



Overview

This assignment focuses on mastering shutter speed to control motion in photography. You will learn how to freeze fast-moving subjects and create artistic motion blur, enhancing your ability to capture dynamic scenes effectively.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the relationship between shutter speed and motion.
- Learn to select appropriate shutter speeds for various types of movement.
- Experiment with creative techniques to convey motion in your images.

Related Reading

Before you start, read these related blog posts to deepen your understanding:

[What Is Shutter Speed](#)

Before You Shoot

- Choose a location with dynamic subjects, such as a busy street or sports event.
- Check the weather conditions to determine the best time for shooting.
- Prepare your camera by ensuring it's set to manual mode for full control.
- Bring a tripod for stability, especially when using slower shutter speeds.
- Familiarize yourself with your camera's focus modes and metering settings.

Assignment Tasks

1. Capture a moving subject, like a cyclist, using settings: f/5.6, 1/1000s, ISO 200 in shutter priority mode.
2. Photograph a waterfall with a soft blur effect using settings: f/11, 1/2s, ISO 100 in manual mode.
3. Create an intentional camera movement shot of a busy street using settings: f/8, 1/4s, ISO 400 in manual mode.
4. Freeze the action of a running dog at the park using settings: f/4, 1/2000s, ISO 400 in shutter priority mode.
5. Capture light trails from cars at night using settings: f/8, 5s, ISO 100 in manual mode.
6. Zoom in on a flower while taking a shot to create a burst effect using settings: f/5.6, 1/15s, ISO 200 in aperture priority mode.

Stretch Tasks

- Create a time-lapse video of a sunset using settings: f/11, 1/30s, ISO 100 in manual mode, adjusting shutter speed as light changes.
- Experiment with double exposure techniques by combining two images of motion using settings: f/8, 1/125s, ISO 200 in manual mode.



DO / DON'T

DO

- ✓ Do practice different shutter speeds to see their effects on motion.
- ✓ Do use a tripod for long exposures to avoid camera shake.
- ✓ Do experiment with various light conditions to understand how they affect shutter speed.
- ✓ Do review your images on the camera to assess exposure and motion effects.
- ✓ Do take notes on your settings and results for future reference.

DON'T

- ✗ Don't use too high of an ISO in bright conditions, as it can introduce noise.
- ✗ Don't forget to check your focus before shooting moving subjects.
- ✗ Don't rely solely on automatic settings; practice manual control for better results.
- ✗ Don't shoot in low light without a tripod if using slow shutter speeds.
- ✗ Don't ignore the background; ensure it complements the motion in your subject.

Reflection Questions

- What differences did you notice in your images when varying shutter speeds?
- How did the choice of aperture affect your depth of field and motion capture?
- What challenges did you face while trying to convey motion in your photographs?
- In what ways can you apply the techniques learned to future photography projects?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Set your camera to shutter priority mode (Tv or S) to control the shutter speed directly.
- Use an aperture of f/8 to f/11 for greater depth of field when freezing action.
- Adjust your ISO to 400 for bright settings or up to 3200 in low-light conditions to maintain fast shutter speeds.
- Experiment with exposure compensation to adjust brightness when using fast shutter speeds.
- Select single-point autofocus for precise focusing on moving subjects.

Creative:

- Use a slow shutter speed (1/4s to 1s) to create a motion blur effect in scenes with moving water or traffic.
- Incorporate intentional camera movement (ICM) by panning the camera during exposure for artistic effects.
- Try using a zoom burst technique by zooming in or out while the shutter is open to create a dynamic sense of movement.
- Capture silhouettes against a sunset by using fast shutter speeds to freeze the action while underexposing the scene.
- Utilize light trails from vehicles or fireworks by setting a long exposure (2s to 10s) to convey motion.