

The modern age of digital camera

[Design](#)



In the modern age of digital cameras, the skill involved in taking a good picture has decreased, how many people depend on using the presetting. Has anyone ever considered what the M setting is for, how about the Tv setting or the Av setting? I think not, so in this essay, it will be teaching you how to use a camera, more specifically using the M setting, the important vocabulary, how to compose a good picture, what rules to follow to get a good picture. One might be thinking, " I don't need to learn this stuff, when will I ever use it? " but think about it.

Have anyone ever seen the perfect scene but, no matter how much one tries the camera just doesn't listen to your pleads for a good picture, it just follows what it was programmed to do. You can make that scenario go away, by learning about ones'your camera, how every part contributes to a picture, and how to not depend on the automated function the goal of this essay is to empower the reader with new found knowledge. In this essay it will be focusing more around a SLR (Single Lens Reflex) camera. Now one might be wondering what a SLR camera is now.

A SLR is a type of camera that uses a movable mirror placed between the lens and the film to project the image seen through the lens. Because it uses a mirror and a pentaprism, an SLR is more bulky than a conventional rangefinder camera, making it less appealing to the average consumer, but in a professional point of view, the SLR camera is much better than a conventional camera, because it allows more control over the focusing, because there is a analog picture of the subject instead of a digital screen that might not have enough sharpness to make a correct focus.

Because of parallax a normal camera range-finder camera would not be able to take a picture of a subject close in, even though this has changed with most digital cameras because of the LCD screen, but the camera would have to have a certain lens to capture that particular image, and making the SLR more favorable, because of its ability to change lenses, and to have a direct view of an object. The basics in all digital cameras are a shutter, an aperture, the sensor CCD/CMOS, and the lens.

The shutter is what controls the exposure duration, and in turn control the amount of time the sensor is exposed to the light, the more time, the more light that gets into the camera, the longer the exposure the lighter the photo, one might use this to their advantage for making effects such as motion blurring the subject, ribboning in water, and stopping the action, but prolonging a shutter you would need a steady hand, and to balance out the exposure with another setting, that where the aperture comes in.

In the camera the aperture controls the amount of light that goes through in the specific time that was set, the aperture is measured in F-stops.

The sensor is the element that captures the light and turns it into a data that can be stored and viewed on the computer, the sensor most likely can be switched to a high sensitivity or low sensitivity to suit the need of the picture, the problem are that in high sensitivity the picture will start looking grainy and will affect the quality of the picture, the sensitivity are measured by ISO, ISO are an international standard that is responsible for standardizing the film speed, and of many other things such as, the standardization of coated grain surfaces (sand paper).

So now one knows what was the main component of a camera, how do you pick a good camera to take the perfect picture? On any digital camera take the time, and look, see how many pixels there are on the camera, the more might be better, but it also costs more. The truth is that one only needs three mega-pixels to print out a full-page photo, without the photo being pixelated or grainy, so in the end the more pixels just let the editor play around with the image, but three is just a baseline you should look for in a camera. Also in every camera there is a lens, the lens are a very critical component of a camera.

Without a good lens those extra pixels that one spends so much on will be wasted, its full potential will never be reached, for the lens it should have a wide aperture so that more light can come in low light conditions so the camera doesn't rely on high ISO to capture an image. Also in a camera one might want to look for a camera with a high optical zoom, without digital zoom of course. In most SLR cameras one will be able to swap the lenses for different uses. In a different light there are many different camera systems, which of them are the best?

Most professional photographers use a SLR camera because it allows them to use different lenses with the same camera body, and because instead of using two lenses one for the eye and one for the camera, which creates a parallax, what the photographer sees in the viewfinder is what the picture will be, because of that one can also do the focusing manually to create the desired effect, but because a SLR camera is more bulky, doesn't have a live view of the picture in the LCD screen, and because of the fact that there is a

rather large mirror, taking up space, and blacking out when the picture is taken, it is less favored by the normal consumer.

Now the newer non-SLR digital cameras have a big LCD screen for the average user to look at to take a picture, to look at how the picture is going to be taken and what speed the shutter is, what the aperture is, but there is a downside to this convenience is that instead of properly holding the camera by having it close to the body and wedging the supporting arm into the user's side, the camera is now out in the air just supported by the user's arm.

Whether camera is light or not the camera is a whole lot less stable because it is so far away from the user's body and it has nothing to keep it steady. The proper way of holding the camera upright is upright, the right hand's index is on the shutter release trigger, holding the camera in a way that it does not block anything that the camera needs to use, such as an IR range finder or an external light reader, the second hand is supporting the base of the camera.

In a SLR where there is a bigger lens that is made to put a hand on, to focus the camera or to zoom, the left hand is then placed on the lens to support it, the left arm is then wedged into the stomach to provide extra support, and stability. To hold the camera to take a vertical shot the camera is rotated so that the hand, which is placed on the camera's trigger, is on the top of the camera acting like a swivel since the centre of gravity is lower than the swivel point the camera is then left to hang rather than having a tendency to roll off side to side if the camera was placed above the wrist.

If one needs to take a picture with a slower shutter speed it won't hurt them to sit down to take the picture, bringing them yourself down to the ground allows your arms to be closer to the ground, thus transferring more movement to the ground, for a steadier photo, this might be needed if one are to replicate any effect, such as ribboning, motion blurring of fast moving objects, if the lens was a telephoto on a high zoom it might be smart to sit down or get in a more stable position, but most likely if the room was dark the photo taken would be at a lower shutter speed.