

Module II. Technical

Video concept course

Topic 2. Camera settings

Lesson 4. Natural Lighting



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In this lesson, we will learn...

- 1. What Natural Lighting is and why it is important
- 2. Basic Rules of lighting
- 3. Natural Light Types
- 4. How to improve your Natural Light results



1.- What Natural Lighting is and why it is important

Natural Lighting refers to any light created by the sunlight.



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It's more difficult because you can't control light but the light controls you.



2.- Basic Rules of lighting

One of the most important rule to light a scene is the Three Point Lighting (TPL) rule: key light, fill light and back light.



If you have a good camera, with a high dynamic range, you can shoot your film only with natural light.



Image Copyright © CityAcademy

3.- Natural Light Types

Rembrandt Lighting



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Portrai t with natural light.jpg

Split Lighting



Image Copyright © ExpertPhotography

Backlighting



Image Copyright © ClickingMoms

- Check your ISO, your White Balance, the exposure compensation,
- Note the difference between incident and reflected light
- Keep in mind the qualities of light (intensity, direction, quality and color)



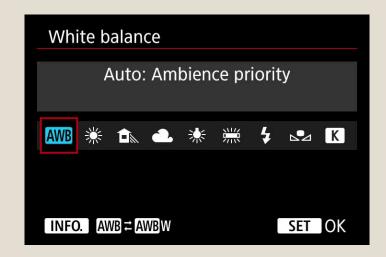
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The best way to improve your natural light shots is practising on your own to find your unique photography style

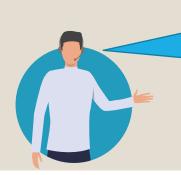
Check your ISO, your White Balance and the exposure compensation.

Cameras allow to select the type of light we see (cloudy, sun, shadow, night, flash) in the WB (White Balance) setting.



Note the difference between incident and reflected light:

- ✓ Incident light: it is the light received by the object to be photographed.
- ✓ Reflected light is that which is reflected off the object and reaches the camera.



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A good tip is to take advantage of the moments of the day with soft light, that is, the golden hour and the blue hour.

Keep in mind the qualities of light (intensity, direction, quality and color)





Nikon D700 | 85mm | f/8 | 1/125s | ISO 200 | 6250K. Image with high intensity of light focused mainly on the face. Credits: © PhotoPills

Keep in mind the qualities of light (intensity, direction, quality and color)



Direction (front, side, rear, zenith or nadir)



Nikon D700 | 85mm | f/8 | 1/80s | ISO 200 | 5500K. Image with frontal lighting.
Credits: © PhotoPills

Keep in mind the qualities of light (intensity, direction, quality and color)





Nikon D700 | 85mm | f/2 | 1/1500s | ISO 200 | 5700K. Hard light image focused on the detail of the branches. Credits: © PhotoPills

Keep in mind the qualities of light (intensity, direction, quality and color)



Nikon D300 | 500mm | f/6.7 (escala de ½ paso) | 1/1500s | ISO 200 | 7500K. Image with warm light. Credits: © PhotoPills





Nikon D4s | 24mm | f/11 | 1s | ISO 100 | 7500K. Image with cold light. Credits: © PhotoPills

Conclusions



Shooting in Natural Lighting is a great experience that everyone can have. It can bring amazing results when you know how to work with it.



