

# Introduction

As someone who writes photography books, I often get calls from friends and colleagues who are unhappy with their current cameras and want me to recommend something that “takes better pictures.” Nine times out of ten, further discussion reveals that a new camera isn’t the answer. All most people need to turn out terrific photos is simply a little technical guidance and some help with their photographic technique.

To get good results from a digital camera, you need to understand traditional photography controls, such as exposure and focus options. That’s only half the story, however. You also have to master digital-only features such as white balance, resolution, and image file formats.

Professional photographers go to school for years to study these subjects and refine their craft. Just because you have neither the time nor the inclination to get a degree in photography doesn’t mean that you, too, can’t take professional-looking pictures, however. With this book, you can get stellar results from your digital camera without setting foot inside a classroom.

*Shoot Like a Pro! Digital Photography Techniques* condenses the most important lessons of photography school into one, easy-to-digest package. You’ll not only get the information you need to decipher the jargon associated with digital photography, but also learn techniques that enable you to take full advantage of all the creative controls your camera offers.

Each chapter shows you secrets that the pros use every day to get perfect pictures, no matter how challenging the subject. Whatever you want to do with your digital camera, from taking product shots for your business to capturing a family celebration, this book will help *you* look like a pro.