

# Stop Using Your Viewfinder for Street Photography!

## The Viewfinder: Overrated and Limiting

In street photography, the viewfinder is one of the most overrated pieces of camera technology. Whether it's an optical viewfinder on a Leica, an EVF on a Fuji, or even a high-end DSLR, the viewfinder locks you into a narrow, restrictive way of seeing the world.

*"The viewfinder limits your compositional freedom to eye level. Why restrict yourself to one perspective?"*

## Why You Should Ditch the Viewfinder

### 1. Increased Flexibility

Using the LCD screen frees you to shoot from more dynamic angles.

- **Low angles:** Capture ground-level perspectives without lying on the pavement.
- **High angles:** Hold the camera above your head for a bird's-eye view.
- **Creative compositions:** Extend the camera in any direction and still compose your shot effectively.

### 2. Less Intrusive

The viewfinder signals to everyone that you're taking a photo. In contrast, shooting with the LCD screen is more discreet.

- People are less likely to notice you.
- You blend into the environment, allowing for more candid moments.

*"With an LCD screen, you don't have to play games holding the camera to your face. Just point, compose, and shoot."*

### 3. Freedom to Experiment

By ditching the viewfinder, you open yourself up to new techniques and compositions.

- **Adjust-your-sleeve technique:** Pretend to adjust your sleeve while holding the camera at an angle for a quick overhead shot.
- **Tilt and twist:** Experiment with unconventional perspectives by tilting the camera in different directions.

### The LCD Advantage

Even on cameras designed for viewfinder use, like the Fuji X-Pro series, I find myself gravitating toward the LCD screen. The tilting or fixed LCD on compact cameras like the Ricoh GR111 offers unparalleled ease and versatility.

*"Using the LCD screen allows you to react faster and more creatively, unburdened by outdated norms."*

### But What About Glare?

Sure, LCD screens can suffer from glare, but that's a minor inconvenience compared to the creative freedom they provide. You'll quickly learn to adapt, finding angles that work even in bright conditions.

### Join the New School of Street Photography

Street photography evolves, and so should your approach. Stop clinging to old-school notions of what it means to be a photographer. The viewfinder may have its place in certain contexts, but for street photography, the LCD screen reigns supreme.

*"Stop following outdated rules. Embrace the freedom of the LCD and start photographing the new way."*

The streets are alive, dynamic, and unpredictable—your photography should be too.