Wichita Wildlight Photographic Society

PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY - GENERAL

What is phone photography?

Sometimes referred to as mobile photography. It's taking pictures with a mobile phone. The camera technology on smartphones is more than adequate for taking photos and publishing them online. Depending on the camera quality and number of pixels, photos can be printed 8x10" and higher with excellent results.

Did you know?

- Convenience in that you can stick it in your pocket or purse.
- Smartphone photography will probably never replace DSLRs.
- You can still get fantastic, professional looking photos out of it under many conditions.

Camera phones have different features (modes). Here are some of the more popular ones. Not all cameras have these and there are many others. Check your manual or do an Internet search.

Camera features:

- Auto-detection Flash
- Autofocus
- Burst Mode
- Dual-lens
- Filters
- High Dynamic Range (HDR)
- High-Resolution Video
- Optical Image Stabilization (OIS)
- Portrait Mode
- Wide aperture

Here are some settings for your camera:

- Filters
- Flash
- Front/Rear Selection
- Grid
- Live Mode
- Record Slo-Mo
- Record Video
- Shutter Release
- Timer

If you set up your camera with certain settings (modes & features), did you know you can preserve those particular settings?

In your camera settings, there should be a choice to simply 'Preserve Settings'. When you want to use that preserved setting on your camera phone – simply load it. (Check the manual for your particular camera on how to do this. Older phones may not have this option available.)

Did you know that smartphones have a manual mode? Well, sorta!

Only newer camera phones have some manual mode settings and nothing like you'd find on a DSLR, but it's a start.

Android beats Apple as there is an app from the Google Play Store to allow for that. (You do know that Google owns the Android OS, right?)

Here is an article on that:

https://www.androidauthority.com/manual-mode-mobile-photography-984189/

How to reset camera phone settings?

For the iPhone:

- Settings → Camera
- Switch on the toggles for modes, filters, and such.
- Preserve Settings

For the Android:

- Settings → Applications → Application Manager → Camera App
- Tap Force Stop
- Go to the storage menu
- Select Clear Data and Clear Cache

Uploading pictures to the cloud

Camera phones can be set up to upload pictures to the "cloud". This can be set up automatically or you can select which photos get uploaded.

Some popular "cloud" services include iCloud, Google, Microsoft OneDrive, Amazon Cloud Drive and more.

From the "cloud" you can share pictures or albums.

Uploading pictures to your computer

Pictures from one's camera phone should be uploaded to one's computer every now and again. This frees up storage on your phone and provides a backup of those pictures (if they are kept on the phone that is).

You can transfer your pictures by plugging in the adapter from your phone to your computer, wirelessly, or using apps.

Sharing your pictures online

Again, you can use a "cloud" service, upload your photos, then share them using a link.

You can also share them via text messages or as an attachment to an email.

You can share them via social media.

So, which phone is better when it comes to photography?

The two categories are Android and iPhone.

- Android is used by many manufacturers.
- iPhone is used only by Apple.

Here are some reasons to choose the Android over the iPhone:

- More Smartphone makers use Android.
- Android devices span all price ranges.
- Android has wider compatibility for devices.
- Android's Al and software features have caught up.
- There's greater variety of Android devices.
- Android is more popular worldwide.
- Android phones are generally less expensive than iPhones.

These items are elaborated in the following article: https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/android-more-popular-iphone/

Here are some reasons to choose the iPhone over the Android:

- iPhones tend to be faster.
- Easier to use.
- Better (and more) apps available.
- Works great with mac computers.
- Easier integration to cloud services.

These items are elaborated in the following article:

https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/android-more-popular-iphone/

Android

- Less expensive
- More choices
- Proprietary OS
- Uses standard USB ports
- Using Google photos is free

iPhone

- More apps available
- Localized support
- Better security
- Better marketing

The debate over which phone to use, for camera or otherwise, will probably continue for years to come. There's no doubt that Apple beat out Microsoft in this technology and their marketing is such that their phone sales well outsell all other Apple technology.

Bill Gates admitted he screwed up not jumping on the phone OS that would have either beaten out Apple or been a stronger competitor.

Here is the article with Bill Gates talking about that. https://www.theverge.com/2019/11/6/20952370/bill-gates-windows-mobile-

android-competition-comments-microsoft-antitrust

There's more – the apps

There are so many apps available for the Android and iPhones that it can be overwhelming; however, nearly anything you're hoping to do with your camera phone can probably be found in an app somewhere.

Photo editing apps is a big one!

Here are many resources on camera phones and the next presentation will discuss some of the more popular apps for phones.

From Apple:

How to Shoot on iPhone This website, direct from Apple, has many links on how to use your iPhone for photography. https://www.apple.com/iphone/photography-how-to/

General Information, Hints & Tips:

10 Common Smartphone Photography Mistakes and how to Avoid them https://expertphotography.com/common-smartphone-photography-mistakes/

10 Easy Tips and Tricks for Better Smartphone Photos https://www.pcmag.com/article/310112/tips-and-tricks-for-better-smartphone-photography

10 Tips to Help Improve Your Smartphone Photography https://www.hongkiat.com/blog/ways-improve-smartphone-photography/

General Information, Hints & Tips:

12 iPhone Photography Tips for Better Photos https://expertphotography.com/iphone-photography-tips/

A Simple Guide to Better Smartphone Photography https://expertphotography.com/a-simple-guide-to-make-you-a-better-smartphone-photographer/

Abstract Photography with your Smartphone: Easy Tips https://expertphotography.com/smartphone-abstract-photography/

General Information, Hints & Tips:

How to Take Camera Phone Pictures https://photographylife.com/camera-phone-photography

How to Take Great Smartphone Photos (No Matter the Light!) https://expertphotography.com/best-lighting-smartphone/

Photography 101: Basic Photography Tips to Take Cool Pictures on Your Phone https://photoswithphones.com/photography-101-basic-photography-tips-to-take-cool-pictures/

General Information, Hints & Tips:

Smartphone Photography: How to Take Advantage of the Camera You Carry Everywhere https://expertphotography.com/smartphone-photography-how-to-take-advantage-of-the-camera-you-carry-everywhere/

Smartphone Photography Tips: 16 Handy Tricks you Should Know https://www.androidauthority.com/smartphone-photography-tips-tricks-872213/

The Complete Guide to Smartphone Photography: 96 Tips https://expertphotography.com/the-complete-guide-to-smartphone-photography-96-tips/

General Information, Hints & Tips:

The iPhone Camera: More Than a Basic Point-and-Shoot https://www.bhphotovideo.com/explora/photography/tips-and-solutions/iphone-camera-more-basic-point-and-shoot

Tips for making the most of the iPhone 11's ultra-wide camera lens <a href="https://www.popphoto.com/story/how-to/tips-iphone-ultra-wide-camera-lens-photography/?con=TrueAnthem&dom=fb&src=SOC&utm_campaign&utm_medium&utm_source&fbclid=lwAR0VCudFWq6tar0AqZThf8s42BvB9BKzcRS4VnLoAmyTlwx0_uy_2s40G8

General Information, Hints & Tips:

What is the Best iPhone Tripod? Top Picks 2019 https://expertphotography.com/best-iphone-tripod/

Your Complete Guide to the Android Camera https://www.pcworld.com/article/2021321/your-complete-guide-to-the-android-camera.html

Photo Editing with your smartphone:

10 Tips for Smartphone Photo Editing https://expertphotography.com/the-complete-guide-to-smartphone-photography-96-tips/

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PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY - ACCESSORIES

Here we'll discuss accessories for your phone. Some pertain to the photography aspect and some don't.

Phone Stands

- Many choices available
- Prices range from rather inexpensive to expensive
- Stands to Mounts





Phone Chargers

 Carry one with you on your trips





Phone Lenses

- Many available
- Just clip it onto the phone





Phone LED Light

 Used in video more than in still photography



Phone Photo Printer

- Attach it to your phone
- Print instantly



Phone Photo Scanner

- Attach it to your phone
- Scan instantly



Phone Multimedia System

- Get crazy and go all out
- Attach the LED light
- Attach the microphone
- Attach the telephoto lens
- Have fun!



Phone Multimedia System

- Get even crazier!
- Attach the LED light
- Attach a DSLR
- Attach the telephoto lens
- Use a stabilizer
- Have fun!



Accessories for your phone

Remote Shutter



Accessories for your phone

Other

- Bike mounts
- Helmet mounts
- Tripods
- And more!

Resources

Accessories for your smartphone:

20 Best Mobile Photography Accessories of 2018 http://resourcemagonline.com/2019/01/20-best-mobile-photography-accessories-of-2018/109966/

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PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY - APPS

Next we'll discuss apps for your phone. We'll stick with those that pertain to phone photography as the number of apps for phones are aplenty.

I MEAN OVERWHELMING!

They say the best camera is the one that you have with you. Even though I love my digital SLR, quite frequently, I shoot with my smartphone. This is why mobile phone photography is so popular.

NOTE: In 2019, sales for DSLRs were outsold by Mirrorless Cameras and both of those were outsold by phones, which most people use for their photography.

In 2019, cameras got much better, but the market still crashed.

A mobile application, also referred to as a mobile app or simply an app, is a computer program or software application designed to run on a mobile device such as a phone, tablet, or watch. Apps were originally intended for productivity assistance such as email, calendar, and contact databases, but the public demand for apps caused rapid expansion into other areas such as mobile games, factory automation, GPS and location-based services, order-tracking, and ticket purchases, so that there are now millions of apps available.

Apps are generally downloaded from application distribution platforms which are operated by the owner of the mobile operating system, such as the App Store (iOS) or Google Play Store. Some apps are free, and others have a price, with the profit being split between the application's creator and the distribution platform.

Mobile applications often stand in contrast to desktop applications which are designed to run on desktop computers, and web applications which run in mobile web browsers rather than directly on the mobile device.

Apps for the iPhone

Camera+ (free)

Allows you to control separate focus and exposure points. There is also selective focus, exposure compensation, and exposure lock.

Some people use this app on every picture they take.

Hipstamatic (free)

This app allows you to select "film" and "lenses" in the "classic mode" before you shoot to create the perfect effect.

This app adds a modern interface with the ability to change your "lenses" and "filters" after you have taken the shot.

Retro Camera (free)

This app does much the same thing that the Hipstamatic-style images does for the iPhone.

Waterlogge (free)

Create beautiful watercolor style images. There are a number of different styles to choose from.

Apps for the Android

A Better Camera (free)

This app is an all-purpose, full-featured addition to the Android camera phone.

One can shoot in single-mode, preshot, panorama, HDR, video and much more.

Camera FV-5 (\$3.95)

Lots of manual controls with this app. That includes focus, white balance, and even shutter speed. You can even shoot in RAW, lossless PNG, and use the RGB histogram.

Google Camera (free)

This app has some fancy tricks up its sleeve. Users have been able to improve the camera quality on other devices with the same app.

Open Camera (free)

Fully featured app that lets you use auto-stabilize if you choose. You can expose your camera's functionality with scene modes, color effects, white balance, ISO, exposure compensation/lock, selfie, HD video and more.

Apps for the iPhone and the Android

A Color Story (free for iPhone) A Color Story (free for Android)

This is a very fun app to use. If you like playing around with lighting and color effects – you should try this app.

There are over 40 effects, 100 filters, and 20 different tools to edit your photos.

AirBrush (free for iPhone) AirBrush (free for Android)

This app helps remove flaws you may have in your pictures.

It has some seriously powerful functionalities such as teeth whitening or blemish control.

Diana (\$1.99 for iPhone) **Diana** (free for Android)

This app is an easy way to create double-exposure images in seconds. Select the photos you want in the double-exposed picture or you can let Diana randomly do that for you.

Prisma (free for iPhone) Prisma (free for Android)

This is a fun app that will turn your images into works of art in seconds. Lots of different options to create in this app.

Proshot (\$5.99 for iPhone) Proshot (\$3.99 for Android)

Has all of the auto, program and manual modes that Camera+ has.

With this app you have full control of over exposure, ISO, and shutter speed.

The most important aspect here is the ability to separate focus and exposure like you can with the Camera+ app.

Snapseed (free for iPhone) **Snapseed** (free for Android)

This is the go-to app for processing photos and has a very easy interface.

There are many options in this app, but some favorites are selective contrast and exposure settings.

Other settings include grunge, HDR and Retroux.

VSCO (free for iPhone) **VSCO** (free for Android)

Pronounced "visco" in case you're curious!

This app has a number of settings for photo editing. It allows you to perform both subtle and intense adjustments.

Wordswag (free for iPhone) Wordswag (free for Android)

If you're looking for an easy way to add text to your pictures, this simple app may be the one to consider.

It also creates graphics in your pictures.

Wrap it up

There are just so many phone apps that can be used in one's photography that it could take you weeks or months to find them all, learn about them and maybe try them out.

The more popular apps are generally found if you do an Internet search for 'phone photography apps'. Be prepared – it IS overwhelming.

Resources

Apps for your smartphone:

10 Best Photo Editing Apps for iPhone and Android https://expertphotography.com/best-photo-editing-apps-smartphone/

10 Seriously Awesome Apps for Photographers https://expertphotography.com/best-photo-apps-iphone/

12 Most Useful Landscape Photography Apps https://expertphotography.com/best-landscape-apps/

Resources

Apps for your smartphone:

9 of the Best Apps to Help You Do Awesome Mobile Phone Photography https://digital-photography-school.com/9-best-apps-mobile-phone-photography/

Apps for your camera phone

https://www.bestbuy.com/site/mobile-phone-accessories/cell-phone-photography-accessories/pcmcat373300050003.c?id=pcmcat373300050003

Thank you for watching this video!

