

Contrast

High contrast:

- Subject matter has strong contrasting (in value) elements
- Relatively few gray tones
- Lots of strong black and white tones
- High contrast lighting in the environment, e.g. silhouette
- Red filters can change blue sky to black
- Polarizing filters (take away glare) can either heighten or lessen contrast
- In the darkroom: graded papers with number 5
- In the darkroom: with variable contrast paper you can raise the filter number that is used in the enlarger*
- Glossy paper
- Enlarger lenses new and expensive
- Overexposed negatives (thick negatives)

Low contrast:

- Fog, mist, haze: Low contrast in environment
- In the darkroom: graded papers with number 1
- In the darkroom: with variable contrast paper you can lower the filter number that is used in the enlarger*
- Matte paper
- Enlarger lenses cheap or old
- Underexposed negatives (thin negatives)

Low-key photographs:

- Seek out naturally dark subject matter, e.g. darkened room
- Overall dark images
- Underexposed
- +1 exposure compensation

High-key photographs:

- Seek out naturally light subjects, e.g. snowy landscape
- Overall light images
- Overexposed
- -1 exposure compensation

Zone system:

<http://nickminers.com/2009/05/the-zone-system/>

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