

# **Real Estate Photography: 10 HDR Mistakes & How to Fix Them**

## **10 Real Estate Photography Mistakes Every Beginner Should Avoid**

**Real estate photography isn't just about pretty pictures-it's about capturing homes that feel market-ready and move-in worthy. But when you're relying solely on HDR and natural light, there's a fine line between dynamic and disastrous.**

**Whether you're new to the game or looking to sharpen your skills, steering clear of these common missteps can save you editing headaches, build agent trust, and help your photos stand out-especially in competitive markets like Hernando County, Florida.**

### **1. Window Exposure Mistakes in Real Estate Photography**

Content for this section was included in the full blog post and covers tips, mistakes, and fixes related to HDR real estate photography workflows.

### **2. Crooked Verticals in Real Estate Photography**

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### **3. Real Estate Photography Mistakes: Overediting & Color Casts**

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### **4. Using the Wrong Lens or Focal Length**

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## **5. Not Shooting the Full Property**

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## **6. Delivering Too Many Photos**

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## **7. Overdone HDR Blending**

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## **8. Unprepared Homes**

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## **9. Rushed Shooting Workflow**

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## **10. Disorganized File Handling**

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## Conclusion: Real Estate Photography is About Control-Not Just Camera Settings

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## FAQ: Real Estate Photography FAQ for Beginners

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## Quick Recap: 10 Real Estate Photography Mistakes to Avoid

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## FAQ: Real Estate Photography FAQ for Beginners

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Q1: Do I need flash for real estate photography?

A: Not necessarily. With proper HDR technique and clean exposure bracketing, you can shoot professional results without flash-just be sure to control your white balance and keep editing natural.

Q2: How many photos should I deliver to my client?

A: Quality over quantity. Aim for 25-40 carefully composed, story-driven images that give buyers a full sense of the home without overwhelming the viewer (or the agent).

Q3: What lens is best for interior real estate photography?

A: A wide-angle lens in the 16-24mm range (full frame) strikes the perfect balance-wide enough to show space, but not so wide that it distorts reality.

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Q4: How can I avoid over-editing my HDR photos?

A: Focus on natural lighting and subtle blending. Avoid aggressive tone mapping or clarity sliders-your goal is to make the home look inviting, not artificial.

Q5: What's the biggest beginner mistake in real estate photography?

A: Rushing the shoot and skipping prep. Real estate photography is about control-of light, angles, and detail.

Q6: How many bracketed shots should I take for HDR?

A: For most scenes, 3-5 exposures (-2, 0, +2 or similar) will cover your range. High-contrast spaces might need 7 exposures.

Q7: Should I shoot handheld or use a tripod for HDR?

A: Always use a tripod. It keeps your bracketed exposures aligned and eliminates motion blur.

Q8: Do I need to edit every image manually?

A: Not necessarily. You can batch HDR merges and apply global adjustments in Lightroom. But always review each photo.

Q9: What camera settings work best for real estate interiors?

A: Use aperture priority (around f/7.1-f/9), ISO 100, and a 2-second timer or remote. Lock in white balance (around 5000K).

Q10: Can I use HDR for all parts of a home-including exteriors?

A: Yes. HDR works great outdoors too, especially in bright daylight or golden hour. Avoid ghosting from moving elements.

### Quick Recap: 10 Real Estate Photography Mistakes to Avoid

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- Blown-out or blacked-out windows
- Crooked verticals and slanted lines
- Overedited images and odd color casts
- Using ultra-wide lenses that distort space
- Skipping essential shots like closets or laundry rooms
- Delivering too many images with no story
- Overdone HDR blending that looks unnatural
- Photographing homes that aren't photo-ready
- Rushing your shoot and missing key compositions
- Disorganized file handling and bracket confusion

Each of these can slow your workflow, hurt your image quality, and frustrate clients. Avoid them, and your portfolio-and reputation-will thank you.

[Better Home Photo Real Estate Photography](#)