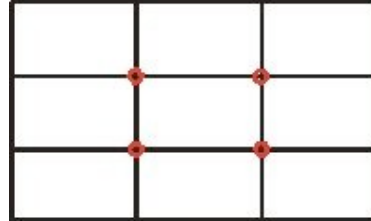
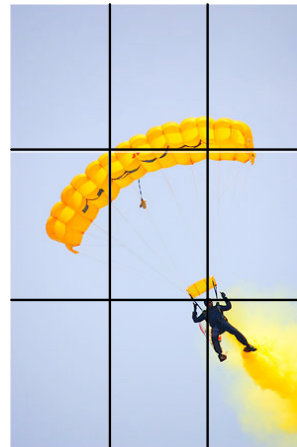


What *is* the Rule of Thirds?

The basic principle behind the rule of thirds is to imagine breaking an image down into thirds (both horizontally and vertically) so that you have 9 parts. See the chart on the right.



The theory is that if you **place points of interest** in the **intersections** or along the lines that your image becomes **more balanced** and will enable a viewer of the image to interact with it more naturally. Studies have shown that when viewing images that people's eyes usually go to one of the intersection points most naturally rather than the center of the shot – using the rule of thirds works with this natural way of viewing an image rather than working against it.



How do I use it?

You place your main subject where the lines intersect rather than centered in the frame. For example, placing the horizon on an upper or lower line helps create a well-composed landscape image. For portraits, placing the person **where lines intersect vertically produces a more compelling image.**



The Rule of Thirds helps to produce balanced images and keeps the subject away from the very edges of the frame.