



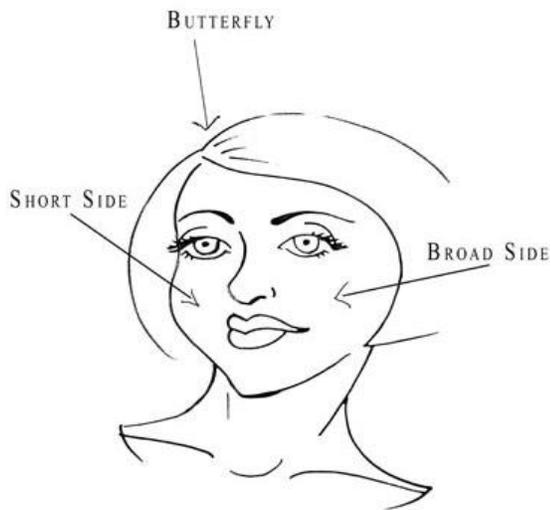
TTL Wireless Workshop

July 15-16, 2013

Light Patterns

(Taken from our Wireless Flash Tips and Tricks Guide)

Before we get to the diagrams of our images, I want to briefly explain a few lighting patterns which we here at TriCoast use throughout our portraits. While of course there are no boundaries in this amazing art form there are certain rules which light follows. Learning to see the light – mold it – use it as you need, truly makes your work stand out above other photographers. For our purpose here I want to cover three main and basic lighting patterns which when used correctly can be applied to almost every image you capture.



camera lens and towards the light source giving you “Short Light”.

Short Light – When light is hitting the side of the face that you see the least. The light falls off on opposite side of the face from the camera and creates a thinner appearance to your subjects. Used in most portraits and as a general rule is a very flattering pattern of light to use for any size of subject. The easiest way to achieve this pattern is to pose your subject as you normally would, when you are happy with the pose, have your subject slightly turn their face towards the main light source, which for TriCoast is usually the one wireless Slave Speedlite. This puts the “Short” side of the subjects face away from the

Broad Light – When light is hitting the side of the face you see the most. Creates a wider face and therefore should only be used on smaller or skinner subjects and people who have a slimmer face.

Butterfly Light – Modeling Light is another term to describe this pattern of light. Light comes from above and is slightly in front of your subject. The light drops off the cheekbones and chin creating a more dramatic look and a shadow under the nose which looks similar to a butterfly (hence the name of the light pattern). As a general rule this pattern of light is best used on women to create drama or with a belly panned reflector or another wireless speedlite to add a kicker form of light.