

**Key:** refers to the predominant values in an entire image.

**Low-key image:** image's dominant values are black and dark shades of colors.

**Mid-key image:** highlights and shadows are both balanced and neither is too much more dominant than the other.

**High-key image** image's dominant values are white and bright tints of colors.



High key, Low contrast



High key, Mid contrast



High key, High contrast



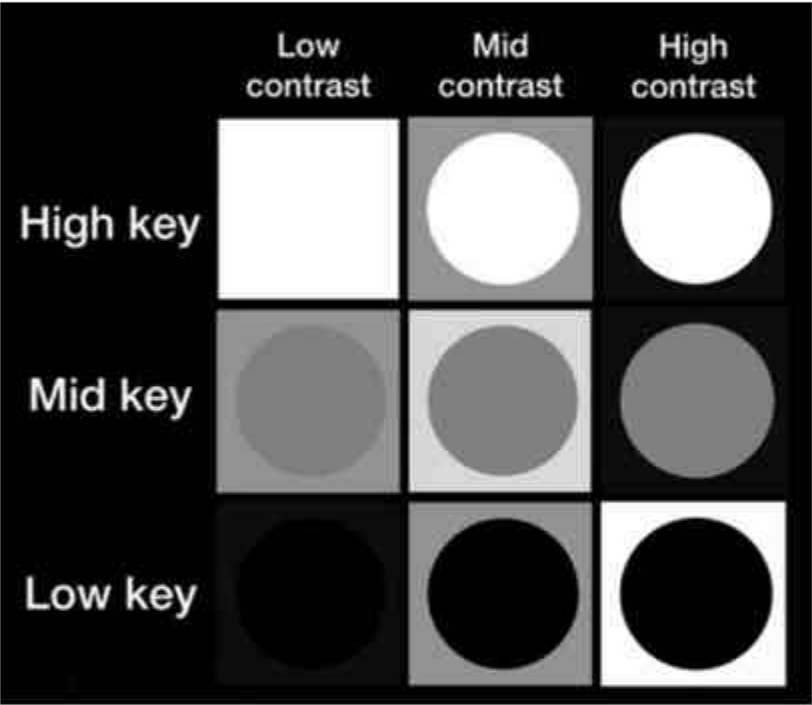
<https://www.artfinder.com/product/black-pearls-%0c2/4/>



<https://www.behance.net/gallery/74918591/1-See-Faces>



<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/393150242473957244/>



Mid key, Low contrast



Mid key, Mid contrast



Mid key, High contrast



<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/48021227430733098/>



<https://www.behance.net/gallery/32763127/Anime-ed-%2BSelf-Portraits%29>



<https://www.behance.net/gallery/32763127/Anime-ed-%2BSelf-Portraits%29>



[https://unsplash.com/photos/z-9\\_dYBaYBc](https://unsplash.com/photos/z-9_dYBaYBc)



Low key, Low contrast



Low key, Mid contrast



Low key, High contrast



<https://www.behance.net/gallery/109225075/Hi-Me-Up>