

Digital Camera Basics

1) Point & Shoot

- a. Small
- b. Fixed lens
- c. Up to 18 Megapixels

2) DSLR – Digital SLR

- a. Usually not small
- b. Interchangeable lens
- c. Up to 200 Megapixel

3) Lenses

- a. Fixed
- b. Variable – 28 to 400
- c. Zoom
 - i. Manual
 - ii. Digital sometimes 2x
- d. Macro
 - i. Lens
 - ii. Electronically

4) Mode

- a. Automatic – Everything set for you by the camera's brain
- b. Manual
 - i. ISO – 100 to 10,000 ish
 - ii. f-Stop – 1 to 15? and is dependent upon the lens
 - iii. Shutter speed – Bulb to 1/4000 of a second
- c. Aperture Priority – Size of the hole light goes through
 - i. The aperture takes priority and you change the ISO and exposure (shutter speed)
- d. Shutter Priority – How quickly that hole opens and closes
 - i. Shutter speed takes priority and you change the ISO and exposure (aperture)
- e. SP – Scene Position
 - i. Nature, Nature Soft, Nature Vivid, Flower
 - ii. Portrait, Baby Mode, Night, Sunset, Snow, Museum, Sport, Fireworks
- f. Custom
 - i. Many settings that you can customize and set as your camera's default

5) Video

- a. Many cameras can do it

6) FSB – Film Simulation Bracketing

- a. Usually 3 of the same shot using 3 different film types (Provia, Velvia & Soft)
- 7) Metering
 - a. Center-Weighted
 - b. Partial
 - c. Spot
- 8) Focus
 - a. Center
 - b. Spot
 - c. Manual – There is usually a focus ring if it is available
- 9) Continuous shooting mode
 - a. Top 7 (Raw)
 - b. Top 50
 - c. Last 7
 - d. Long period
- 10) View finder or LCD
- 11) Display options
- 12) Review pictures
- 13) Dual mode – Reduces camera shake
- 14) Menu
 - a. Up, Down, Left & Right
- 15) Best way to learn is push the buttons
 - a. Read your manuals. Explore, experiment.
 - b. There is usually a reset setting somewhere in the setup menus that will revert everything back to the good old days 😊
- 16) Next sessions
 - a. Accessories (External flash, Tripods, Filters etc.)
 - b. Photography basics
 - c. How to play with your pictures on a computer

Resources

Digital Photography Tutorials - <http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials.htm>

B & H Photo - <http://www.bhphotovideo.com> 212-444-6615

Middle Earth Media - <http://www.middleearthmedia.com> 646-358-4390