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**18 verbs which express the way of looking at things:**

You **look at** a picture, person, thing, etc. because you want to.

You **see** something without planning to.

You **watch** TV, a movie, or something that happens for a period of time.

**spot** : to notice or recognize someone or something that is difficult to see.

**catch a glimpse of something/somebody** : to see something or someone, but only for a short time.

**make something out** : to see something, but only with difficulty.

**catch sight of somebody/something** : to suddenly see someone or something:

**witness**: to see something bad happen, especially an accident or a crime.

**glance**: to look at someone or something for a short time and then look quickly away.

**peek** : to quickly look at something, especially something you are not supposed to see.

**peer**: to look very carefully, especially because you cannot see something well.

**stare** : to look at someone or something for a long time, especially without blinking your eyes.

**gaze**: to look at someone or something for a long time, often without realizing that you are doing it.

**gape**: to look at something for a long time, usually with your mouth open, because you are very shocked or surprised.

**ogle**: to look at someone in an offensive way that shows you think s/he is  attractive.

**gawp**: (Brit) Look with amazement; look stupidly

**rubberneck**: to look around at something such as an accident while you are driving or walking past.

Look, it’s perfectly acceptable to use the verb look, but don’t hesitate to replace this fairly ordinary-looking word with one of its many more photogenic synonyms. Many of these substitutions come in especially handy when it comes to finding one word to take the place of look-plus-adverb or look-plus-adjective-and-noun, as the definitions demonstrate.

1. **Blink**: to look at with disbelief, dismay, or surprise or in a cursory manner  
2. **Browse**: to look at casually  
3. **Consider**: to look at reflectively or steadily  
4. **Contemplate**: to look at extensively and/or intensely  
5. **Dip** (into): to examine or read superficially  
6. **Eye**: to look at closely or steadily  
7. **Fixate** (on): to look at intensely  
8. **Gape**: to look at with surprise or wonder, or mindlessly, and with one’s mouth open  
9. **Gawk**: see gape  
10. **Gawp**: see gape (generally limited to British English)  
11. **Gaze**: to look steadily, as with admiration, eagerness, or wonder  
12. **Glare**: to look angrily  
13. **Glimpse**: to look briefly  
14. **Gloat**: to look at with triumphant and/or malicious satisfaction  
15. **Glower**: to look at with annoyance or anger  
16. **Goggle**: to look at with wide eyes, as if in surprise or wonder  
17. **Leer**: to look furtively to one side, or to look at lecherously or maliciously  
18. **Observe**: to look carefully to obtain information or come to a conclusion, or to notice or to inspect  
19. **Ogle**: to look at with desire or greed  
20. **Outface**: to look steadily at another to defy or dominate, or to do so figuratively  
21. **Outstare**: see outface  
22. **Peek**: to look briefly or furtively, or through a small or narrow opening  
23. **Peep**: to look cautiously or secretively; see also peek (also, slang for “see” or “watch”)  
24. **Peer**: to look at with curiosity or intensity, or to look at something difficult to see  
25. **Peruse**: to look at cursorily, or to do so carefully  
26. **Pore** (over): to look at intently  
27. **Regard**: to look at attentively or to evaluate  
28. **Rubberneck**: to look at in curiosity  
29. **Scan**: to look at quickly, or to look through text or a set of images or objects to find a specific one  
30. **Skim**: see scan  
31. **Stare**: to look at intently  
32. **Stare** (down): to look at someone else to try to dominate  
33. **Study**: to look at attentively or with attention to detail  
34. **Watch**: to look carefully or in expectation  
35. **Wink**: to look at while blinking one eye to signal or tease another person