

High Dynamic Range (HDR) - Set Up Guide

TUNER PHOTOGRAPHY

EXPRESS YOURSELF CREATIVELY

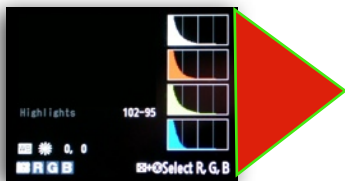
Specific Capture Mode

- Mount > camera on the tripod
- Select > **Manual Exposure** Mode
- Select > **Exposure Compensation** 0.0 setting
- Select > **Aperture Setting** (landscapes = f/8 or higher)
- Select > **NEF (RAW)** image quality
- Press > **Menu** button > **Shooting Menu** > **RAW Image Recording** > **Type** > **14-bit** (skip if you don't have a 14 bit option) > **Active D-Lighting** > **Off**
- Select > **White Balance** preset appropriate for the scene
- Select > **Single Release (S)** Mode
- Select > **ISO** setting (ISO 200 preferred)
- Select > **Matrix Metering** Mode
- Frame up the composition and take a **Test Shot**. **Check** > **Composition, White Balance, Depth of Field & Focus**. Make adjustments where needed. Once you're certain that the subject is **in-focus** > Select > **Manual** focus on the **Focus Mode Selector** switch
- Adjust the **Shutter Speed** until the **Analog Exposure Scale** reflects a **-2.0 exposure** reading
- Take a **test shot** > **Playback** button > check the **RGB histograms** to see if the histograms have pulled away from the right side of the scale. If the **histograms** are still touching the right side of the scale, dial in another negative full stop by increasing the shutter speed (don't change the aperture). Take another **test shot** > check the **histogram**. Continue this process until the histograms have cleared the right side. This exposure will be your starting exposure in the HDR sequence. Do not change the camera settings.
- Delete the **test images**
- *At this point the camera is set up to capture the first HDR sequence*
- Capture the **first image** in the sequence > check the **histograms**. Decrease the **Shutter Speed** by one full stop and capture the **second image** > check the **histogram**. Continue this process until you have an exposure that displays

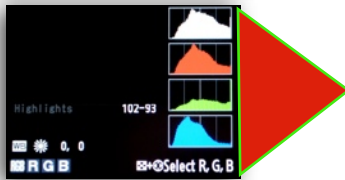
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histograms that have pulled away from the left side of the scale. This image is the **last image** in the sequence. I always try to capture an odd number of images such as 3, 5, 7 or 9.

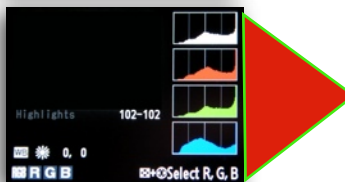
- You have now captured a **Highlight** and **Shadow** exposure. The **Mid-tone** exposure will be someplace in the middle of the sequence.
- Confirm the HDR sequence before continuing by Pressing > **Image Play Back** button to display the images. Scroll to the first image in the sequence and check the **histograms**. They should be pulled away from the right side of the **histogram** scale. If the histogram hasn't pulled away from the right side, you do not have an image that will adequately represent the highlight detail. If the first image **histogram** has pulled away from the right and the last image has pulled away from the left side of the histograms, you have captured a complete **HDR** sequence. If you don't have exposures with appropriate **Highlight** and **Shadow** detail, you'll need to increase the number of frames in the sequence and reshoot.
- It's always a good idea to capture a second **back up** sequence of the same scene
- The key to a good HDR sequence is the successful capture of these three images:



Highlight Image: This image has no blown-out highlight detail, good tonal value and hue. The histogram has pulled away from the right side of the scale.



Mid-tone Image: This image has a good balance of tones in the mid-range.



Shadow Image: This image has no clipped shadow detail, good tonal value and hue. The histogram has pulled away from the left side of the scale.

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