

# Portrait through Objects : Still life Photography

## STEP 1:

### Gather a collection of objects and props to arrange.

Think about objects that are significant to you or say something about your personality and interests. Is there anything you collect? What's your favourite colour? Or shape? Could it be something from your childhood that you've kept or something relating to your family?

(Please remember to ask permission if they don't belong to you.)

## STEP 2:

### Find a surface to display and then photograph your objects on.

Will this be easiest on a tabletop or somewhere on the floor? Where can you find natural light? Remember you can easily change the background by laying down a fabric sheet or some paper. You might even make this a feature.

(Make sure there is nothing around that might get damaged or you might trip over. Also check there is nothing in shot with an address or phone number on it, or any photos with people.)



## STEP 3:

### Arrange your objects.

Could your objects stack or fit inside one another?

Could you also bring in other objects as props to create a story with your objects? e.g. cooking utensils to display objects on.

Could you change the lighting by closing blinds or curtains?

Add another light source using a torch or easily moveable lamp.



## STEP 4:

### Photograph your objects.

When you're happy with your first composition, use a camera or a phone camera to capture photos from different angles. Then move your objects and take more. It's better to have a selection to choose from!



(If you want to take a photo from above, like me, then make sure you do so safely, not standing on any furniture you might fall off.)

Really look at your own objects and think about what stories they could tell. You might not use all the objects you've gathered, and remember that nothing is fixed, it's all about trying out lots of different compositions and taking enough photos to choose from.

