

## Camera Modes

In this lesson, we'll be taking a look at  
**Camera Modes.**

*Estimated Completion Time: 5 minutes.*

## Camera Modes

***Shutter Priority.*** **Shutter Priority** is a common mode that is a kind of half automatic, and half manual mode. Essentially, in this mode, you can set the shutter speed to anything you like, and the camera will compensate with the correct aperture, and ISO settings to ensure the photo is exposed correctly.

I love this mode - turn it on, and set the shutter speed straight to 1/2000 of a second or so to capture some action - knowing that the camera will do the rest.



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***Aperture Priority.*** **Aperture Priority** is like shutter priority (see previous step), except that with this mode, all you do is select the aperture you are after, and the camera will select all other appropriate settings to ensure the photograph is exposed correctly.

Note that, as with shutter priority, the camera will do its best to make sure the camera is exposed correctly, but ultimately, this depends on whether enough light is available to do so.





## Camera Modes

***Exposure Compensation.*** **Exposure Compensation** is used when you want to manually lighten, or darken a photograph a little.

Normally, this will be a sliding scale, say from -5 to +5, where the lower the number, the darker the image, and 0 does not adjust exposure at all.

This is normally used to get a special effect, or where a camera does not quite expose the photo the way you want it to.



*In this shot, we set the **exposure compensation** to +5. This was a rock on the water's edge - and because we've overexposed the photo via the **exposure compensation** feature, the ocean has disappeared.*

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**Burst Mode.** **Burst Mode** refers to the ability of a camera to take a series of photographs over a very quick period - normally while you hold the shutter down, rather than continuously clicking.



*These 10 shots were taken within 1 second. Because we use the burst mode, we were able to get the snakes tongue without needing super reflexes.*



## Camera Modes

**Special Modes.** **Special Modes** change from camera to camera. By special modes, we refer to a setting like *Fireworks*, or *Beach*, or *Party*, or *Indoor*, or *Sport*, or *Action*.

These modes are great if you are unsure what sort of settings should be used to take photos in certain conditions.



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**Macro.** **Macro** is the term used for extreme close up photography. Most cameras have some macro ability - some more than others.

You may be able to get within a foot, or even within an inch to your subject. Sometimes you'll need to switch to a special macro mode, or for SLR users, change to a macro lens.

**Macro** photography can be a little tricky - getting the focus right (there is normally a very narrow depth of field), and keeping the camera steady (a tripod is a must) can be difficult. Also, particular attention must be paid to lighting, as a Flash cannot generally be used in macro photography.





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**Bracketing.** **Bracketing** is the technique where the camera will take three shots, in quick succession. Each will have slightly different exposure settings.

The amount of exposure difference between each shot depends on the settings you select. When you have your final shots, you then have a choice of which of the photos has turned out the best.





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You've now completed this lesson.

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