

If you're looking to step your photography up a notch, get out of a photo rut or just take more pictures, setting yourself a project is a good idea. It'll keep you focused and encourage you to shoot more. There are many different projects you could set yourself, just remember to pick something that interests you and will give you an achievable challenge. Here are 3 projects you may want to consider:

365 Project

The basis of this is simple - one picture every day for a year - a great project for ensuring that you're constantly looking for subjects and developing your photographic eye, as well as shooting everyday. 365 days too daunting? You could trim that down to perhaps the summer months, say May to September. People generally tend to either to leave this project completely open, and use it to document a period in their lives, or limit it to self portraits or pictures of the kids. However, if you have a specific interest, or area you'd like to concentrate on you may want to make this the sole subject of your project. New York photographer Bill Wadman did a great [365 portrait project](#) for example, where he photographed a different person everyday. The more effort you put into projects like this the more you'll get out, but don't commit to something you don't have time for, you'll just feel deflated when you can't keep it up.

One lens project

One of the more tricky projects, with the tougher ones can including the use of just one prime (not zoom) lens at its widest aperture, or a zoom at widest aperture - whichever one you feel more comfortable with. It doesn't have to stop you using your lenses in their usual manner, but if you allocate perhaps 10% of your images to the project it will work. Limiting yourself to a single focal length (or focal length and aperture, or one lens/aperture combination) is a good way to spark your creativity and make you rely less on your equipment and more on your creative vision.

Your town or city

When we get used to somewhere we often get complacent as photographers and don't shoot the fantastic opportunities that we stumble across everyday, as we've either stopped noticing them, or think they'll be there forever. If this is you, you're missing a trick, or an eye-opening project even. Knowing a place inside out provides an excellent advantage for photographs, so make the most of this insider knowledge and photograph all the places most people wouldn't know existed. Our City Walkabout with Richard Martin (slide-show on the Galleries page) will have inspired those that attended but, if you couldn't get to that one, try the same yourself. In Kingston, for example, have you tried to get every picture you can from the lakeside? Or perhaps all the shops on Princess Street? Or the attractive Victorian houses in the area west of Johnson, between King and Sydenham Streets? Or perhaps the urban sprawl - and wasteland - at the top of Division/Montreal?