

B B C BITESIZE

When you're taking a picture, make sure that you decide what the most important part of the image is.

So, for example, if I know that my subject is the main focus, I need to make sure that the background doesn't distract. So with this image, I knew that the background needed to be out of focus, so I had a shallow depth of field, making the background blurry.

Whereas with this image, the background was part of the picture. I needed everything to be in focus, near and far away so I needed a large depth of field.

You can control your depth of field using your aperture. If I wanted blurry background, and shallow depth of field, I need to make sure that I've got a large aperture. So, F1.4, or 2.8.

Whereas if I wanted everything in the frame to be in focus, I'd need a long depth of field, so a small aperture. Say, F22, or F16

With compact cameras, you can't really control your depth of field with your aperture. So try experimenting, and playing around with your camera.

For example, you can try standing further away from your subject, and zooming in, and take your shot. This way your image will be less flat, and the background will be out of focus.

There are loads of different ways to get over the limitations of your camera, so just experiment and play around.