

## Fill In Flash

In this lesson, we'll be taking a look at  
**Fill In Flash.**

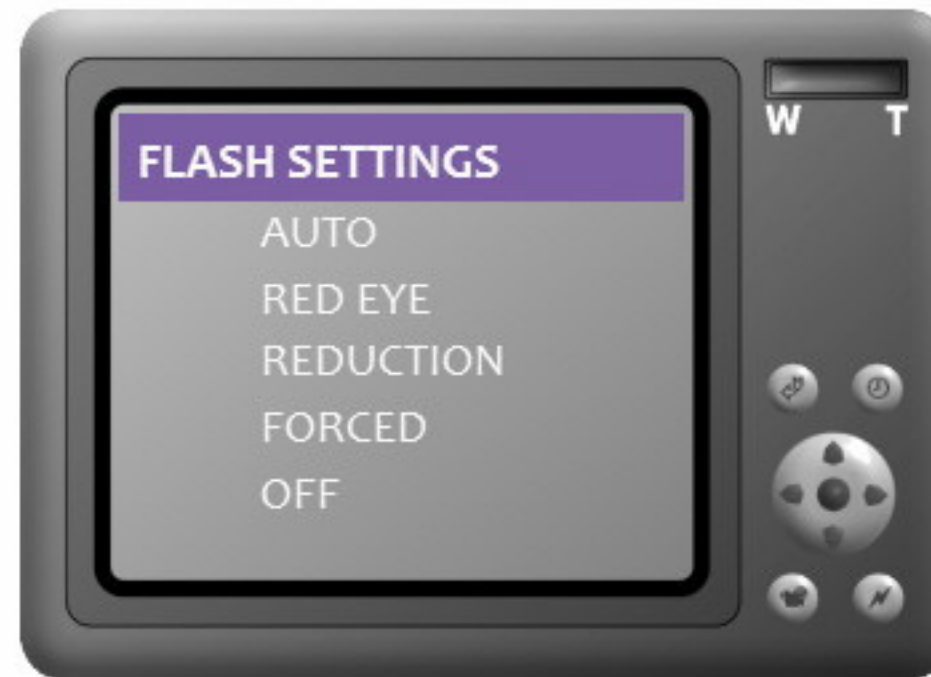
*Estimated Completion Time: **10 minutes.***

## Fill In Flash

The flash, as you know, is used to take photos in low light situations. But that is not all it can be used for.

Before you start using the flash creatively, you need to be aware of the Flash settings on your camera.

Generally, you'll have at least four flash settings - maybe more.



*Make sure you know where the flash controls for your camera are located. They may be accessed via a button, or perhaps a menu.*

## Fill In Flash

On some cameras, turning on the flash may be as simple as raising it. DSLRs, and high end compacts often have a pop-up flash.



## Fill In Flash

When you have bright sunlight, it can actually make some photography difficult. This is accentuated when the subject has a mixture of sun and shade on it.



*Where a subject contains sun and shade, it can be hard to get the exposure correct - and quite often, the important areas come out overexposed, or underexposed. In this case, the face has come out too dark.*



## Fill In Flash

Try using the flash when shade and sun cover a subject - and more often than not, you'll get better results.



*Here we have forced the flash on - and note that everything is exposed perfectly.*

## Fill In Flash



*No flash...*



*Flash set on...*



## Fill In Flash



*No flash...*



*Fill-in flash...*



## Fill In Flash



*Where there is a light background, and a dark subject, most cameras will automatically set the exposure for the lighter area - and the dark area is underexposed. Turn the flash on to get around this.*



## Fill In Flash



*Even in cases where there may be sufficient light not to use a flash - and there are no shadows, using the flash can help reduce ISO settings - and so give you clearer, sharper images.*



## Fill In Flash

In one of the case studies later in this course, you'll see how you can improve an image where you've forgotten to use fill in flash.



*Later on, you'll see how we turned the image on the left into the image on the right.*



## Fill In Flash

A flash will change the color of your image. If possible, don't use the flash, as you'll always get more realistic colors. See the examples below.



*On the left, we used natural light. On the right, we used a flash.*



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*On the left, we used natural light. On the right, we used a flash.*



## Fill In Flash



*If you are trying to photograph through glass - say, for example, inside a fish tank, then you have to be careful if you want to use a flash. Generally, the reflection from a flash will either block the subject, or wreck the exposure. It can work, but not all the time. Try from an angle, rather than from straight on. For this sort of photo, you are better off with a tripod, no flash, as fast a shutter speed as the camera will allow given the light. Increasing the ISO will help. 800 ISO was used for this shot.*



## Fill In Flash



*Remember - a flash is certainly not always required. I love a shot like this one, taken in near darkness. For a photo like this, you need to set the ISO up high, use a tripod, and ask the subject to stay very still...*

## Fill In Flash

You've now completed this lesson.

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