

E3: Altered Focus

(25 Points)

Name: _____

Original Images due:

Exercise due:

Objectives:

1. Practice blur techniques in Adobe Photoshop.
2. Understand how to create photo-realistic shallow depth of field.
3. Understand how to imply movement with motion blur.
4. Understand how use blur to mimic other photographic effects such as Pinhole and Tilt-Shift.

Requirements:

1. Prior to this exercise, you will need to shoot your own original photographic images. See the handout, **138 Photo Hints**, if you need some guidance on basic photography principles. For this exercise, you need at least one original image that meets this criteria:
 - Make sure everything is in focus if possible. (f-11, f-16, or f-22)
 - Avoid motion blur (1/125 sec or faster shutter speed)
 - Have a foreground subject, middle-ground subject, and background subject
 - Shoot with some kind of white balance device.
 - Have a good overall exposure
2. Look at **Digital Best Practices** handout to help guide your workflow order.
3. Save your image right from the camera as your ORG image (files names shown below).
4. Complete your basic workflow in Camera RAW prior to altering your image with blur techniques.
5. Take your optimized image and make the following versions:
 - Photorealistic **Lens Blur** Shallow Depth of Field
 - Include Alpha Channel and custom selection around one subject
 - **Tilt Shift** to alter the plane of focus
 - Look at work by Keith Carter for examples
 - **Pinhole** look with wide angle and more blur at outer edges
 - Look at work by Barbara Ess for examples
 - **Motion Blur** to imply movement of edges of a subject
6. Turn in a folder into the drop box: lastname_E1 with the following files:
 - Original: lastname_E3_#-ORG.nef (Nikon RAW, whatever file format you shot)
 - RAW Edit (basic workflow): lastname_E3_#-edit.dng
 - Shallow DOF: lastname_E3_#-shallow.psd
 - Tilt-Shift: lastname_E3_#-tilt.psd
 - Pinhole: lastname_E3_#-pinhole.psd
 - Motion Blur: lastname_E3_#-motion.psd

Related Tutorials:

Chapter 9 (starts on p. 613):

- Blur Overview – p. 614
 - Overview of Smart Filters – p. 642
 - Understanding the fade command – p. (huge help on all filters!)
 - Radial / Spin Blur – p. 613
 - Average Blur – p. 615 (good to figure out color swatches)
 - Gaussian Blur – p. 614
 - Motion Blur – p. 635
- ...continued on the back

- Average Blur – p. 612 (good to figure out color swatches)
- Surface Blur – p. 617 (will use more in retouching later)
- Lens Blur – p. 619 (best to mimic photographic depth of field blur)
- Blur Gallery Filters – p. 620
- Tilt-Shift Blur – p. 626 (mimics altered plane of focus such as 4x5 rail camera with Tilt options or Lens Baby)
- Field Blur – p.628
- Spin Blur – p. 630
- Adaptive Wide Angle Filter – p. 654
- Lens Corrections – p. 648 (to correct wide angle distortion or mimic wide angle lens)