

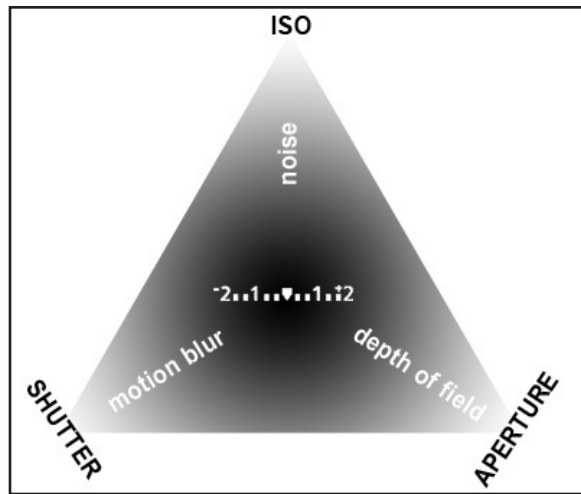
Exploring Exposure

Bracketing and the light meter

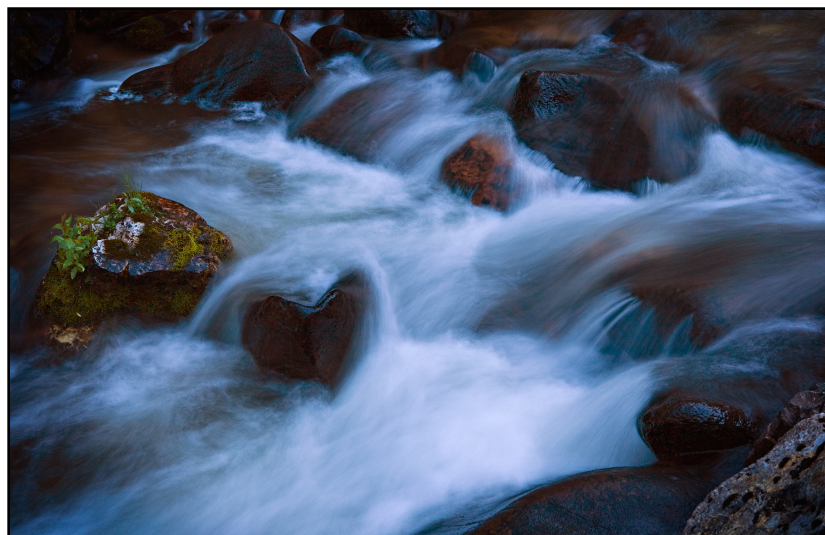
Gaining an understanding of the concept of equivalent exposure is vital in our pursuit of creative photography. Three things, ISO, aperture and shutter speed must be in balance for a correct exposure to be recorded in the camera. *How* they balance is where the photographers creativity comes into play. What role each of the three elements of the exposure triangle contribute to the final image will be explored in future assignments. In this project we want to focus on obtaining a correct exposure for a variety of subjects and a variety of lighting conditions.

The first step for each subject will be to set the camera so that the meter is “happy,” meaning that the in camera meter believes that the exposure is correct, and make an exposure. We will then bracket the exposure in 1 stop increments, up and down 2 stops, for a total of 5 exposures for each subject. Photograph at least 15 subjects (a total of at least 75 exposures). Include some high key, low key and mid key subjects, photographed in a variety of lighting conditions in your exploration. After downloading the images, evaluate each of the exposures and find the best one for each subject. Using your current Photoshop skills, pick your favorite 3 images and produce final, ready to print image files.

Along with your image files, a written analysis of your findings and what you learned about trusting your in camera light meter, what you learned about making exposure adjustments and when you might need to make them is required.



The three elements of exposure, ISO, aperture and shutter speed must all be in balance in order for the camera to record a correct exposure. Each element controls a different aspect of the image, allowing for total creativity on the part of the photographer, however we must realize that there are pros and cons associated with each selection.



High key and low key images like the two above will need some manual adjustment of exposure, as the reflective light meter in the camera “sees” everything as 18% gray.