

20 Tips. Camera Setting



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How to avoid Lens Blur when using a telephoto lens:

** Set Shutter Speed = Focal Length. i.e. If Fl is 250mm = Shutter Speed 1/250sec.

Round up to closest Speed.

** If using Aperture Priority Mode (A or A.V.) - adjust Aperture till achieve desired Speed

**If using Shutter a Speed Mode (S or Tv) simply adjust speed

** If using Program Mode (P) adjust Speed to desired speed.

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More Tricks on lessening Camera/Lens shake

1. Learn Camera holding techniques especially if using a Zoom Lens (ie support top of lens)

2. Hold camera against something solid if possible i.e. fence, wall, someone's back etc.5Breath in, hold breath, take photo.

3. Use a fast Shutter speed to lessen shake.

4. DSLR ONLY: Use Mirror Up functionality if

available. Mirror goes UP WITH slight delay before photo taken.

5. For all cameras, **if using Tripod**, and lens has Image Stabilization (VR Lens in Nikon. EF in Canon), TURN OFF VR or EF.

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To get a Clear Blue Sky. This requires a fast speed so as not to saturate the Blue (Sky). Usually a Shutter Speed higher than 1/250. Also focus (thus also meter) somewhere closest to the sky but also maintain darker areas.

4	A good portrait setting. Focus (thus meter) on the subjects eye. Use an F Stop (Aperture) less the F 5.6 to provide OOF (out of focus area background - or Bokeh) for blur. The lower F Stop the better. Restricted by lens functionality.
5	Discover the F Stop sweet spot of your camera for great Landscape images. Most cameras it is between F13 and F16. Too high on many lens may cause Light Diffraction. The Higher the F Stop Number i.e. F22, makes the Aperture hole very small causing the light to Diffract thus causing poor quality at the edges of the image and/or less sharpness in the entire image.
6	For the best Landscape Image use the "iceberg principle - 1/3 in front and 2/3 behind. Thus don't focus on the centre: divide picture into Thirds, and Focus 1/3 up from the bottom. Not always what you want i.e. you may want a little blurring at the bottom so adjust that 1/3 slightly.
7	To perfect Exposure, use EV Compensation (EV + -). Set EV to take 3 shots - the three shots

will be One Step minus, One Step normal, and One Step Plus). **Remember** to turn EV Off or Steps back to Zero to stop continuous EV compensation)

8	For the more adventurous, read up on a Stacking Images and Merging and HDR photography
9	For better Card performance regularly use your Camera's Format utility i.e. simple don't move/erase images from your card as this leaves the images on the card but only deletes the Index track on the card thus over time capacity may deteriorate.
10	Ensure you camera's Firmware is always up-to-date. Check your camera's web site for up to date info and download instructions. You can check your camera's current Firmware Version in the Camera.
11	Use either Auto or Manual Focus. Mark's presentation.
$\frac{1}{2}$	Learn how to pan when photographing a moving object. Yes you can move your camera. You may have seen this with race cars
$\frac{1}{3}$	Backup, backup, backup. First backup

should be a "clean skin". Only use subsequent backups if using Photo Editing software. Especially relevant in taking JPEG as most photo editing is destructive.

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Relax. Lucky 13. Be relaxed when taking photos. Take in the scene and the available light BEFORE taking your shot. This gives you time to reflect upon your camera settings before taking your shot, make your setting changes, and improve your first shot.

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Understand how to make setting changes quickly before your photographic adventure (how menus and buttons work). Learn how to change: shooting Modes (A, S, P, M, Auto and Scene); change ISO; change WB; how to use EV Compensation; and how your Focusing System works - a critical issue for metering and focusing appropriately. Really, really, really learn this one, as the resulting outcome is fundamental to taking great shots.

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Snow or Sand Photography. set EV to - 1 (-

1/3) Step or - 2 (-2/3) Steps if a really bright Sunny Day. This will prevent Burnt Pixels (called blooming). This is a good one to use if having to photograph between 11am and 2 pm on a very bright sunny day as well. Another hint then: try not to photograph between 11am and 2 pm on a very bright sunny day!

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Photographing the Moon. Camera On a Tripod, Use a very fast speed (1/1000 +) with F8 (no more) along with ISO 800 if Camera can resist too much grain). Too slow a speed caused blooming (see Tip 15 for explanation). Another hint: if Camera has Mirror Up functionality (or time delay or remote activation) use - this prevents further camera movement - in fact use any of these functionalities whenever using a tripod.

1 8	For FX Camera used only: Use Crop Factor functionality if available for easy zoom (either 1.2 factor or full DX 1.5). Whilst reducing MP, this maintains HDR as well sharpness.
1 9	Remember Sunny 1/16 Rule for Manual Photography (in Nikon called <i>Image Area</i>). Set Camera to Manual Mode, F16, ISO to 100 and Speed to 1/100/ and Sun behind you and snap away. Play with these settings until you are happy with the results. Incorporate Trip 6 as well.
2 0	Relax, Enjoy and have Fun.

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