

TRAVEL SNAP CARDS

METERING PATTERNS



Metering patterns tell the camera where to measure the amount of light and then feed exposure information to the shooting mode. There are primarily three situations that confuse camera exposure meters: backlighting, primarily light or white scenes, and primarily dark or black scenes.

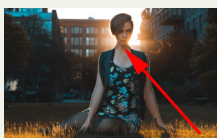
PRINT SIZE: A5
14cm x 21cm /
5.83" x 8.27"

HOW TO DEAL WITH CONFUSING LIGHT SOURCES



FOR BACKLIGHT USE: SPOT METERING

Measures a reading from around 2-3% of the image area. On most cameras, this area immediately surrounds the active AF point. If your subject is facing the camera with the light behind them, and they are the important subject: set your camera metering pattern to spot. In the case of the woman on the right- position the spot on the woman's face and take the spot meter reading from there, and then lock the exposure setting.



USE MATRIX / EVALUATIVE FOR:

This is the default metering mode for most cameras. It reads the entire frame and determines an average of all the values. Places a slight emphasis on the active focus point.

LIGHT SCENE When your scene contains mostly light or white tones, take your reading, and then override it by adding 2 1/2 stops of exposure. Adjust as necessary.

DARK SCENE When your scene contains mostly dark or black tones, take your reading, and then override it by subtracting 2 1/2 stops of exposure. Adjust as necessary.

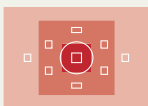
SILHOUETTE If your foreground object is to be a silhouette, and the background area is the important area: set the camera meter to matrix/evaluative.

CONTRASTING LIGHT If the scene contains very light areas and very dark areas that are equally important set your metering pattern to this mode.



WHEN THE LIGHT SOURCE IS TOO INTENSE: PARTIAL:

Partial metering takes into account around 10% of the frame area and disregards the other 90%. Active area usually follows the active focus point. If the Sun or another source of background light is intense and located within the frame: set the meter to partial and exclude the intensely lit area when taking the meter reading. Lock the exposure setting.



FOR EMPHASIS ON ONE AREA USE: CENTER-WEIGHTED

Takes into account the entire frame, but with a bias placed upon the central area. The active AF point isn't taken into account with this setting. Use this metering pattern when you want to place emphasis on a certain area of the frame, but also give some consideration to the rest of the frame.