Figure 6.13
Model Heather
Syrko poses without
lighting in a dark
living room.

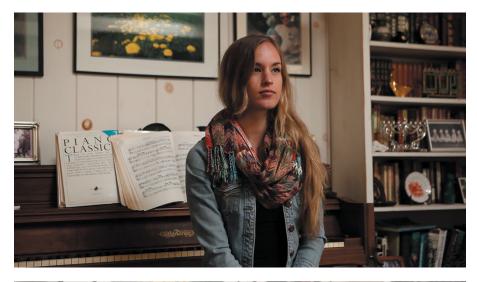


Figure 6.14
Now we have one light on Heather—see what a huge difference lighting can make?



With the one-light setup, you'll naturally see a big difference compared to no lighting at all (Figure 6.13), but you'll probably see a shadow or two pop up (Figure 6.14). Turning on the second light (again with diffusion, please) will soften the shadows and even out the image (Figure 6.15). The second light should also be at eye level, over your shoulder. In a perfect world, both lights should be at a 45-degree angle. (This can be a challenge with these clamp lights, which tend to wilt down. Work at it until you get it right.)



Figure 6.15 Here's Heather with two lights on hersee how the background opens up?



Figure 6.16 Finally, here's three lights—the shadows on her face lighten up, and there's more detail on her hair.

If shadows aren't an issue, you can also use the second light on the background to brighten it up if you need it.

Add the third light and all remnants of shadow disappear. The background is well-lit and more definition shows on the hair (Figure 6.16). Hence, the third light is usually called the "hair light."

You can employ these same techniques with the simple, low-wattage lighting kits discussed in Chapter 3.