

Andy's Handy Exposure Calculator

How to make it

Recommended tools: a sharp craft knife and a metal ruler.

First cut out the window and score the folds - it's easier to do this before you've cut the parts out from the page. The back of your knife blade is handy for scoring the folds. Cut out the two parts of the exposure calculator. Glue the tab then fold and assemble the main part. When the glue is dry, slip the sliding scale inside the main part.

The sliding scale on this page has its aperture scale graduated in 1/3 f-stops. If you prefer half f-stop graduations, use the alternative scale on the next page.

How to use it

Establish the brightness (EV) of your subject, using either your hand-held light meter or the descriptions on the front and back of the calculator. (Note that the descriptions are only a guideline - if you're working from them you may wish to bracket your exposures.) Slide the sliding scale so that the ISO value of your film lines up with the appropriate EV value. Then you can read off aperture/shutter speed combinations from the lower pair of scales.

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Lighting	B @ f/5.6
Fireworks	B @ f/8

Time exposures at 100 ISO

8	Bright room with sunbeams
7	Sky/light, no sunbeams
6	Window, no sunbeams

Daylight, indoor

9-10	After sunset
11	Sunset
12-14	Before sunset

Sunsets

16	Bright sunshine on light sand or snow
15	Bright sunshine (hard shadows)
14	Random against clear sky
14	Hazy sunshine (soft shadows)
14	Random against cloudy sky
13	Cloudy but bright daylight (no shadows)
12	Heavily overcast
11	Shaded areas in sunny conditions
7	Bottom of rain forest canopy

-1 EV for side lighting, -2 EV for back lighting

1	Neon signs
2	Floodlit sports stadium
3	Very brightly lit street scenes (e.g. Las Vegas)
4	Bonfire, burning buildings
5	Shop window displays
6	Brightly lit street scenes
7	Fairs, amusement parks
8	Subjects lit by firelight
9	Bright streetlamps
10	Light trails of moving traffic
11	Average streetlamps
12	Average streetlamps
13	Average streetlamps
14	Average streetlamps
15	Average streetlamps
16	Average streetlamps

Daylight, outdoor

1	Distant view of city skyline
2	Neon signs
3	Floodlit sports stadium
4	Very brightly lit street scenes (e.g. Las Vegas)
5	Bonfire, burning buildings
6	Shop window displays
7	Brightly lit street scenes
8	Fairs, amusement parks
9	Subjects lit by firelight
10	Bright streetlamps
11	Light trails of moving traffic
12	Average streetlamps
13	Average streetlamps
14	Average streetlamps
15	Average streetlamps
16	Average streetlamps

Night, indoor

1	Neon signs
2	Floodlit sports stadium
3	Very brightly lit street scenes (e.g. Las Vegas)
4	Bonfire, burning buildings
5	Shop window displays
6	Brightly lit street scenes
7	Fairs, amusement parks
8	Subjects lit by firelight
9	Bright streetlamps
10	Light trails of moving traffic
11	Average streetlamps
12	Average streetlamps
13	Average streetlamps
14	Average streetlamps
15	Average streetlamps
16	Average streetlamps

Night, outdoor

16	Bright sun on sand or snow
15	Bright sunny day (hard shadows)
14	Hazy sunshine (soft shadows)
13	Bright cloudy day (no shadows)
12	Heavily overcast day
11	Open shade
10	Sunsets
9	Immediately after sunset
8	Neon lights
7	Spot-lit subjects
6	Floodlit stadium
5	Bright day interior
4	Indoor sports
3	Stage shows
2	Bright night interior
1	Shady day interior
0	Average home night interior
-1	Floodlit buildings
-2	Bright streetlights
-3	Streetlights
-4	Fireworks

EV 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

Shutter speed 2000 1000 500 250 125 60 30 15 8 4 2 1 1/2 1/4

ISO film speed 25 50 100 200 400 800 1600 3200

Aperture 1 1.4 1.8 2 2.8 3.5 4.5 5.6 6.3 8 11 16 22 32

cut out

glue here

score here

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25	50	100	200	400	800	1600	3200						
1	1.4	1.8	2	2.8	3.5	4.5	5.6	6.3	8	11	16	22	32

ISO film speed

Aperture

This is the optional aperture scale graduated in half f-stops.
If you prefer 1/3 f-stop graduations, you don't need this page.

