

# Murphy Photography Laws

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1. You are not Ansel Adams
2. Neither are you Herb Ritz
3. Automatic Cameras---Aren't
4. Auto Focus---won't
5. If you can't remember, you left the film at home
6. No photo assignment remains unchanged after the first day of shooting
7. When in doubt, motor out
8. If a photo shoot goes too smoothly, then the lab will lose the film
9. If it's stupid but it works, it isn't stupid
10. Success occurs when no one is looking, failure occurs when the Client is watching
11. The most critical roll of film is fogged
12. If you forgot, then you did not rewind the film
13. Photo Assistants are essential, they give photographers someone to yell at
14. The one item (batteries, film, and ect.) you need is always in short supply
15. Long life batteries only last for a couple of rolls
16. Weather never cooperates
17. Everything always works in your home, everything always fails on location
18. For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism
19. The newest and least experienced photographer will usually win the Pulitzer
20. Every instruction given to a lab, which can be misunderstood, will be
21. There is always a way, and it usually doesn't work
22. Never tell the Photo Editor you have nothing to do
23. Things which must be shipped together as a set, aren't
24. No photojournalist is well dressed
25. No well dressed photographer is a photojournalist
26. Professional photographers are predictable; the world is full of dangerous amateurs
27. The nature shots invariably happen on two occasions:
  - when animals are ready.
  - when you're not.
28. Same rule just substitute children
29. Client Intelligence is a contradiction
30. There is no such thing as a perfect shoot
31. The important things are always simple
32. The simple things are always hard
33. Flashes will fail as soon as you need them
34. A clean (and dry) camera is a magnet for dust, mud and moisture
35. Photo experience is something you never get until just after you need it
36. The self-importance of a client is inversely proportional to his position in the hierarchy (as is his deviousness and mischievousness)