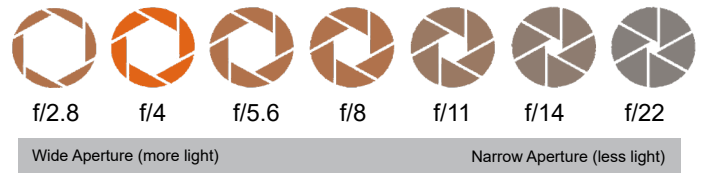


DEPTH OF FIELD

BLUEPRINT

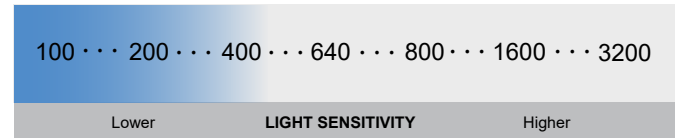


APERTURE



Large apertures will result in a shallow depth of field, while small apertures will help you capture sharp details in both the foreground and background. It's good to start with f/4!

ISO



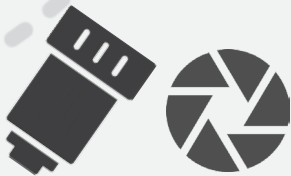
Always choose the lowest ISO setting for the available light. It should be lower than 400 if you're shooting during the day.



While shutter speed won't directly affect depth of field, bear in mind that if you change your shutter speed you must change your aperture and/or ISO to keep the same exposure. Start with 1/250s if you're not using a tripod and if your environment is well-lit.

1 APERTURE RANGE

Every lens has a limit on how large or how small the aperture can get. It is expressed in f-numbers like f/1.4, f/2, f/2.8 and so on. If you take a look at the specifications of your lens, it should say what the maximum and minimum apertures are.



Most zoom lenses are limited to f/2.8 to f/4 f-stop range. Stopping down to the f/2.8 – f/4 range often provides adequate depth of field for most subjects and yields superb sharpness.

TIP:

A lens with an aperture of f/1.4 or f/1.8 is considered a "fast" lens, because it can pass through more light than a lens with a "slow".

2 DISTANCE & FOCAL LENGTH

The closer your subject is to the camera, the shallower your depth of field becomes. This means that moving further away from your subject will deepen your depth of field.



When it comes to focal length (specified in mm such as 55mm), the longer you set your focal length, the shallower the depth of field. If you want to increase depth of field, shorten your focal length and vice-versa. Also, bear in mind that keeping the background further away will result in an even blurrier background.

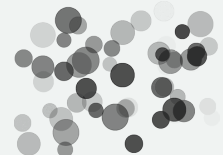
TIP:

Unsure what DoF you want? Most cameras have a DoF preview button which will give you a preview as you look through the eye piece!

3 THE ESSENTIALS

3 BOKEH

Bokeh is a beautiful effect produced by the out-of-focus areas in your image. Bokeh (boh-ke) comes from the Japanese word meaning blur.



It commonly refers to the pleasing circle shapes caused by the shape of the lens aperture. It is created when shooting with your aperture wide open, such as f/2.8.

TIP:

Bokeh can have different shapes and it can be soft or very pronounced. It looks wonderful in flower and portrait photography!