

## **DEPTH OF FIELD**

The distance in front and behind a sharply focused subject in which details also *appear* sharp in the final image.

Depth of Field is governed by the following:

1. the *f stop* selected,
2. the *camera to subject distance*,
3. the *focal length* of the lens.

## **THE *f* STOP RULE**

The smaller the aperture the greater the depth of field.  
The larger the aperture the shallower the depth of field.

## **THE SUBJECT TO DISTANCE RULE**

Given any one *f stop*, the further the subject is from the camera the greater the depth of field.

## **THE FOCAL LENGTH RULE**

Given any one *f stop*, depth of field will vary as follows by changing the focal length of the lens.

1. Short focal lengths will have greater depth of field.
2. Long focal lengths will have shallower depth of field.

## **THE HYPERFOCAL DISTANCE LAW**

When focusing at infinity ( $\infty$ ), if you refocus on the hyperfocal point you will gain half the hyperfocal length in depth of field.

When focused at infinity the hyperfocal point is the closest point of your depth of field. The hyperfocal distance is the distance from the camera to this point.

## **HINT**

An easier way of arriving at the same result is to place the infinity mark across from the *f stop* (on the depth of field scale) that you happened to have selected.