

Camera Easy Cheat Sheet



movements
in this direction
make images
brighter

Shooting in Manual mode

- 1 Exposure Mode to 'M'
- 2 Set ISO
- 3 Set Aperture
- 4 Set Shutter Speed
- 5 Adjust Shutter to make image brighter or darker

Shooting in Aperture mode

- 1 Exposure Mode to 'A' or 'Av' with Canon
- 2 Set ISO
- 3 Set Aperture
- 4 Camera will select the Shutter Speed
- 5 Use exposure compensation to make the image brighter/darker

If the colour of the photo is either too blue or too yellow, this is a white balance issue and not an exposure issue.

movements
in this direction
make images
darker



ISO	Aperture	Shutter
step	step	step
1	2	30"
12800	f1.4	15"
6400	f1.8	8"
3200	f2.8	4"
1600	f4	2"
800	f5.6	1"
400	f8	1/2
200	f11	1/4
100	f16	1/8
50	f22	1/15
		1/30
		1/60
		1/125
		1/250
		1/500
		1/1000
		1/2000
		1/4000
		1/8000

Use in Low Light

Use in Bright light

Big \$ for Big Apertures

95% of the time

If in doubt, set your aperture to Max. (the lowest aperture number)

Must use a tripod

Handhold but Stabilize

Handhold the camera

The widest/largest/ max aperture is the smallest number (yes, it seems backwards)

If your camera is a newer model, you can likely shoot at higher ISO values. The downside of a high ISO is the quality is lower

Must use a Tripod, refers to the fact that shutter speeds are slow and the camera must be stabilized

Blur occurs when shutter speeds are slow and the camera shakes.

Blur kills more photos than anything else. By shooting at the widest apertures you will get the fastest shutter speeds

ISO 100 and 200 are virtually the same quality on newer cameras. So, opt for faster shutter speeds and use a default low ISO of 200

Your camera operates in 1/3 increments. This sheet shows full stop increments. This means you need to adjust 3 'clicks' to make one stop

Any movement 'up' on the sheet makes the photo twice as bright. Any movement 'down' on the sheet makes the photo half as bright

Always set ISO First Aperture Second Adjust shutter Third

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Trouble Shooting Problem	Solution
When I push the shutter the camera won't shoot	The camera isn't focusing. Move a bit further back and make sure there is something for the camera to focus on.
I am trying to focus on something but the camera keeps focusing in a different spot	The focus point is set incorrectly. Make sure it's set to the center focus point.
All my photos are turning out yellow	You are shooting under incandescent light and the white balance is set incorrectly
My camera seems to power off after a few seconds	Gently press the shutter halfway to reactivate the screen.
Why are all my pictures blurry?	If the lighting is poor, you likely have too slow a shutter speed. Also, ensure you are in auto focus and not manual focus
No matter where I point the camera it won't seem to focus	The camera is likely set to manual focus. Switch to auto focus
I set the ISO and aperture and shutter speed and the exposure is right but the pics are blurred	There is likely insufficient light. You need more light or you need to use the flash.
When I am shooting in continuous drive the camera stops shooting after just a few pics	If you are using an old card, it may be too slow for the camera. Also, shooting in RAW file format will slow the frame rate. Switch to jpeg.
I am trying to take close up shots but the camera won't shoot	Lenses have a minimum focus distance. You are too close to the subject.
I am trying to take a picture and the colours just don't seem rich and bright	Try making the shutter speed a bit faster and also ensure that no direct sunlight hits the lens. Ever.
I am shooting indoors and the images are blurred	It's too dark. You need to raise the ISO, or use a flash.
When I take a photo, it is completely white	Your shutter speed is too slow (the shutter is open for too long) The pic is way overexposed.
I get frustrated that sometimes the camera shoots and sometimes it doesn't	If you are too close to the subject or if the camera has nothing of contrast to focus on it will not shoot. This is a focus issue.

