**Universal Settings**

**Keep the camera on these settings for unexpected shooting or fast shooting – these are the same settings for street photography:**

* Aperture priority, set to @ **f/6.3** or **f/8**
* Shutter speed – automatic
* ISO – automatic
* EV 0 to +1 (depends on camera)
* Center point Autofocus
* Single focus method
* Spot metering
* White balance -- automatic
* Single shot (not Servo)
* Bracketing off
* Temperature – neutral
* ND filter off
* Touch screen shooting off
* Auto flash off
* Any special color, scene, or auto cor-rection modes off

**My System**

* Always have the camera on **Universal Settings** to begin with.
* UV filter, lens hood day & night, lens cap
* Aperture priority; auto ISO if camera keeps ISO low enough for given light situation.
* **f-stop:**
  + small = more light, faster shutter, less blur, more bokeh, less noise
  + big = less light, slower shutter, more blur, less bokeh, more noise
  + middle = sharpest image
* **Don’t be concerned:** subject location in frame, graininess, shutter speed.
* **3 types of shooting:** instantaneous with Universal Settings, quick-shot system, set-up shot system
* **End of day:** set **Universal Settings**, back up images
* **Most important things – CLIC:**
  + Color (white balance, temp, color mode)
  + **L**ight – exposure (ISO, EV, Av, Tv)
  + **Isolation of subject by contrast** (color, light/dark, depth of field, motion)
  + **Composition (over-frame)**

**Quick System**

**For general use, and live street shooting**

Camera on **Universal Settings** or pre-adjusted to current conditions with **[auto] ISO, EV, [auto] white balance, temperature**, **color mode**.

1. **Compose the scene & over-frame – feet, zoom, camera position**
2. **[Adjust aperture as desired, if time]**
3. **Take shot!**

If time, use half-shutter to set the

focus & light meter, then re-compose.

Usually not necessary if over-

framing.

**Set-up System**

**For setting up shots when there is time**

1. Decide **Subject**.
2. Decide **Story or Feeling**.
3. Decide **Scene Elements**: vantage point, subject-context relationship (size, position, lines)
4. Decide **Subject Isolation**.
   1. Color Contrast – **color mode**, **HDR**, **ND filter**
   2. Light/Dark Contrast – **exposure compensation**, **fill flash**
   3. Depth of Field – **aperture**, **focus area**
   4. Motion Contrast – **shutter speed**
5. **Exposure Meter**: spot, center, matrix
6. **Pre-Compose**: feet, **zoom**, camera position
7. **Check Settings**.
   1. Color – **white balance**, **temperature**
   2. Light – source, **polarization**, **ISO** (lowest possible or auto), exposure to right unless extreme light/dark contrast
   3. Other – **single shot** or **servo**, **eye detect**, **bracketing**
8. **Take the shot – Overframe**.

**Tips & Techniques**

**Increase light to decrease noise.**

**Metering:**

* Center-weighted when subject(s) take up a large part of the frame
* Evaluative/Matrix for scapes & HDR
* Spot for everything else

**Exposure Compensation:**

* STOP DOWN – bright subject on dark bkgrd, light areas too light – **Subject effect** of drama, intensity, natural skin tones & texture
* STOP UP – dark subject on bright bkgrd, dark areas too dark – **Subject effect** of softness & gentleness, **Background effect** of silhouetting, dark mood

**ISO:**

* Increase freely to get faster shutter
* Auto ISO and wide-open aperture for dark scene = best for color and noise
* Try B&W with super high ISO

**Sharpness:** contrast + middle aperture

**ND Filter when light is too bright:**

* Produce shallow DOF.
* Catch blurred action.
* Make moving object disappear.

**ND Filter** to produce color depth, balance, or intensity; especially when high color contrast.

Card: Universal Settings

Card: My System,

Tips & Techniques

Card: Quick System

Set-up System