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 Mar-20-2008, 07:58 AM #1


ziggy53
OP
Still
learnin'still
lovin

Simple Exposure Guide

Using Kodak definitions:



Join Date:
May 2005
Location:
Illinois

cornfield
Posts:
16,433

Attached Images

Conditions	ISO			
	100	200	400	800
Bright or Hazy Sun on Light Sand or Snow	1/125, f22	1/250, f22	1/500, f22	1/1000, f22
Bright or Hazy Sun (Distinct Shadows)	1/125, f16	1/250, f16	1/500, f16	1/1000, f16
Weak, Hazy Sun, (Soft Shadows)	1/125, f11	1/250, f11	1/500, f11	1/1000, f11
Cloudy Bright, (No Shadows)	1/125, f8	1/250, f8	1/500, f8	1/1000, f8
Heavy Overcast or Open Shade	1/125, f5.6	1/250, f5.6	1/500, f5.6	1/1000, f5.6

For backlit close-up subjects, open up 2 stops.
Open shade means subject shaded from the sun but lighted by a large area of sky

ziggy53
Moderator of the [Cameras](#) and [Accessories](#) forums

Mar-20-2008, 08:10 AM

#2

 **SavedByZero**
Is ready to get ready..



Join Date: Dec 2007
Location: Galatica Actual
Posts: 224

Sunny 16

[FONT=Franklin Gothic Medium]
[/FONT]

[FONT=Franklin Gothic Medium] Then I see the edge I look I fall[/FONT]
[FONT=Franklin Gothic Medium] And I get deeper and deeper[/FONT]
[FONT=Franklin Gothic Medium] The more I see the more I fall no place to hide[/FONT]
[FONT=Franklin Gothic Medium] You better take the call I get deeper and deeper...The

Fixx[/FONT]
[FONT=Verdana][FONT=Verdana] [/FONT][[/FONT]

● Mar-20-2008, 08:37 AM

#3

 **ziggy53** ^{OP}

Still learnin'still lovin



Join Date: May 2005

Location: Illinois cornfield

Posts: 16,433

Quote:

Originally Posted by **SavedByZero**
Sunny 16

I just changed it to better protect the highlights. It is based on several different sources and assumes an accurate interpretation of the lighting conditions.

Yes, it lines up pretty well now with the "Sunny 16" rule of ISO 100, 1/100th, f16.

Always bracket when using a rudimentary guide like this and interpolate for different exposures.

ziggy53

Moderator of the [Cameras](#) and [Accessories](#) forums

● Mar-20-2008, 09:07 AM

#4

 **ziggy53** ^{OP}

Still learnin'still lovin

I should also add that simple guides like these are reasonably accurate from 2-3 hours after sunrise until 2-3 hours before sunset.

ziggy53

Moderator of the [Cameras](#) and [Accessories](#) forums



Join Date: May 2005
Location: Illinois cornfield
Posts: 16,433

● Mar-20-2008, 10:25 AM

#5



pathfinder

Drive By Digital Shooter



Join Date: Jan 2004
Location: western Indiana
Posts: 13,170

Ziggy, as you know, I posted a [thread about Sunny 16](#) about 2 years ago.

Those of us who shot slide film years ago, remember when you opened the Kodachrome box and laid it out flat, that your table was basically printed right there on the inside of every box. Back in the days of Cadmium sulfide light meters, the table was usually more accurate than the cadmium sulfide light meter. At least that was my experience.

Sunny 16 is remarkable accurate, because the sun's intensity does not change very much at all during daylight almost anywhere on the globe. Sand or snow does act like a big fill reflector beneath your subjects - and adds about 1 stop more light as your table displays.

It is kind of fun to look through exif data and predict exposures based on Sunny 16, and compare them to the actual exif data. They usually match very closely, as I attempted to show in my post mentioned previously.

With modern electronically controlled cameras and lenses, we have sophisticated shutters capable of 1/12th, 1/15th, 1/20th, 1/25th, 1/30th, 1/50th, 1/60th, 1/100th, 1/125th etc but older, mechanical shutters that we both used 40 years ago, usually offered 1/25th, 1/50th, 1/100th, or they offered 1/30th, 1/60th, and 1/125th, but the real difference in exposure between 1/100th and 1/125 was just ignored as insignificant. My Sekonic L358 Incident light meter uses 1/30th, 1/60th, 1/125th and has no offerings for 1/25th, 1/50th etc so they don't think the difference is vital either apparently.

I think this kind of shutter speed variation initially can be confusing to folks who have not used manual exposure cameras previously.

The beauty of Sunny 16 to me, is that I cannot remember your table verbatim, but if I know that in bright sunlight at a given ISO, if I set my aperture at f16, the shutter speed will be 1/ISO, and I can then construct the rest of the table if needed.

Great topic to discuss, that is still relevant in our modern age of cameras with sensitive light meters, that still get it wrong sometimes 🤔

Pathfinder - www.pathfinder.smugmug.com

Moderator of the [Technique Forum](#) and [Finishing School](#) on Dgrin

Mar-20-2008, 02:07 PM

#6


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Join Date:
May 2005
Location:
Illinois
cornfield
Posts:
16,433

Quote:

Originally Posted by **pathfinder**

Ziggy, as you know, I posted a [thread about Sunny 16](#) about 2 years ago.

Those of us who shot slide film years ago, remember when you opened the Kodachrome box and laid it out flat, that your table was basically printed right there on the inside of every box. ...

Thanks Path. It was in a similar nostalgic moment that I created this chart. I actually remember when there was a little data sheet included in each box of film that included a little chart like this as well as basic information about the film like what it was intended to be used for.

I used to go out with my Pentax H1a, which did not have a light meter, and a Pentax 50mm lens. For exposure I would refer to the data sheet and then look for clouds and shadows to determine which exposure.

Ah, the good old days.

Attached Images



ziggy53Moderator of the Cameras and Accessories forums

● Mar-21-2008, 05:12 PM

#7



LiquidAir

Major grins

Join Date: Aug 2006**Location:** San Rafael, CA**Posts:** 1,749

I have been working on learning to think of lighting conditions in terms of exposure value (EV) rather than shutter and aperture. Thought of that way "Sunny-16" is EV 14.7 at ISO 100 and the Kodak table is EV 15 at ISO 100. After I got my incident light meter I carried it around with me for a few days to measure different kinds of lighting conditions. By putting the display in EV mode it was much easier for me to build a mental map of typical lighting conditions. I wish that my camera had a built in EV display to save me the trouble of doing the conversions in my head. Here is link to a set of tables I built to help me learn to convert (and also as a JavaScript exercise):

http://www.liquidairphoto.com/ev_table.html

http://www.liquidairphoto.com/av_table.html

http://www.liquidairphoto.com/ss_table.html

Some notes from my testing:

EV14.7 protects whites in direct sun when shooting RAW. Since shadows in direct sun are very dark, if there are no whites in the scene it is often worth pushing the exposure a stop to recover more shadow detail.

It is easy to miss the little bit of haze on the sun which drops the exposure below EV14.7. If there is any risk of high clouds partially blocking the sun, be very aware of the cloud coverage and adjust appropriately.

EV12 for "open shade" means that your subject cannot see the sun but can see at least 75% of the sky. By the time your subject is shaded from 50% of the sky the exposure will be closer to EV11 than EV12. Open areas under an awning or tree branches can be as dark as EV10. I have seen densely forested areas as dark as EV6.

[FONT=Book Antiqua][Liquid Air - Gallery - Blog](#)
[/FONT]

● Mar-22-2008, 06:50 AM

#8

 **pathfinder**

Drive By Digital Shooter



Join Date: Jan 2004

Location: western Indiana

Posts: 13,170

Thinking in EV makes a lot of sense, Ken.

I learned manual exposure in apertures and shutter seeds, so I have to translate first to think in EV. I may need to work some more with EV - it always feels like a second language to me 🤔

Pathfinder - www.pathfinder.smugmug.com

Moderator of the [Technique Forum](#) and [Finishing School](#) on Dgrin

● Mar-22-2008, 07:21 AM

#9

 **ziggy53** ^{OP}

Still learnin'still lovin



Join Date: May 2005

Location: Illinois cornfield

Posts: 16,433

Quote:

Originally Posted by **pathfinder**

Thinking in EV makes a lot of sense, Ken.

I learned manual exposure in apertures and shutter seeds, so I have to translate first to think in EV.

I may need to work some more with EV - it always feels like a second language to me 🤔



Many, if not most, of the Hasselblad system of lenses use/used an EV system which would couple both the shutter speed and aperture to an EV setting. When you change one of the exposure settings, the other would

"tag along" to maintain the EV relationship. Good stuff! 🤔👍

ziggy53

Moderator of the [Cameras](#) and [Accessories](#) forums

● Mar-22-2008, 11:47 AM

#10

 **georges**
Major grins



Join Date: May 2004
Location: The American
Great Plains
Posts: 138

Quote:

Originally Posted by **ziggy53**



Many, if not most, of the Hasselblad system of lenses use/used an EV system which would couple both the shutter speed and aperture to an EV setting. When you change one of the exposure settings, the other would "tag along" to maintain the EV relationship. Good stuff! 🤔👍

That's how the Hyper-Program mode works on my Pentax bodies.

As an aside, I was laughing to myself about the main topic of this thread while teaching my last photo class.

One of the students asked about my favorite books and I mentioned the little Kodak Photoguide I still carry in my camera bag. I laid it on the bed of the A/V camera so they could see the exposure calculator dial on the big screen.

This lead to an interesting discussion about people abandoning knowledge to the magic electronics inside of the camera.

Sometimes the best topics in the class aren't in my lesson plan.

See you later, gs

<http://georgesphotos.net>

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