

Cinematic Fashion Portrait with Hard Background Spot

Lighting Goal

This setup is designed to create a cinematic fashion portrait with deep contrast, dramatic light falloff, and strong subject separation. The combination of controlled modifiers and negative fill gives the image a film-inspired mood while keeping the subject crisp against a textured spotlight background.



Light 1: Beauty Dish with Grid (Key Light)

- Modifier: Beauty Dish with Grid
- Position: Camera Left
- Purpose:
 - Main light shaping the face and outfit.
 - Produces crisp, directional beauty lighting with controlled spill.
 - Creates clean highlights while maintaining strong contrast.



Negative Fill (Black Flag)

- Position: Camera Right
- Purpose:
 - Absorbs reflected light from the studio.
 - Deepens shadows on the opposite side of the face.
 - Adds definition to the jawline and enhances the cinematic mood.



Light 2: Snoot (Hair Light)

- Modifier: Snoot
- Position: Behind the model on Camera Right
- Purpose:
 - Creates a focused rim light on the hair and shoulder.
 - Separates the subject from the grey background.
 - Adds depth without contaminating the overall scene.



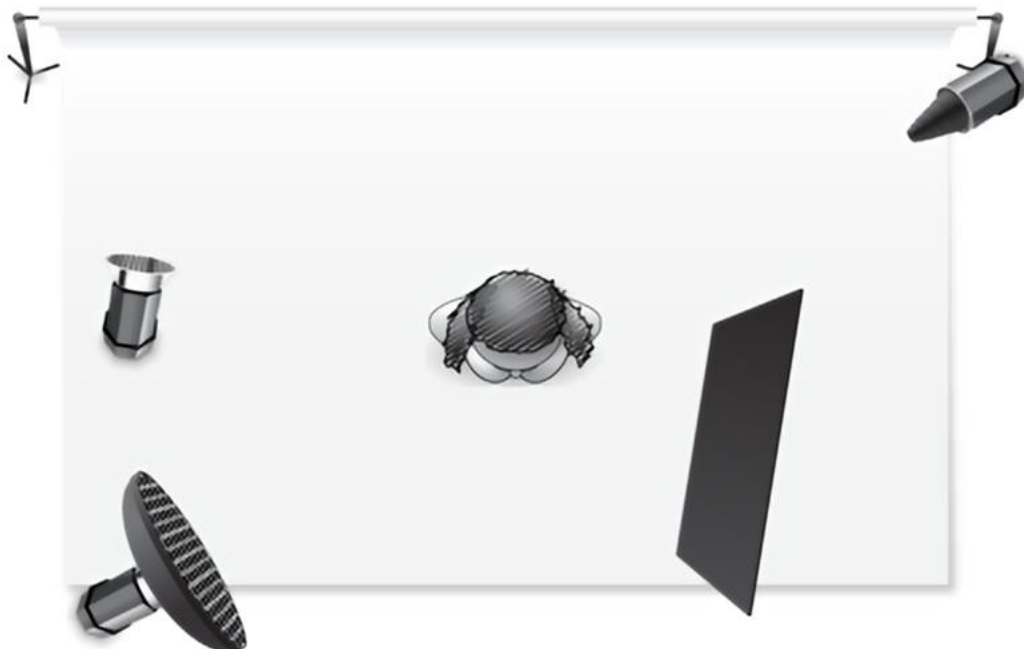
Light 3: Standard Reflector with Grid (Background Light)

- Modifier: Standard Reflector with Grid
- Position: Camera Left, aimed at the backdrop
- Purpose:
 - Produces a hard circular spotlight on the background.
 - Creates a natural gradient that adds depth and visual interest.
 - Gives the portrait a cinematic, editorial atmosphere.



Camera Settings

- Camera: Canon R6 Mark II
- Lens: Canon RF 24–105mm f/4
- Shutter Speed: 1/160 sec
- Aperture: f/9
- ISO: 100



Camera: Canon R6 m2
Lens: 24-105mm f/4
Shutter: 1/160
Aperture: f/9
ISO: 100


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Why This Setup Works

The gridded beauty dish delivers precise, sculpted illumination while the black flag removes unwanted bounce, preserving rich shadows and facial definition. A snoot adds a clean rim light for subject separation, and the gridded reflector paints a hard spotlight on the backdrop, creating a cinematic gradient that transforms a simple grey background into an editorial scene with depth and mood.

