



Tutor Report Form

Student name:	Robert Burton
Student number:	498099
Course/Module title:	Digital Photographic Practice
Assignment number:	One

Overall Comments

I liked your very comprehensive preparation and thoughts before tackling the assignment. This preparation in the future will prove to be beneficial, especially if you undertake any professional assignments. The information missing from your photographs was the details, aperture, speed ISO, lighting conditions, without this information I cannot comment objectively if I feel there is a fault with the picture which may be caused by the use of incorrect shutter speed.

One thing I always brought into preparations was plan B, Plan C, D and E. Perhaps with this assignment it was not necessary as you were working from home, but going on location then that is a different matter, best example I can think of is a wedding, groom goes to wrong church, he arrives scared from a fight at his stag night the day before, death of the father during the ceremony, you name it I have seen it all. Lack of power points in a factory or the use of 15 amp plugs in a theatre, you can never plan enough.

I am uncertain how to do it, but I am sure I will remember in time but making a paper background seems to me a complicated method and then shooting the subject matter with it in place seems time consuming, I am sure you could have photographed the flowers against a white background which makes for an easier cut out and place over the background image. I am sure I have done it in the past, but time doesn't allow me to research the matter now.

When faced with large temperature changes this has to be minimized and in your case I would have turned the heating off, opened the windows and put on warm clothing, this would have prevented the flowers opening too quickly. The same problem can happen in the studio if you are producing a drink commercial, ice needs to be shown in the drink with bubbles, I know you can get plastic ice but it seldom looks correct and the art director complains.

The experience you have gained in the assignment will be valuable in the future, personally I always use bounce flash or diffused light, it is more manageable and reduces flare.

I am now looking forward to viewing your photographs, starting with the preparation photos which I think is excellent on its own but rather dramatic as a background for delicate flowers and rather splits the interest.

Photo. 1. The direct flash produces a shadow which is distracting.

Photo 2. Is much better and the leave following the petal gives it strength.

Photo 3. Not keen on this photograph, the flare over the petals is a distraction as is the background which is competing for attention.

Photo 4. More realistic colours background not competing.

Photo 5. I feel that you should have gone in closer and concentrate on the stamen, as it is petals are cut off and the green spiky leaves conflict. See attachment.

Photo 6.

A stronger photograph due to the more direct flash, again I have cropped right in.

Photo 7. More suitable background but with flowers it is important not to crop the petals.

Photo 8. Striking composition but the bloom is unattractive and needs to be fuller. I have taken some of the left hand side to improve the composition.

Photo 9. Dark background works well, not normally used for flower photography. Petals cropped again.

Photo 10. The background overpowers this shot.

Feedback on assignment

You have done well in this assignment; the photographs are well exposed and sharp. Commercially flowers are usually photographed in situ early in the morning to avoid the ultra violet light and when it is still. Taking blooms indoors causes too many problems. I think you have put a lot of effort into this assignment and have learned from it which is the object. One piece of advice I give all my students is 'Keep it simple and let the photograph speak for itself.'

Learning logs/critical essays

Suggested reading/viewing

Other

Tutor name:	David Sherwill
Date	24 th . March 2011
Next assignment due	16 th . May 2011