Taking Photos on Your iOS or Android* Phone

Consider these tips for settings to maximize photo quality/output.

iOS	Android
 Maximize your phone's image output: Open settings on your iphone Click 'camera' Select 'formats' Choose 'most compatible' this is a higher quality setting, but will take more space on your iphone 	 Touch the control icon An arch of additional icons appears Choose the "more options" icon in the middle A new set of icons appears, pick the middle – "picture size" Choose an available size – typically 8M is the highest (the one at the top of the list)
 Use FOCUS when taking shots to ensure the subject is not blurry. Frame your shot, then tap the screen where you want to focus. A yellow box will appear to show you the focus point. 	 Same on Android – tap the screen to set the focus. An auto-focus square will appear for a moment on the space you tapped. That region should snap into focus
 Use exposure to increase available light. Once you have your shot framed, and used the FOCUS tool mentioned above, swipe up or down to increase/decrease the amount of exposure/brightness. A vertical yellow line will appear to the right of the yellow box. 	 This is available on some phones but need to put the phone into "manual mode" in order to take advantage of this feature
 Wherever possible, try to limit the use of post capture filters 	- same
 Turn on the grid for better composition: Open settings Tap camera Ensure "grid" is enabled 	 Turn on grid: Open camera app Settings Grid lines
 Enable "HDR" High dynamic range (HDR) helps to shoot properly lit photos without any overexposed areas or lose details in the shadows On newer iphones and iphone XS, XR and later – tap settings, camera, and toggle "Smart HDR" to ensure it is active 	 Enable "HDR" Typically found in the camera app under "shooting mode" Could also be found under the "camera scene selection" Some Samsung phones call HDR "rich tone" and can be found in the settings menu for the camera

 On iphone 8, 8 plus, iphone X – tap settings, camera, "auto HDR" On iphone 7, 7 plus, and earlier, tap HDR at the top of the camera screen 	
 Use portrait mode to create a shallow depth of field (blur the background) Portrait mode creates a blurry background to give more focus to your subject. This is available on iphone 12, iphone 12 mini, iphone 12 pro, iphone 12 pro max, iphone XR, iphone XS, iphone XS Max, iphone XS, iphone XS Max, iphone X, iphone 8 plus, iphone 7 plus In the camera app, at the bottom, choose "portrait" Ensure your subject is between 2 and 8 feet from the camera Wait for the yellow box to appear around your subject When it is ready "natural light" should appear on the screen 	 Here are the general instructions for using portrait mode on Android (varies between phones) Open the camera app Select the menu or swipe to choose the portrait option Take the photo With some models, the blurred out background is added after the photo has been taken

*Android phones' settings vary from device – these are general instructions)