CROWD TIMING WINDOW

Wait for one useful gap.

In a crowded scene, choose the opening that reveals the subject instead of waiting for every person to disappear.

01	**Frame**	Choose the fixed composition before the useful moment arrives. Keep the main subject and boundaries clear.
02	**Gap**	Identify the small area that needs separation: a doorway, a face, a gesture or a route through the frame.
03	**Flow**	Observe how people or vehicles pass through the scene. Look for recurring openings rather than firing without a timing idea.
04	**Ready**	Set focus and shutter behavior for the expected movement. Do not let the right moment arrive while you are changing everything.
05	**Select**	Choose the frame where movement supports the scene. The emptiest version may be less informative than one with a useful person.

Worked example

Beneath a busy arch, the crowd describes scale and atmosphere. Waiting for a brief opening in the central passage can make the architecture readable while keeping that human context.

Keep in mind

Avoid obstructing paths or directing strangers. Use patience and a permitted viewpoint rather than trying to control the whole scene.

Your decision

Fixed frame

needed gap

movement pattern

capture setting

selected moment

Adapted from the PhotoMind source manuscript, section 4.5, pp. 54-58. Examples and worksheet are editorial applications.