

Want to get better iPhone 11 pics? Here are a few tips from the pros

December 23 2019, by Jefferson Graham



This year the revamped iPhone 11 Pro was one of the most acclaimed upgrades of the year, most notably for the improved camera. Apple added a third lens, to allow for ultra-wide, GoPro like shots, and the

ability to shoot in super low light.

Apple offered U.S. TODAY some tips from pro photographers who use the 11 Pro. Their take:

Night mode

Aundre Larrow: "Identify your main light source and stand firm. Have your subject face it in order to get the most light possible. Then stand firm, keeping your balance by placing both feet on the ground and tucking in your elbows to avoid [camera](#) shake. This will give you the crispest image. You can also increase and decrease the number of seconds Night mode takes to capture a great low light image."

Erin Brooks: "Play around with whatever light you have. Before iPhone 11 Pro, I would have to turn artificial lights on or use a flash, but both of those things changed the mood of a photograph. Recently, I took a Night mode photo of my daughters next to a lit menorah. I wanted to keep the peaceful feeling that the darkness of their faces illuminated by only the candles created. Normally, a shot in the dark like that would be difficult to capture on camera without ending up blurry, too dark, or too grainy. However, with Night mode, I got an amazingly bright photo and an incredible level of detail in my photograph!"

Ultra wide angle

Matt Van Swol: "Go low. One of the most beautiful aspects of this camera for me as a landscape photographer has been the ability to capture both the foreground and background in the same shot with incredible detail. Often times these sorts of shots require me to bend or lean lower to the ground in certain awkward ways to get a unique shot, but the end result is always worth it!"

Portrait mode

Larrow: "Create distance. The more physical distance between your subject and the background, the more separation your iPhone can create for you. Portrait mode creates depth by mimicking the depth of field that you'd get on" pro-level camera.

His second tip: Play With the telephoto (2x) and wide (1x) capabilities.

"Looking to flatten your image? The telephoto camera is your best bet, as it gives the effect you are accustomed to from sport photos. The wide camera is best for those waist up portraits we all love, and they are perfect for last minute holiday cards!"

Shooting video

How to decide whether to shoot in 4K video at 24 frames per second, 30 frames or 60, three options offered?

Andy To: "Set 4k at 24 fps as your default as it captures what the eye sees... it also takes up less storage space on your iPhone. Use 30 fps if you're looking for the style of video you see on TV, and use 4k at 60 fps when you're trying to capture action sports or when you plan to edit your video into a slow motion."

Horizontal or vertical?

"As a mobile filmmaker, I shoot vertical when I'm trying to capture a selfie video or documenting something that I don't plan to share outside of Instagram Stories, Snapchat, etc. But shoot in horizontal to capture memories, people and the places that you travel to. This will allow you to repurpose content later on and turn it into a more lasting memory. This way, you can create a more cinematic format that you can share on

YouTube or AirPlay to your TV and enjoy with your family and friends."

One more tip: use the free, new editing tools in iOS13, which let you greatly enhance the photo, with sliders to adjust the exposure, contract and more. "The feature is really lovely," notes Larrow.

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