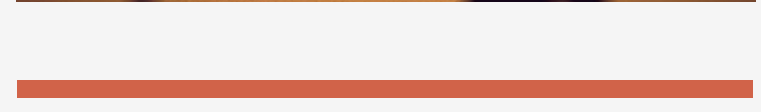
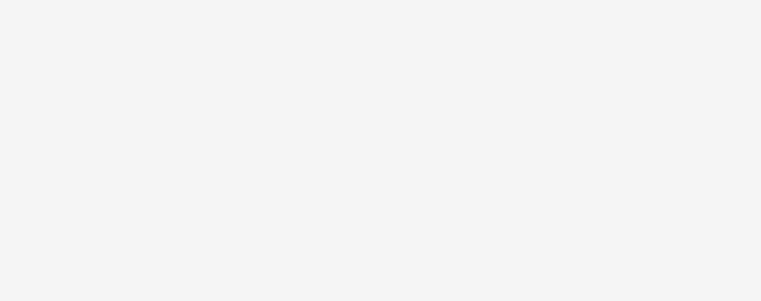


Welcome to Digital Photography

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Holding the Camera

Incorrect



This is the way a lot of people hold their camera. But, as you can see, there is no real support under the camera, so **camera shake** is more likely. Also when you want to adjust the zoom, you have to reposition your hand.



Recently there have been a flood of cameras with no viewfinder, you have to look at the screen to compose your picture. As a result some people find it more 'natural' to view in this way. But now you are holding the camera in a very unstable way.



Ultra compacts and camera phones have made matters even worse. Now you have to hold the camera with your finger tips, away from your face. Even I find it extremely difficult to hold such a camera still. The only way is to find some support for your elbows as in the picture below.

Holding the Camera Properly



When you use a telephoto lens, the need for support form underneath becomes more urgent. Not only because the weight distribution is now tipping the camera forward but also because the narrower angle of view will accentuate any **camera shake**.

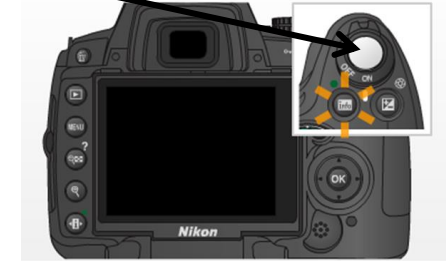


The 'good' way of holding the camera recommended in this article translates very well to the portrait view as well. A lot of people take all their pictures in landscape format simply because it feels uncomfortable to hold the camera in the upright position. Holding it this way feels very comfortable.



Whenever possible I would recommend using any extra support available. Especially when shooting in low light or with a dreaded camera phone.

Shutter Release Button



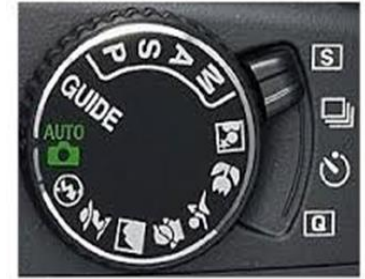
1. Compose your picture
2. Press shutter release half way (HOLD) – allows the camera to **focus** and select the **correct settings**. Camera will **beep** when ready.
3. (HOLD) Press shutter release all the way to snap/take your picture.

Compact/Cell Phone vs. DSLR (**Digital Single Lens Reflex**)

- Convenience – compact cameras are easier to use. Always have your cell phone.
- The lens – interchangeable in a DSLR
- Expense
- Less Image Noise in a DSLR (Quality)
- Camera size and weight
- Can use an external flash with a DSLR
- DSLR you can control the exposure: Aperture, Depth of Field, Shutter Speed, ISO

Steps to taking a picture

1. Turn on the camera – check battery
2. Select camera mode – auto, portrait, etc.
3. Frame the subject – hold camera properly, **elbows** close to your body, one foot in front of the other to keep your upper body stable
4. **Focus** on your subject – press shutter release half way, check your **indicators** in the viewfinder
5. Take your picture – smoothly press shutter release all the way



The Anatomy of a DSLR

Knowing your way around your DSLR camera will increase your enjoyment of photography. Knowledge and familiarity will also give you more control and help build your confidence as you start to explore the world through the eyes of your camera lens.



Anatomy of DSLR – NikonD3100

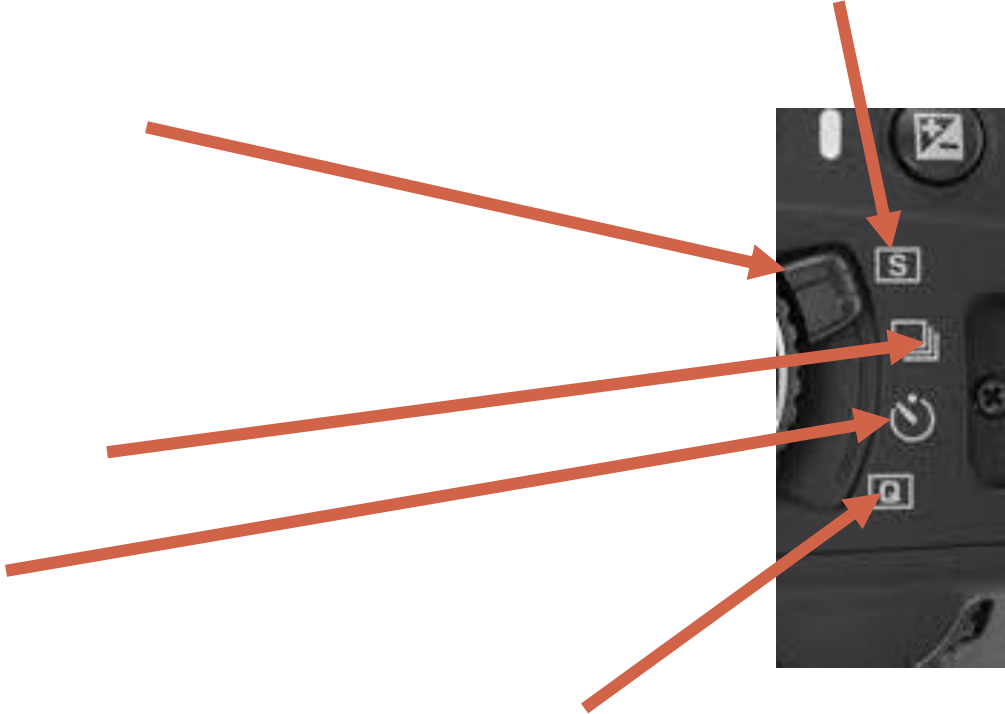


Anatomy of DSLR



Anatomy of DSLR

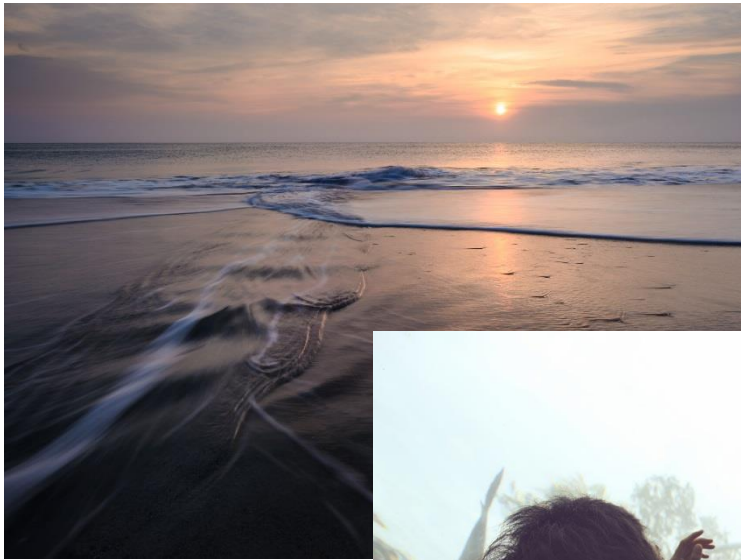




What makes a good photo?

- Clearly defined subject and background



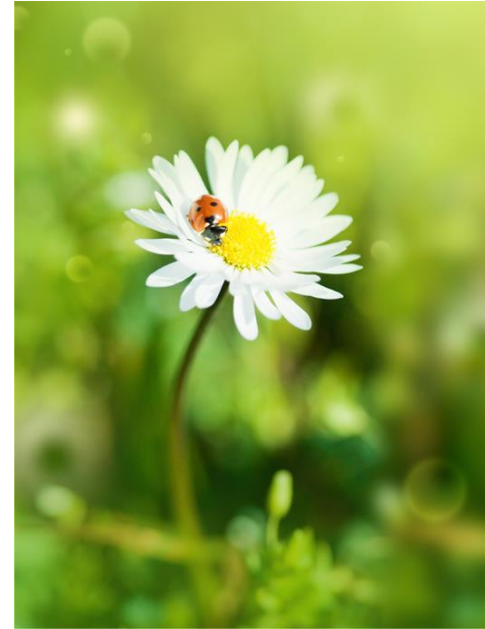


◦ Sense of balance

○ Point of view





◦ Degree of simplicity



○ People doing things



- 
- Good colour and contrast – lighting
 - Planning and forethought
 - Intent (message of the picture)
 - Arranging forms and tones in a way that is pleasing and brings viewers eyes to the subject

- 
- For the first few weeks in this course we will be using what we call “automatic modes”.
 - When we use the camera in an automatic mode we do not have to manually go in and adjust the settings to get the best photograph possible.
 - The cameras are fairly intuitive, and can usually “figure out” the best settings to capture an image in almost any settings.

Automatic Exposure Modes



Understanding Exposure Modes

There is so much technology packed into the modern camera today that you can literally point and shoot and receive excellent pictures without getting too technical with the settings. Every DSLR has an array of exposure modes. You can either keep things simple by selecting one of the scene modes and let the camera do the work for you or you can get very involved by taking over the camera settings and thus being more creative. The choice is yours.

Camera's Exposure Mode Dial

GUIDE Mode (□ 33)

Take and view pictures and adjust settings with the help of an on-screen guide.

P, S, A, and M Modes

Select these modes for full control over camera settings.

- P—Programmed auto (□ 74)
- S—Shutter-priority auto (□ 75)
- A—Aperture-priority auto (□ 76)
- M—Manual (□ 77)

Auto Modes

Select these modes for simple, point-and-shoot photography.

-  Auto (□ 23)
-  Auto (flash off) (□ 23)



Scene Modes

The camera automatically optimizes settings to suit the scene selected with the mode dial. Match your selection to the scene being photographed.

-  Portrait (□ 28)
-  Landscape (□ 28)
-  Child (□ 29)
-  Sports (□ 29)
-  Close up (□ 29)
-  Night portrait (□ 29)

Symbol

Exposure Mode



Auto



Auto Flash Off



Portrait



Landscape



Sports



Close Up



Night Portrait

Here is a brief description of each:



Night Portrait Mode
Combines flash with a slow shutter speeds, but fixes other settings

Macro Mode
Sets a wide aperture to blur backgrounds


Sports Mode
Sets a fast shutter speed to freeze action

Flash Off / Auto Flash Off Mode
Fully automatic mode that ensures flash does not fire

AUTO OR **Full Automatic Mode**
Sets all camera settings automatically

Portrait Mode
Sets a wide aperture to blur backgrounds, but overrides other settings

Landscape Mode
Sets aperture to maximize depth of field and the built-in flash is switched off.

- 
- The next few slides are some *examples* of when you'd use these settings.
 - It is important to try not to take the titles of each mode too literally: for instance, it doesn't have to be a "sport" to use sport mode.

Portrait



Use for portraits **(people)**. Adjusts for **soft, natural-looking skin tones**. If the subject is far from the background, **background** details will be **softened** to lend the composition a sense of depth.

Landscape



Use for vivid landscape **(scenery)** shots in daylight. The built-in flash and **AF turn off**. The entire picture should be **clear** and in focus.

Portrait



Landscape



Child



Use for snapshots of **children**. Clothing and background **details** are **vivid** while **skin tones** remain soft and **natural**. Camera will **adjust shutter speed** to make up for slight movements.

Close Up/Macro



Used for **close-up** of flowers, insects and other small objects. Subject (flower) will be in focus and **background will be blurred**.

Child

NOTE: using child mode does not necessarily mean it's only for children. "Child Mode" has very similar settings to "Portrait" mode, however, it has a faster shutter speed. This is helpful because children typically do not sit still.

In this example it works because it is a portrait snapped while the subject was moving.



Macro (aka close-up)



Sports



Use when taking a picture of a **moving object**. The camera will use a **faster shutter speed** to **freeze motion** for dynamic sports or movement shots in which main subject clearly stands out. **No flash** and **AF** (auto focus) is turned off.

Night Portrait



Camera will adjust settings when taking a picture in **low light** in this mode (slower shutter speed and smaller aperture). Should have a natural balance between main subject and the background. Use of a **tripod** is recommended to prevent blur.

Sport



Night Portrait

