



Three Point Lighting (For Film)

This Guide

This guide is to help support with using 3 point Lighting for Film related projects.

We suggest you check out the Film Studio Guide before moving on with this, plus a Studio Induction before using the space.

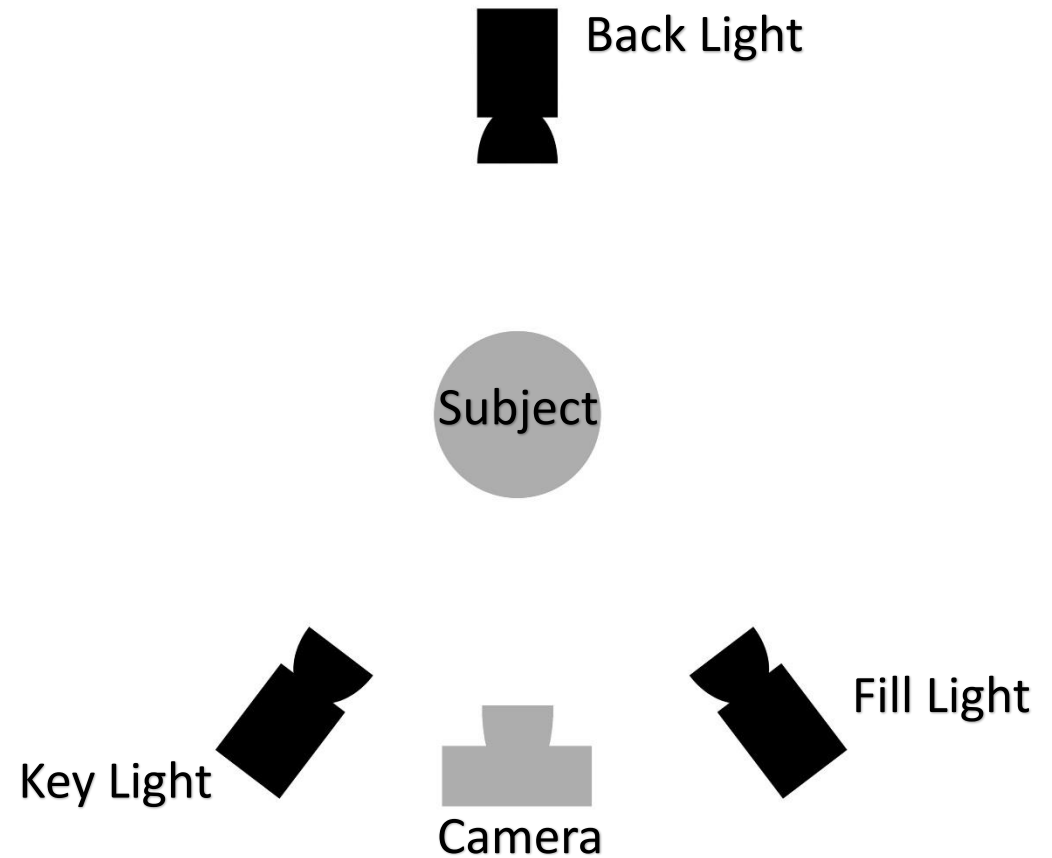
Basic Setup

For a basic Three Point Lighting setup. You will require 3 lights, these are called:

The Key Light

The Fill Light

The Back Light



The Key Light

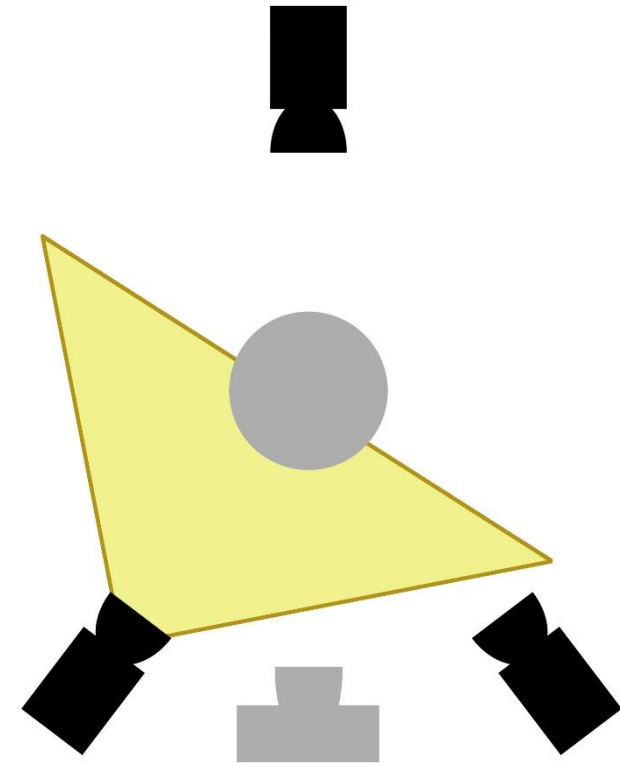
This light is to represent the most prominent source of light in the scene.

Therefore, it has to be the most intense out of the 3. It is located at approximately 45 Degrees away from the subject.

It illuminates the edges of the face and shoulders.

The Key Light can be placed either right or left of the subject.

Using just The Key Light will create a shadow on one side of the subjects face, which will create a mood or a feeling, seen mostly in Thrillers, Horrors, Film Noir & Crime films.



Examples Using The Key Light



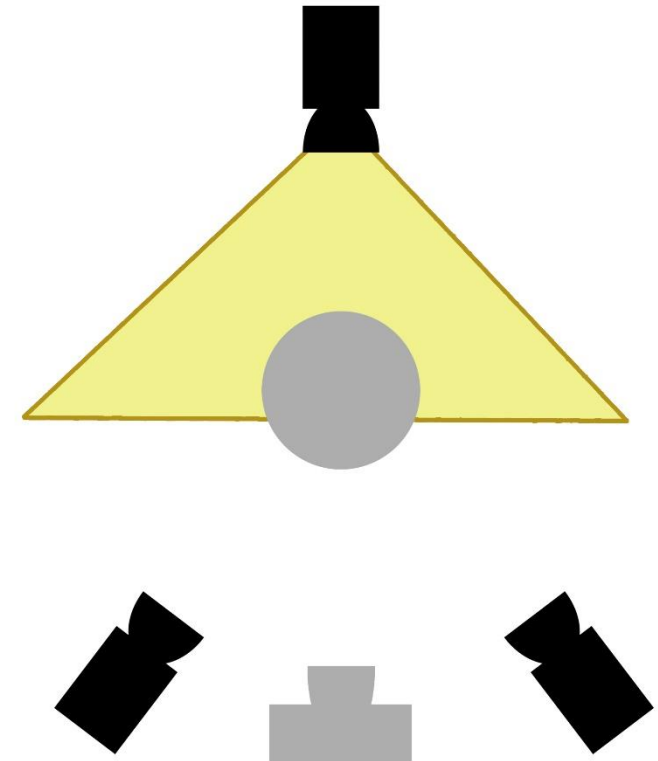
The Back Light

The Back Light stands behind the subject, normally overhead or to one side but out of frame.

Using a Back Light on its own will illuminate a subject's shape and highlights. We call this a silhouette.

It will create a type of mood or feeling, like sadness, loneliness, suspense or mystery.

Using it as part of the 3 point lighting setup, will help give depth to the frame, highlighting the head and shoulders.



Examples Using The Back Light



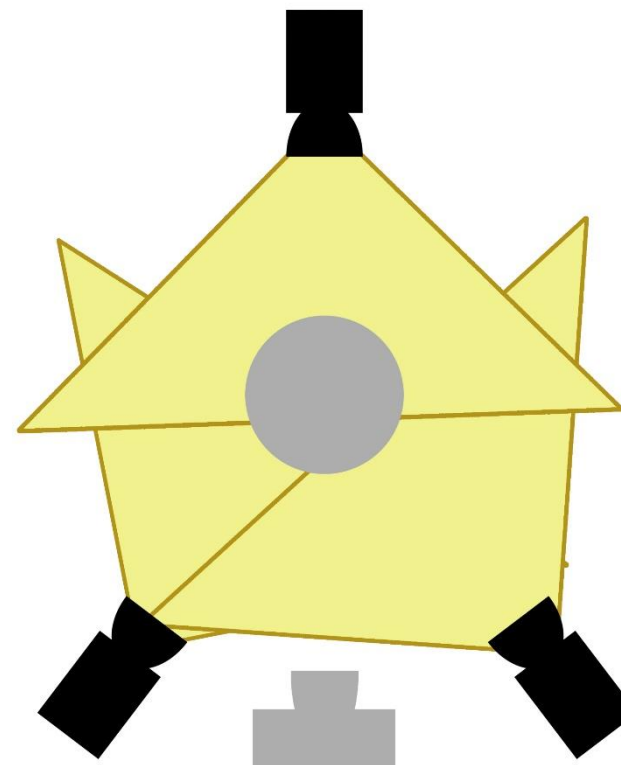
The Fill Light

The Fill Light by its name is used to fill in the shadows caused by the Key Light.

It is less intense than the Key Light. It is located at approximately 45 Degrees away from the subject, on the opposite side to the Key.

It illuminates the edges of the face and shoulders. You would never use a Fill light on its own, because it is only use to fill in shadow caused by other lights.

Therefore we only use this light when we have a 3 Point Setup.



Examples Using Three Point Lighting



Any Problems?

Any problems?

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