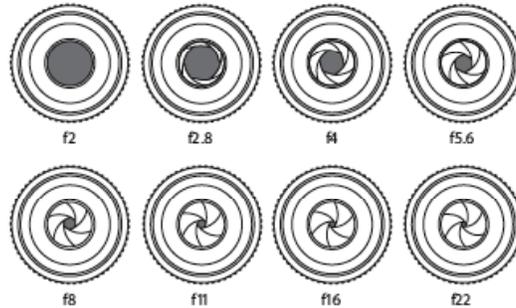


## Aperture or F-stop

The photographer adjusts the opening of the aperture by setting the f-stop number. An f-stop is a ratio of the focal length of the lens to the diameter of the opening of the aperture. The larger the numerical value of the f-stop the smaller the opening of the aperture. The speed of a lens is determined by its largest f-stop value (smallest number) Thus, the larger the aperture the faster the lens.



## Depth of field

Depth of field is the area of the image that appears in focus from the foreground to background and is determined by a combination of the opening of the aperture and the focal length of the lens. A small aperture setting results in greater depth of field. Controlling depth of field is one of the easiest ways for a photographer to compose the image. By limiting the depth of field of an image, the photographer can turn the attention of the viewer on the subject in focus. Often, limiting the depth of field of an image helps eliminate clutter in the background. On the other hand, when shooting a landscape you want the image to have great depth of field. Limiting the depth of field to the foreground would not make sense.

- Enlarging or contraction the aperture admits more light or less
- A diaphragm-a ring of thin, overlapping metal leaves located inside the lens- contracts and enlarges
- Opened wide to let in more light or closed down to let in less
- The size of an aperture is indicated by its f-number or f-stop
- Standard, full stop scale  
1, 1.4, 2, 2.8, 4, 5.6, 8, 11, 16, 22, 32, 45, 64
- Smallest number emits the most light, largest number emits the least amount of light
- Lenses and aperture go hand in hand
- Lenses are often described as fast or slow, faster lenses allow you to shoot more easily in low light or at higher shutter speeds.
- Smaller the apertures size the more that a scene will be sharp from near to far. As the aperture is stopped down and gets smaller, the background and foreground will be come sharp.
- The area of acceptable sharpness in a picture is known as depth of field