

Photography Cheat Sheets

Provided by: AZA Fine Prints (www.azafineprints.com)

Shutter Speed Suggestions

Walking	1/125
Running	1/500
Horse Galloping	1/1000
Race Cars	1/2000
Hummingbird	1/12,000

Depth of Field (DoF)

Controlled by Aperture (f-stop)

Shallow DoF - front focus, rear blur - Portraits (smaller f-stop)

Deeper DoF - all in focus - Landscape (larger f-stop)

For DoF, focus 1/3 into frame

Priority Modes

Aperture – used for lighting shots

Shutter Speed – used for speed shots

Shutter Speed, Aperture Relationship

1/60	f/16	
1/125	f/11	
1/250	f/8	(sharpest picture)
1/500	f/5.6	
1/1000	f/4	

Night Photography Equipment

Tripod	Flashlight	Stopwatch
Flash	Zoom Lens	
Cable Release	Batteries	

Night Photography

f/16	30 sec	ISO 100
f/16	15 sec	ISO 200
f/16	8 sec	ISO 400

Shoot with lowest ISO available

Night Photography - Cityscapes

f/11	15 sec	ISO 100
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Night Photography - Moon

300+mm Lens

f/11 - f/8	1/125	ISO 100
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Moon travels its own diameter in 2 minutes

Best day is day before real full moon

Star Trails

Wide lens: more stars & foreground

Zoom lens: stars are closer

Shoot with new or crescent moon (less light in sky); North Star doesn't move

f/4 - f/5.6	10 min - hours exposure
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Fireworks

Wide angle lens Black card

Manual focus (infinity) f/8 - f/11

Bulb setting (leave open)

Put black card in front of lens, remove to expose, back and forth to capture multiple fireworks images

Lightening

Darker skies are better

Start point (far distance): f/4-f/5.6 ISO 100

Start point (closer dist): f/8 ISO 100

Put black card in front of lens, remove to expose, back and forth to capture multiple lightening strikes images

Car Light Trails & Carnivals

Start point: f/8 15-30 secs ISO 1000

Ghosting

Tripod

Take general meter reading

Exp should be 15 sec minimum to allow movement in and out

Long exposure time - doesn't capture the actual movement

Sunrises, Sunsets (Equipment)

Extra batteries

Mirror Lockup

Split neutral density filter

Wide angle, zoom lens

Lens Hood

Flashlight

Polarizing filters

Rain gear

Cable release

Tripod

Plastic Bags

Sunrises, Sunsets

Manual focus

15, 30, 60 sec exposure times

White Balance - Cloudy

Check U.S. Naval Observatory for times

White Balance

Daylight - use when sun is out

Cloudy - adds orange/yellow filter (warmth)

Open shade - adds amber (more orange)

Fluorescent - adds magenta cast

Tungsten - simulates twilight (blue)

Flowing Water

Flowy 1 sec or longer

Cotton 15 sec

Crisp 1/250, 1/500, 1/1000

Spot meter water, open up 1-2 full stops

Manual or Av priority

Best light is cloudy day (soft light)