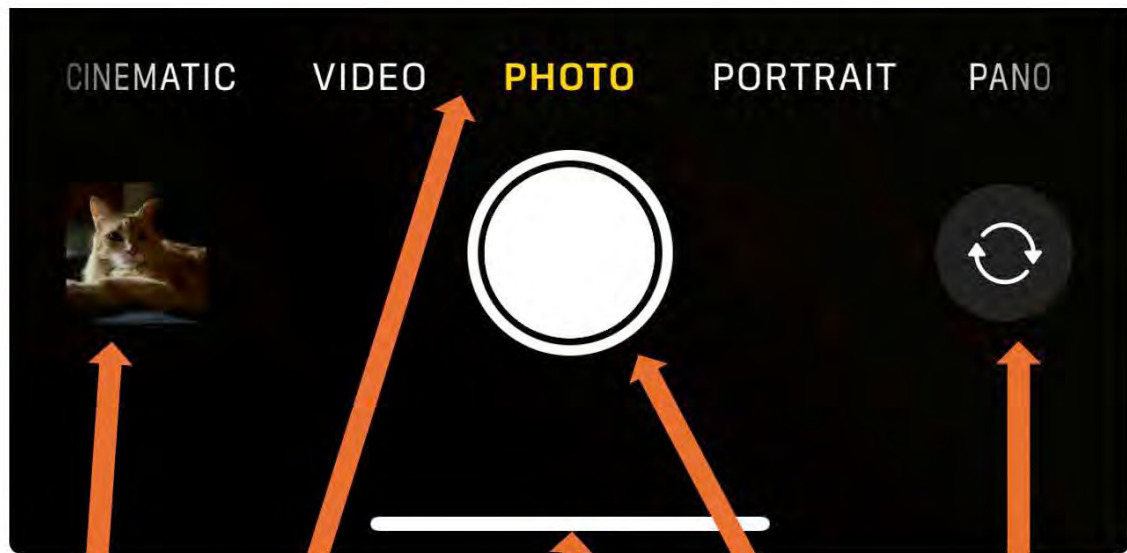
Video -- captures live motion

Photo -- standard; still and live modes

Portrait -- depth of field effect; subject sharp, background blurry

Spatial -- captures photos with more depth & dimension (Apple Vision Pro)

Pano-- a panoramic photo of your surroundings



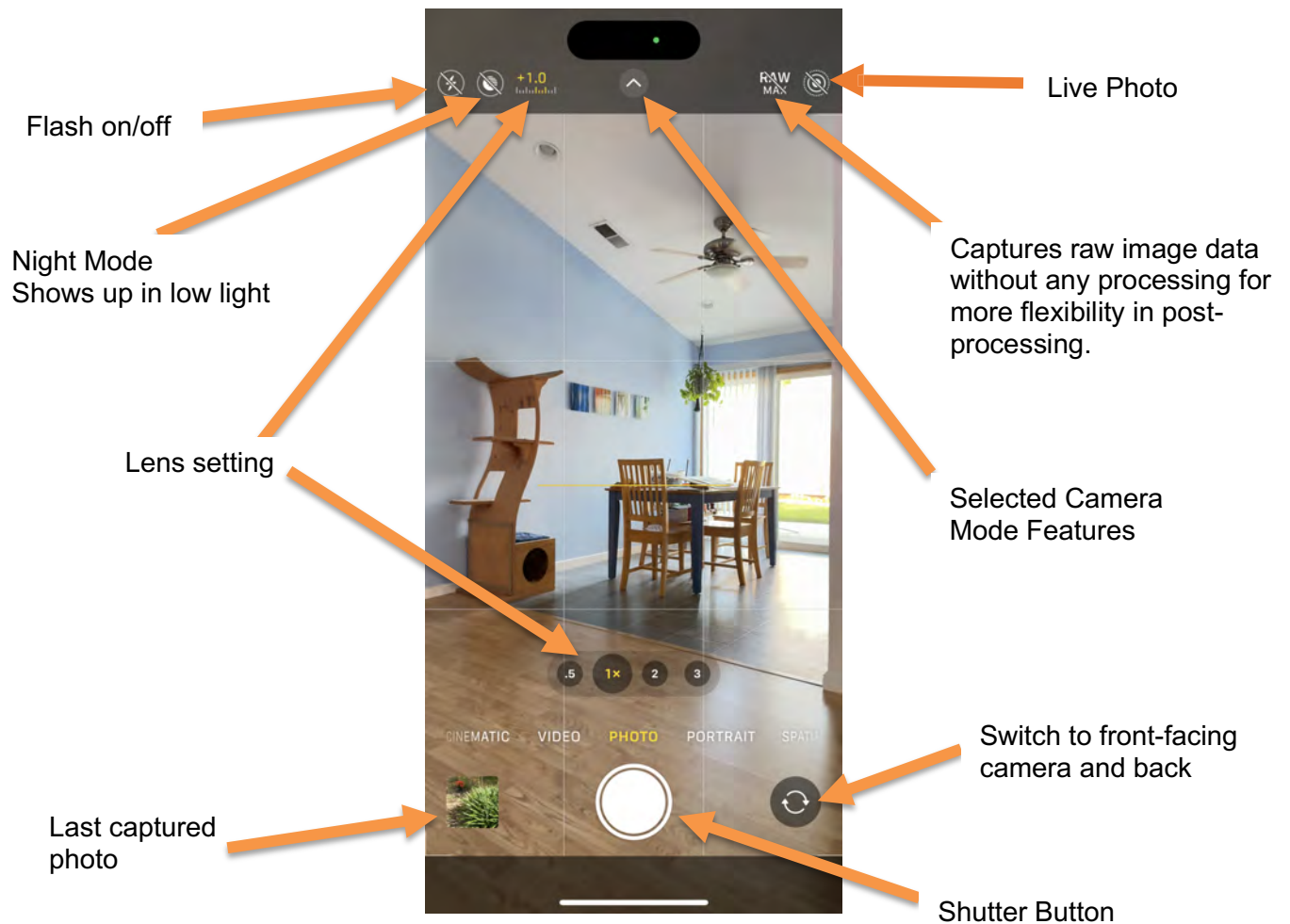
Most Recent Photo Taken

Camera Modes

Swipe indicator

Shutter Button

Switch to front-facing camera and back



Flash on/off

Night Mode Shows up in low light

Lens setting

Last captured photo

Live Photo

Captures raw image data without any processing for more flexibility in post-processing.

Selected Camera Mode Features

Switch to front-facing camera and back

Shutter Button

Taking Panoramic photos on your iPhone

1. Choose Pano mode.
2. Tap the Shutter button.
3. Pan **slowly** in the direction of the arrow, keeping it on the center line.
4. To finish, tap the Shutter button again.

Tap the arrow to pan in the opposite direction. To pan vertically, rotate iPhone to landscape orientation. You can reverse the direction of a vertical pan, too.



Adjust the camera's focus and exposure

Before you take a photo, the iPhone camera automatically sets the focus and exposure, and face detection balances the exposure across many faces. If you want to manually adjust the focus and exposure, do the following:

1. Open Camera.
2. Tap the screen to show the automatic focus area and exposure setting.
3. Tap where you want to move the focus area.
4. Next to the focus area, drag  up or down to adjust the exposure.

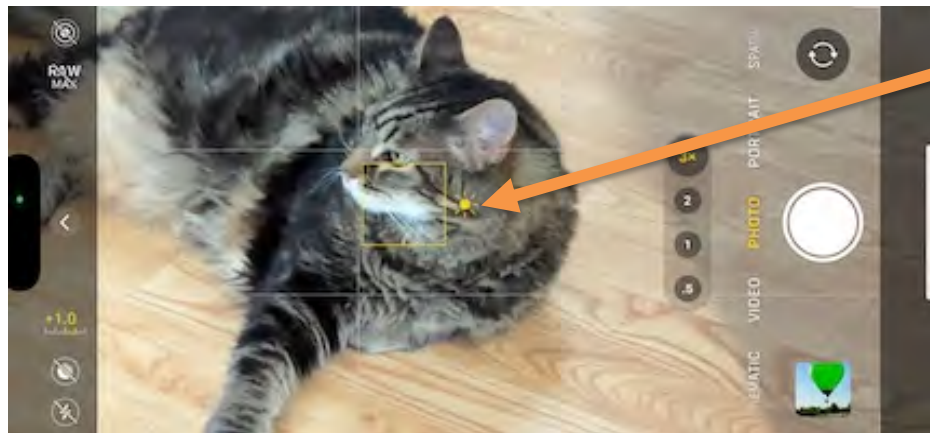


Photo Mode

Features are found by tapping arrow at top middle (left middle for horizontal shot) of screen



Flash: LED flash on your device gives your photo extra light when you need it. Tap the flash button to turn on or off.



Night Mode: Improves low-light photos by capturing more detail and brightness. Activates automatically in low light, or can be toggled manually via Night Mode button



Live Photos: You can capture life as it happens—in movement and sound. Live Photos is on by default. Tap the Live Photos button to turn it off.



Photographic Styles: Rich Contrast, vibrant, Warm or Cool



Aspect Ratio: If you have iPhone 11, 11 Pro, and 11 Pro Max, you can change ratio of width to height on an image. Select Square, 4:3 (default), or 16:9. Earlier iPhones have a native aspect ratio with no choices. You can crop your photo after it has been taken.



Exposure: If you have iPhone 11, 11 Pro, and 11 Pro Max, or later you can adjust your exposure level by sliding the scale to the left or right.



Timer: Set your device somewhere sturdy, frame your shot, then tap the timer button. Choose a 3 or 10 second countdown, tap the shutter button, Then step into the frame.



Adjust light and color: Improve the exposure, saturation, highlights,

Considerations when taking photos on your iPhone

- Rule of Thirds
- Composition of frame
- Size of frame
- Lines help create depth and invite viewers into your photo
- Symmetry - often found in reflections

Turn off flash.

Turn on HDR (High Dynamic Range) Auto.

HDR helps you get great shots in high-contrast situations. **iPhone** takes several photos in rapid succession at different exposures and blends them together to bring more highlight and shadow detail to your photos.

For macro photography, lock focus.

Use the exposure meter to brighten or darken images.

Use burst mode for action shots - anything that involves movement--sports, kids, pets, etc.

1. On your **iPhone**, head to the **Settings** app.
2. Swipe down and tap Camera.
3. Now tap the toggle next to Use Volume Up for **Burst**.

Burst mode available on iPhone XS, iPhone XR, and later.

- 1 Press and immediately drag the shutter button to the left for portrait orientation photos
- 2 Press and immediately drag the shutter button up for landscape photos
- 3 Let go when you are done shooting

Think before you shoot.

- Target one subject.
- Change the viewing angle.
- Get close enough for details
- Consider shapes by taking silhouettes.
- Consider including or using only shadows
- Make use of reflections.

If you are interested in a nifty little shutter remote for your iPhone, this is what I use:

[Xenvo Shutterbug](#)

Things to Explore this Week

Get familiar with the different icons covered in today's session. Practice navigating to camera features that you want to use. Take photos trying out the different iPhone features using the considerations we covered in Session 1.

Nature

- Landscapes
- Cloudscapes
- Flowers
- Fields or Orchards
- Trees, branches, bark

Animals

- Pets
- Farm
- Bugs
- Birds
- Fish, water creatures

Water

- Sprinklers
- Hose
- Creek, Pond, lake, ocean
- Waves

Events

- Sports
- Festival
- Parade
- Farmer's Market
- Dance
- Concert

Ground

- Rocks
- Sand
- Soil
- Paths
- Dirt roads

Architecture

- Old buildings
- Ruins
- Modern buildings
- Barns
- Interiors
- Exteriors

People

- Toddlers
- Children
- Teens
- Siblings
- Whole Families
- Generations in a family

Your Home

- Inside inspirations
- Outside inspirations

For our second session next week we will focus on editing photos on the iPhone. Your iPhone comes with some amazing features that we will explore.

During our second session I will also share an app for your iPhone that you may find additionally useful for editing.

Before our second session, download and install the following app:



Snapseed
From Google LLC
Free