

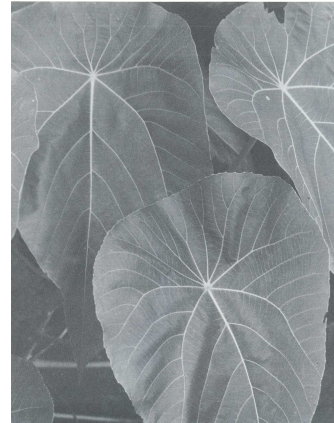
Intermediate Digital Photography

“The Photographic Eye, Learning to See with a Camera” Michael F. O’Brien & Norman Sibley

Leaves

Your next assignment is to shoot leaves. Not just any leaves, but leaves with **texture**. As noted previously, it is important to keep the theme of the assignment in mind, as well as the subject.

Look for as many kinds of leaves as you can find, leaves on trees, or on the ground. Even pine needles are officially acceptable, though they are not strictly leaves.



In order to fulfill the texture requirement, you’ll want a good amount of **contrast**. This means the leaves should be in open sunlight. Try to do your shooting in the morning or afternoon, not in the middle of the day. That will ensure that the light is striking your leaves at an angle, enhancing their texture. Once again, use the **black and white** setting on the camera.

Keep an eye out for interesting effects of **light and shadow**: one leaf casting a shadow on another, or on the ground or branch beneath it. Finally, unless you’re lucky enough to find a single leaf of extraordinary interest, you’ll probably do better shooting several together. Notice how they interact with each other and with the frame of the picture. Crop in close enough so there’s no wasted space, but don’t forget that space can be a useful compositional tool.

