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Photography: Avoiding pictures that are too bright



Professional Tips ^[5]

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Avoiding pictures that are
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You will end up with a picture that is too bright when the exposure reading is taken from a subject that is darker than middle grey. To compensate for this, simply correct the exposure while taking the picture.

1. In A and S modes

- Correct the exposure by placing the cursor towards the negative end of the scale: 0..-1..-2.
- Fix the exposure by pressing the AEL or \checkmark button, focus and compose your picture, then release the shutter.

2. M mode

Select either a faster shutter speed or a smaller aperture. That way, less light will hit the image sensor.

3. Scene modes (Portrait, Landscape, Sports, etc.)

With most cameras, you cannot correct the exposure. It is therefore better to use A, S or M modes.



1/80s - f/5.6 - ISO 400
ISO 400 Matrix Metering - Exp Corr: 0



1/200s - f/5.6 - ISO 400
ISO 400 Matrix Metering - Exp Corr: -1,33

The focus and exposure were taken on the bottom of this gargoyle, but this is a dark area of the picture. The first photograph has a number of bricks overexposed and the tip of the right ear is barely visible. By setting the right exposure compensation, we can keep the bottom of the gargoyle dark, and recover the lighter parts of some of the stones. And the ear is perfectly visible!

Focus on: Photo retouching software: avoiding the trap!

You will not always be able to correct a picture using photo retouching software.

- If you darken the image, some overexposed parts will lack detail: they will remain forever washed out (or ?burnt?).. This is particularly so for portraits or landscapes.
- Retouching works on small pictures or minimal areas of overexposure.

Suggested products

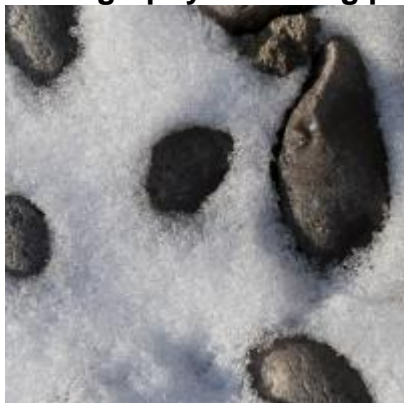
Canson® Infinity Rag Photo



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See also

Photography: Avoiding pictures that are too dark



Extremely light subjects will tend to produce a dark image. Why? Because the camera's light sensor automatically sets the brightness of the scene for a middle grey.

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Photography: Avoiding/controlling blur



It's time to do away with preconceived ideas! Blur is not always the enemy. It is actually a key weapon in the creative armoury of any photographer.

 DISCOVER [8]

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