HANDHELD OR SUPPORT

Support solves shake. Movement needs its own answer.

Separate camera stability from subject motion before choosing a longer exposure.

01	**Still**	For buildings and static details, stable support can allow longer exposures. Check that the camera is secure before releasing it.
02	**Moving**	People, water and foliage may keep moving while the camera is fixed. Decide which motion should freeze and which can flow.
03	**Release**	Use a timer or remote release when appropriate. Check whether touching the camera disturbs a lightweight support.
04	**Review**	Magnify a stationary edge after the exposure. A stable-looking preview can hide vibration or slight movement.
05	**Fallback**	If support is unavailable, consider a faster shutter and higher ISO, a brighter location, or a different composition.

Worked example

A canal facade may benefit from a longer exposure, while a person walking along the quay becomes a streak. Neither result is automatically wrong; the exposure has to match the subject you chose.

Keep in mind

Follow your equipment guidance for stabilization on support. Behavior differs between camera and lens systems.

Your decision

Static detail

moving element

wanted motion

support

test result

Adapted from the PhotoMind source manuscript, section 4.4, pp. 51-54. Examples and worksheet are editorial applications.