



# INTRODUCTION TO TABLE TOP PHOTOGRAPHY



# SMALL PRODUCTS

- Table top is its own definition - something that will fit on a 4x5 table
- Product can be shot for companies and services
- Still Life can be shot for editorial, story telling and enhancement of a story or concept



# LIGHTING CONSIDERATIONS

- Use light in as close as you can for the effect that you want
- Understand how the subject can influence the light
- Subject Centric Lighting will focus you on the product and how it reacts/ responds to the light
- Everything reflects. Everything.
- How light reflects is more important than how it is applied
- Learning to Control the light is the most important part of Table Top Product and Still Life Photography



# LIGHT AND SHADOW

- Understanding Highlights
- Understanding Shadows
- Understanding Surface Tension
- Understanding how the Surface Efficiency affects the reflected light



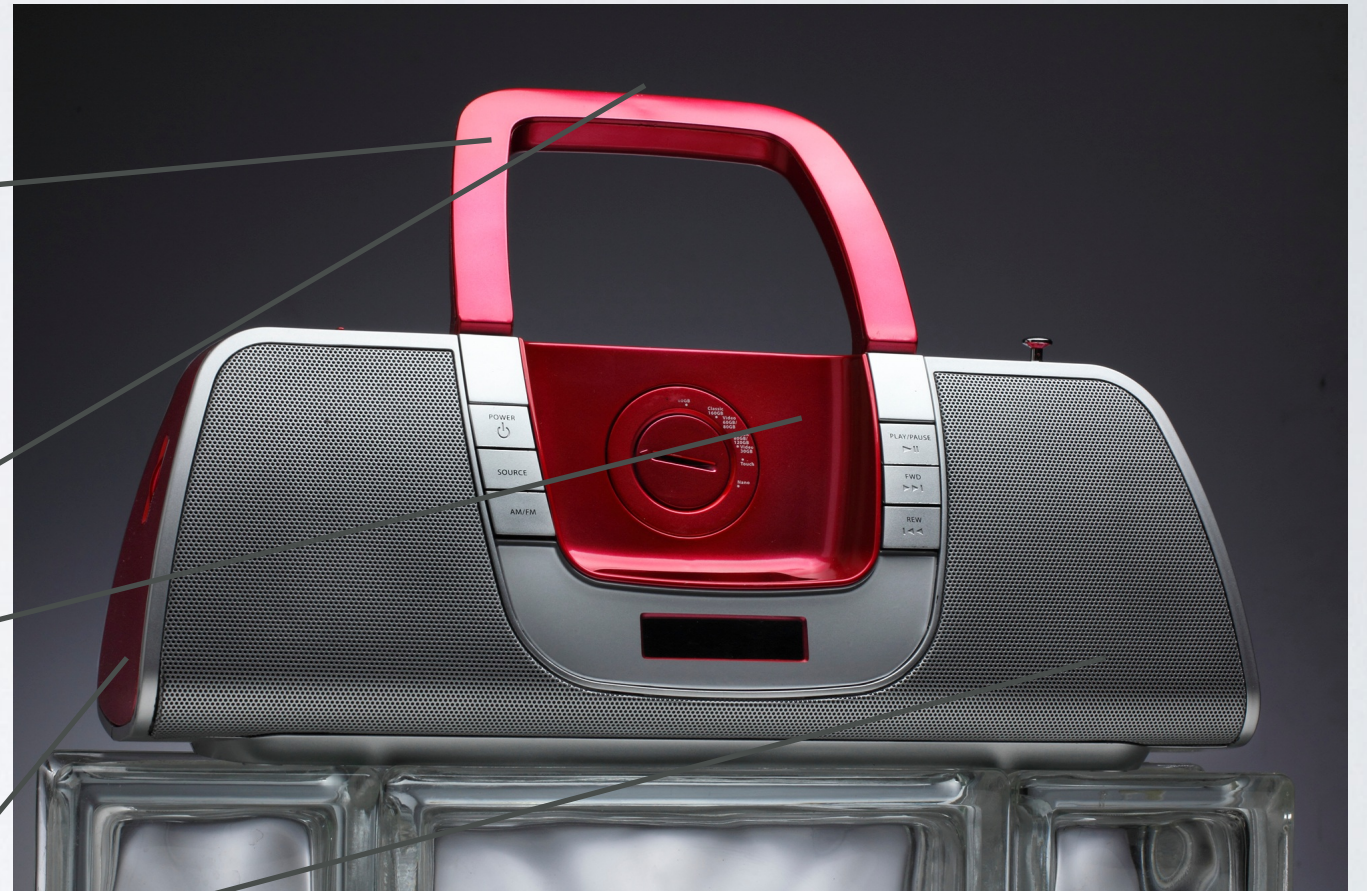
# USING THE FIVE AREAS OF LIGHT

- Specular
- Transition from specular to True Value
- True Value
- Transition to Shadow
- Shadow

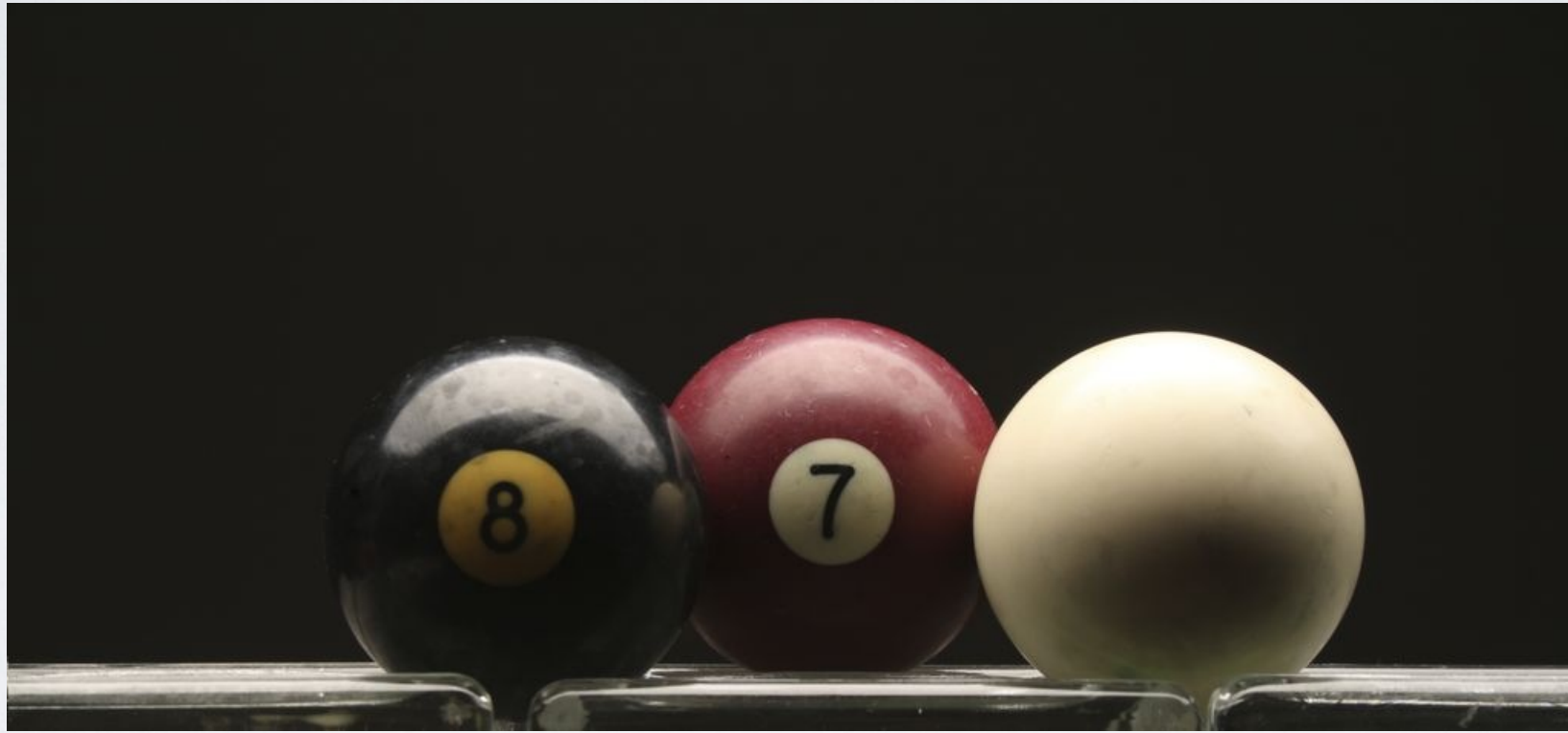


# SEEING THE LIGHT

- Specular
- Specular Transition to True Value
- True Value
- Transition to Shadow
- Shadow



# COLOR'S EFFECT ON LIGHT



- Notice how the light shows differently on similar objects with same surface efficiency



# ANGLE OF INCIDENT

- The top knife is turned away from the angle of incidence that would result in a specular reflection of the softbox
- The lower knife has been angled to show the reflection of the softbox as a specular





# LEARNING TO SEE THE TRANSITIONS

- Notice the different ways that the specular transitions on this image.
- Very sharp transition from specular to true value
- More gentle transition from specular to true value
- The difference is the efficiency of the surface.





# TRUE VALUES / TRANSITIONS

- The transition from true value to shadow is very soft.
- This indicates a large light source.
- Subtle transitions show texture and color
- A more porous surface means a softer transition from specular to true value and true value to shadow





# SHARP TRANSITIONS FROM TRUE VALUE TO SHADOW

- A small light source will create a 'harder' shadow transition
- Hard shadows can reveal texture and shape.
- Using the shadow as a compositional element is also a possibility





# BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

- A small light source will create a 'harder' shadow transition
- Hard shadows can reveal texture and shape.
- Using the shadow as a compositional element is also a possibility

