

Mastering the EOS 1300D

Especially written for **Canon EOS** users

A simple, modern approach to mastering all the advanced features on your Canon EOS 1300D camera which allows you to take even better images



Written by Nina Bailey

About this book

This book is designed for photographers who have used EOS cameras for a reasonable length of time and have recently upgraded or as a follow on volume from the Getting started with your EOS 1300D (illustrated bottom left) which looks at the basic features and key operation of the camera and also explains the basic settings that are generally used within photography today.

This book sets out to look at the advanced features that are offered by the camera and teach you how to use the camera to its very fullest extent. There is a very small amount of overlap at the start of the book as it is important for all photographers to familiarise themselves with some of the basic controls the camera has. The book assumes a good understanding of the terms used within photography and that you will understand when and how the modes the camera offers are used, as these are covered in depth

in the Getting started with your 1300D book.

The EOS 1300D has an extensive range of features which allows you to cope with a very wide range of subjects and make it a camera that you will not easily outgrow in the near future.

However, as is so often the case with modern technology, the flexibility with the ways that it can be used inevitably increases the complexity of the camera. Therefore to use it to its fullest extent the photographer will require a good understanding of the features that it has and when they should be used.

With any of the EOS cameras, no photographer uses all the features, in fact most photographers will only ever use about 25% of the features their cameras have. However, each photographer will use different features and settings which are so often defined by

the subjects that they photograph.

There is no one setting that works for all the subjects that you are likely to tackle, you get the best results by learning to use the settings that are relevant to the images that you shoot. This book sets out to give you the knowledge you need to confidently use the features necessary for your photography.



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Getting started with the EOS 1300D

Especially written for **Canon EOS** users

A simple, modern and non technical approach to learn how to use your Canon EOS 1300D camera to take great images.

Written by Nina Bailey

Written, designed and images by Nina Bailey

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About the author



Nina started her career in the retail sector of the photographic industry and then moved to Canon UK where she had a successful nine years looking after training, exhibitions and marketing both in the UK and

also within Europe. This gave Nina an unrivalled knowledge not only of the Canon EOS system but also how to develop and enhance the skills of photographers of all ability levels.

Nina started her own business in 1999, concentrating on training for amateur photographers. She develops and produces content for new Online EOS Training Academy after also writing and producing a range of 23 training DVDs especially for Canon EOS photographers which the Online training academy now supersedes.

In 2015 EOS Training academy merged with EOS Magazine and Nina is Technical Editor of EOS

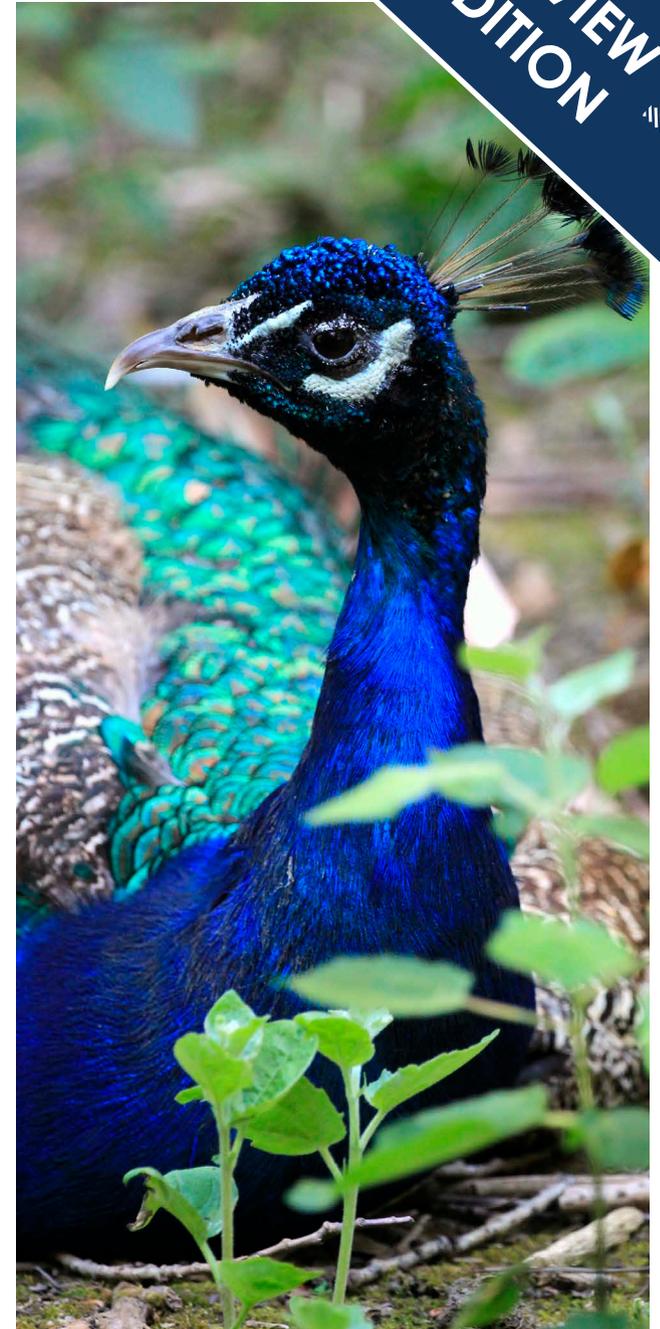
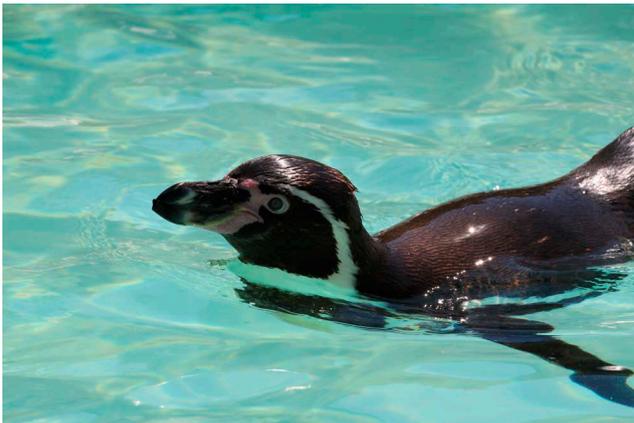
Magazine and Principal Lecturer of EOS Training Academy. As technical editor Nina writes of lot of the magazines features and her images appear regularly in the magazine.

In 2014 Nina started producing her own range of ebooks to bring photography training to an ever wider audience and now has a range of over 30 books which are available as ebooks but can mostly also be produced as limited edition print copies.

Nina started taking images when she was very young and is still a very keen photographer both professionally and personally.

Nina loves travel, landscape and wildlife photography and still shoots commercially within the travel photography market.

Nina also leads photographic trips, the last one was to China and there are trips planned to Madagascar and Vietnam and Cambodia in 2016/2017.



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About the EOS 1300D

About the EOS 1300D

The EOS 1300D offers a small, light and compact body than can tackle most areas of photography with great success. It is a camera that has been designed for those new to photography and as such has been designed to be as simple as possible to use.

Its small and light design will appeal to those who find the weight of some of the EOS models too much to carry and the camera is versatile enough to be able to tackle the majority of subjects with ease.

The 1300D is designed as a 1.6x crop sensor model suitable for all areas of photography, the crop factor allowing more reasonably size and priced lenses to be used. This results in it being compatible with both the smaller and lighter range of EF-S lenses and the full range of EF lenses. Though it has to be said that the EF-S lenses offer focal lengths that fit in better with the smaller sensor found on this model.

However, despite a number of new features, the camera has retained its ease of use and familiar feel of the EOS range, adopting a layout which echoes the other introductory level models in look and feel to make the camera easier to use for novice photographers.

The 1300D does have more menus than we have seen on much earlier models due to moving many of the image processing options, that were in the custom functions, out into the camera's shoot menus and this will take a bit of getting use to for those moving up from the older basic models.



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01 - Layout changes

About the layout

The 1300D has a similar layout to the introductory models that have been produced from about 2009. So if you have used some of these models at some stage it may well at a first glance look very similar to what you are used to.

If you are new to the EOS range then the good news is that this is an easy model to become familiar with when you are first learning, making it an ideal introduction into the EOS system.

It is important to become familiar with the operation of EOS cameras and the very thing that makes them so adaptable for many areas of photography is the wide range of features that they have. In order to get the best out of the camera you need to understand how to set and use some of the camera's more advanced features and options.

If you have previously been using an earlier EOS model such as the EOS 400D, 450D, then its layout and some of its operation is going to be very different and it is the change from these models that is the hardest to acclimatise to. So the model that you have used before will change how much of the camera is strange in operation to you. If you are new to the EOS range then the good news is that the basic operation is similar on the other models in the range though the layout does change slightly as you go up the model range. The items that are outlined in red will be in either a different position or have a new layout to some photographers.

For some of these options, you may be familiar with what the feature does, it's simply where it has been moved to that is different.



Top plate

Mode Dial - There is now a choice of 6 PIC modes. The traditional Portrait, Landscape, Action, Close up which have been on the EOS range for many years, are still there on the dial, but are joined by a food mode aimed at food bloggers. In addition to the normal P, AV, TV and M shooting modes, the B or bulb mode is found within the manual mode option. This allows shutter speeds of longer than 30 seconds to be used when controlled and timed manually by the photographer. It has its own setting for speed of accessing the option.

The top buttons have been very much simplified on this model. The button to turn the flash on when shooting in the creative modes where flash is not automatically activated is the only button on the top of the camera on this model.

This is also the only model in the range to have the movie mode featured on the main dial on the top of the camera rather than having a specific switch to activate it. This will change all of the camera menus over to being movie menus when set to this option.



Mode dial

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Rear of camera

The rear of the camera is where all photographers are going to notice some differences regardless of the model that they are familiar with.

Live view - The live view option on the camera is switched on by just pressing the button. Pushing the button will also start and stop the movie recording if the camera is switched to the movie position on the exposure mode dial.

Cross keys - The cross keys are used to navigate in the menus and set various functions on the camera. The cross keys also allow some features to be directly accessed. This control also works as a navigation control, moving left, right, up and down to select things on the quick screen or within the menus. If you have used the more basic models this will be a familiar feature.

Q button - This is a button on the rear of the camera that not all photographers will be familiar with. This started to appear on models about 2010/2011 and now features on all the models in the range. However, there are still photographers who have it on their cameras who do not truly appreciate how much easier it has made the cameras use.

A key feature of the Q button is that it has standardised the way that all EOS models are set, making it much easier to change between various models in the range.



Using the Q button to set the camera's key functions

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The Q button allows all the main functions on the camera to be accessed from the Q screen. The Q screen only appears like this if the camera is set to P, TV, AV or M mode on the 1300D. If you are in the Auto or Creative PIC modes the display will be different as the only options selectable will be the shutter speed, the file format and a few creative options within the PIC/CA modes and all that is displayed.

When you press the Q button on the rear of the camera the screen appears with a highlighted box.

To navigate around the screen the cross keys are used. Once the item is highlighted then you set the feature using the main dial on the top, or for most controls the cross keys on the rear of the camera also work. To see what options you have press the set button. Most options then are set using the cross keys.

On some features the main dial may also operate some options. To get out of the setting screen either wait a few seconds, or touch the shutter button which will return the camera to its normal shooting operation.

The cross keys also allow direct access to some of the camera's other key functions without the need to go to the Q button. These functions are WB - White balance, AF - Autofocus mode, ISO and the drive and self timer settings.



Q screen

Q button

Cross keys



Using the Q button to set the playback functions

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On the EOS 1300D, the playback functions are also available via the Q button as shown in the images on the page. When playing back an image, simply press the Q button on the rear of the camera and the menu options will be listed down the sides of the screen.

Navigation through the menu items is via the cross keys and to change the settings it is the main dial on the top of the camera or the cross keys on the rear. Pressing the set button will take you into a more detailed menu with all the items that are available listed along the bottom of the screen. All of these commands can also be accessed through the playback menus.

Some of the commands are easier to use from this screen whilst others are more commonly accessed through the playback menu. Most of the options will be familiar as they appear on all the EOS models. One that makes a lot of sense to access from this screen is the creative filter option that the camera offers.

This will be a new option to many photographers



as it has not be found within the Canon range for very long. This allows special effects to be added to images that you have on the memory card and then for that special effect image to be saved as a new file.



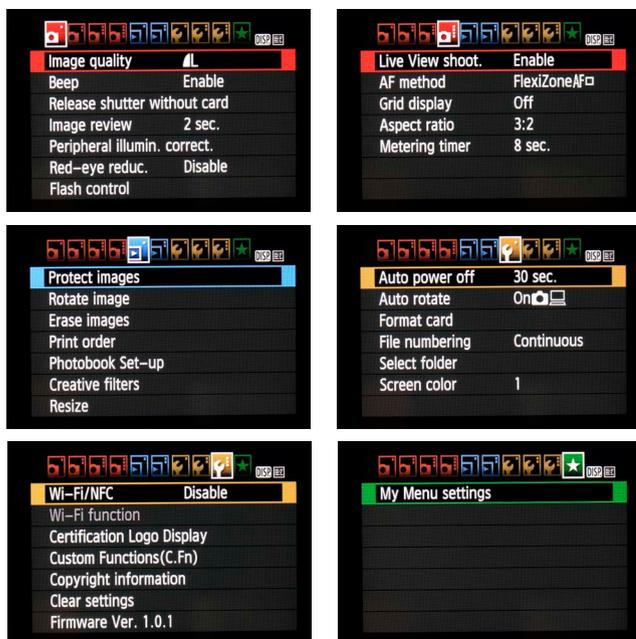
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02 - The menu system

The menu - basic operation

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The camera has a very comprehensive menu system that allows all of the camera's functionality to be set.

Canon has significantly changed the menus on this camera, moving a lot of the commands around to make some of the features and functions easier to find and set.

The menu is split into sections, which are indicated by the colour of the menu tabs. If the camera is being used in the Auto +, CA, flash off or PIC modes then there will only be 7 menu tabs when you enter the menu system. If the camera is in any of the creative modes, P, TV, AV, M, then the menu will have 10 tabs.

The Red tabs contains the shooting or camera menus. In the creative modes there are 4 tabs when shooting still images.

One of these is a dedicated live view menu. If the camera is switched onto its movie mode then all of the camera menus change to being for the movie shooting options.

The dots above the symbol on the tab indicates the number of the menu from 1 to 4 according to how many menus there are.

The Blue tabs are where the playback and print commands are found. There are two menus in this tab regardless of the mode being used.

The Yellow tabs are the set up menus. This used to be referred to as the tools menu and there are four menus in all modes. These menus control a wide range of different operational features.

The final tab which is Green, is the My Menu. This allows the photographer to make up a menu from all the commands that the menu offers. This allows very quick access to the commands that are regularly used. Not available in the Auto +, Flash off, CA or PIC modes mode.

I looked in depth at the more basic commands in the Getting started with your EOS 1300D book, in this one I am going to look at the more advanced items that many photographers will be unfamiliar with.

One of the key aspects to understanding how to operate the camera is to understand how to set the menu system up and navigate around within it.

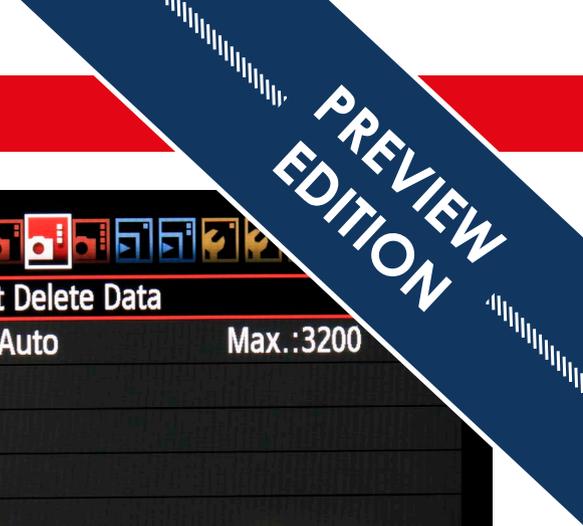
To enter the menu you simply press the menu button. There are two ways to navigate between the tabs. The first is via the main dial on the top of the camera. This will scroll through the menu one menu

at a time. Turning the main dial in the opposite direction will go backwards through the menu. The second is to use the cross keys on the rear of the camera. Again this goes through the menu one menu at a time.

To select individual items within the menu you use the cross keys on the rear of the camera. With these you can move up and down the commands of the menu you have selected.

Pressing set with a menu highlighted will take you into the setting screen. Some are very simple with one or two commands whilst other are more involved. If it is more than just one or two items you can set, the buttons you use are shown, normally at the bottom of the screen.

To apply a menu item you must press the set button to apply the function.



The first of the shoot menus contains the commands that are used the most.

Release shutter without card replaces the older shoot without card option. It stops you taking images without a capture card fitted. By default this is set to on and so one of the jobs when setting the camera up is to turn this to off; that way if there is no card fitted, the camera will refuse to shoot.

The **Peripheral illumin. correct** if you have used EOS cameras before you may already be familiar with peripheral illumination correction which is contained in this menu. I will look at these in more depth in the chapter about image processing.

The **flash control** option has been on cameras for some years, though it has moved around within the menus from model to model. This allows either the built in flash or an external flash to be controlled from the camera's menus.

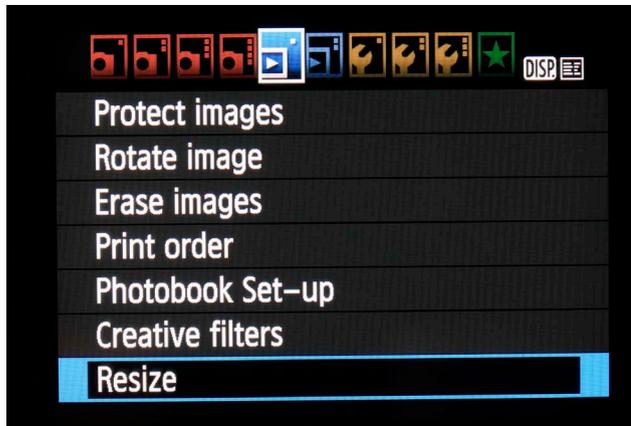


The controls in the rest of the menu have been on the cameras for some time and I went through them in the Getting started with your 1300D book for those new to EOS models.

The live view menu is straightforward, with controls that have been in use on the cameras for some time. The main difference that will be noticed by someone who has used an older EOS model that featured live view is how much faster and more efficient the focusing is in the live view mode.

If the camera is switched onto the movie mode then you will get four movie menus that give you all the controls you are likely to need for shooting movies on this EOS.





This menu contains all of the playback options. However, as we saw in chapter 1, many of these features can be accessed from the playback of the images by pressing the Q button options and so there is now relatively little need to enter the playback menu.

Resize

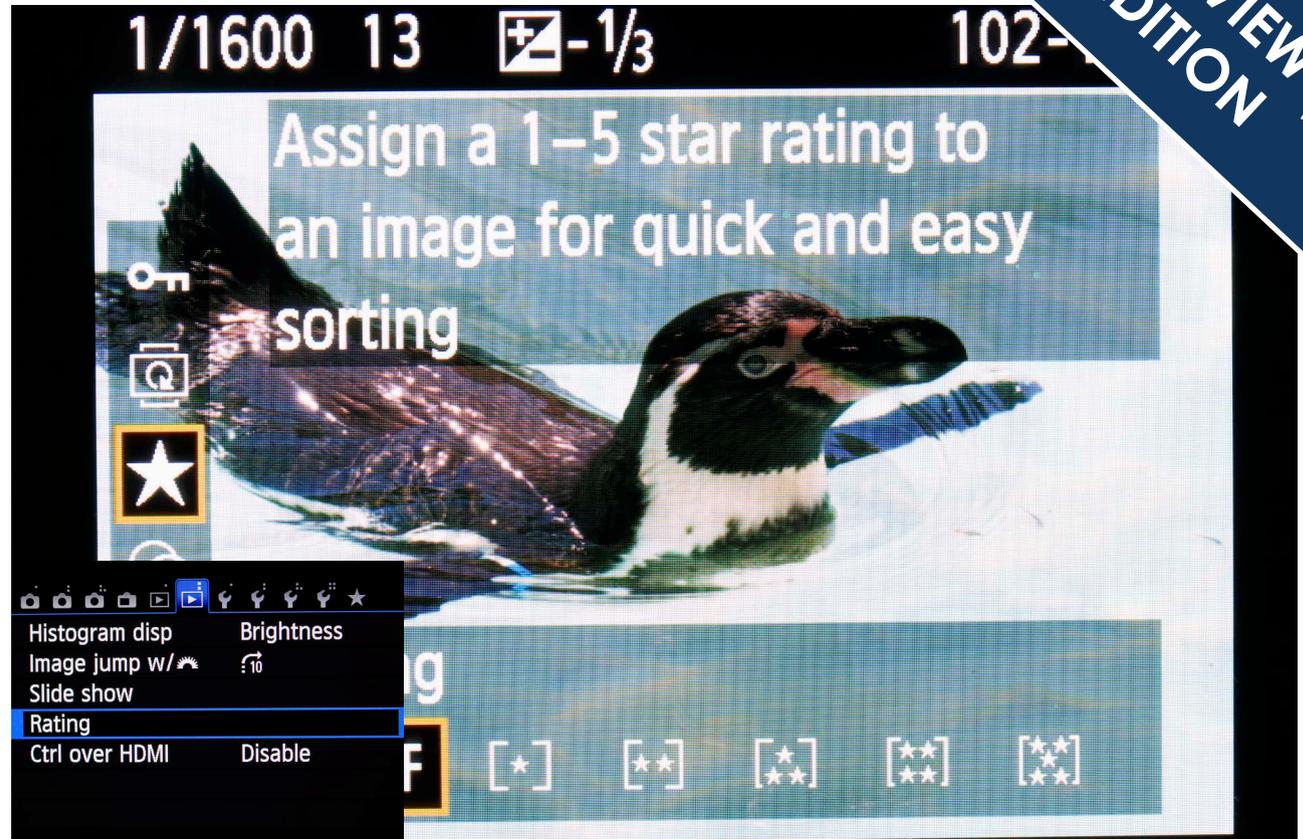
This allows JPEG images to have a version saved as a smaller file. There are 4 size options available: M, S1, S2 and S3. This can be useful if you have to send an image to someone, or upload to the web and need a much smaller file than what is normally taken by the camera. The resized file is always saved as new image and so the original cannot be overwritten when resizing in this way.

M produces an 8 mega pixel file

S1 produces a 4.5 mega pixel file.

S2 produces a file 1920 x 1280 pixels, similar to the movie file produced by the camera.

S3 produces a file 720 x 480 pixels.



Rating

The rating option allows the photographer to grade the images whilst still on the camera. This allows a star rating of between 1 and 5 stars to be applied. However this process is quicker and easier when the images have been downloaded onto the computer.

These ratings can then be used to display images within the slideshow options or when the images are downloaded, the software supplied free with the camera will be able to see the ratings. These ratings

will show up in Digital Photo Professional and images can be selected by individual ratings, for example all 5 star images can be displayed. They can also be viewed in most Windows and Mac OS systems, and the ratings are recognised in Adobe Bridge. Where the information is located can be a little obscure, generally you are looking for the IPTC data.

The Set up menus

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This menu has changed name from the tools menu on earlier models to now being called the set up menu. It basically contains many of the settings and features that EOS users will be very familiar with and there are very few things that have changed within it.

So once again I am only going to look at the features that will either be new to a lot of you or have more options on the higher level models.

Select folder

Select folder will be new to many of the photographers who have upgraded to the EOS 1300D as it has only recently started to appear on all the models in the range.

When you enter this option you will have a display of the folders that are currently on the card. The folder that is active is indicated by being highlighted, the camera will allocate the next folder in sequence. To select the folder just press set when the folder you require is highlighted.

The camera follows a standard folder format starting off with folder 100CANON, this can contain up to 9999 images. The next folder will be 101CANON and so on.



If you want different names for the folders that you are using it is possible to do this with a PC/MAC. You open the card on the computer and then in the DCIM folder create the folders or rename existing folders as you want.

The file names must be eight characters long. The first three digital must be numbers from 100 up to 999. The rest can be characters A to Z, any numbers 1-9 or an underscore can be used. Both upper and lower case letters can be used. The space cannot be used within the name.

Feature guide

This is enabled as standard and will bring up a useful guide as to what each feature does when using the Q screen.

An example is shown below, although useful at first, it quickly becomes irritating as you become more familiar with the camera and so this command allows it to be turned off.





The only feature that I am going to look at in set up menu 4 is that of setting the camera's copyright information.

I will take a look at the custom functions in the customisation chapter later in this ebook. As this camera is targeted at newcomers to photography a lot of the commands that are found within the menu system on more advanced models are located in the custom function menu to prevent accidental changing of their defaults by an inexperienced photographer.

Copyright information

This is a feature that originally was on the professional and high end models but since about 2012 it has gradually crept onto the whole range.

This allows the photographer to enter information that will be recorded as part of the files EXIF and metadata. The authors name and the copyright data can both be entered in this menu item. Setting is very straightforward for both options.

Select the copyright information details on the menu and press the set button to enter the menu. Select the option that you want, there are four choices.

Display copyright information, which shows what the camera has set up on it if something has been entered.

Enter author's name, which allows the photographers details to be entered.

Enter copyright details, which allow the copyright details to be added. This is often the company that

the photographer works for, with two options.

The final option is for deleting copyright information, which then will allow new copyright information to be set.

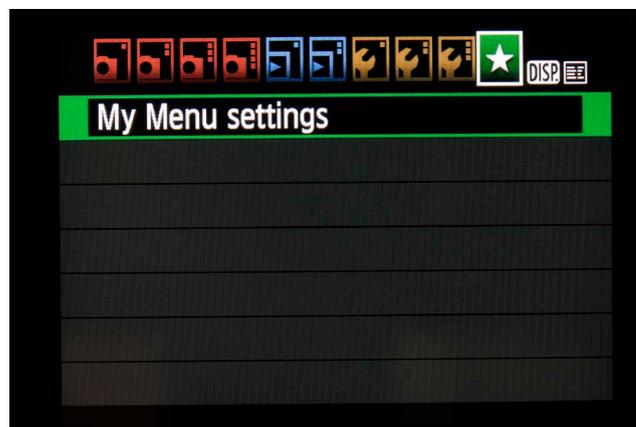
Select the menu you want to set up and then press the set button. This will take you into the menu. If you select the author or copyright menu itself, a window with two boxes appears.

To enter details in the top box it is necessary to press the Q button and this allows the entering of characters from the bottom box. The characters are easiest to set using the cross keys and the set button.

Once you have entered what you want to be recorded, pressing the menu button, applies the characters.

The erase button enables the letter to be deleted one at a time but the top box has to be selected for this to be enabled. Pressing the Q button toggles between the two boxes. The info button cancels the setting.

The text is slow and painful to enter, but only has to be done the once as then the camera will always remember the data.



The EOS 1300D has very comprehensive menu systems that allows many options to be set. The drawback of this is that it naturally becomes quite complex and frequently used settings can go missing within all the commands.

The My Menu option allows the photographer to create their own personal menu comprised of their 6 favourite commands from the total menu system.

This is an option that has been on the EOS models for some time and so many photographers will be familiar with it and so I am only going to go through the options briefly.

To set the menu up, you simply go to the My Menu tab and select the My Menu setting. When you press the set button you will get a number of options.

When you select the register option you are presented with a long list of commands from which you can pick just 6.

To scroll down the list, use the up and down cross keys and to set an option press the set button.

If you try to register more than 6 items it will tell you that the menu is full and that you will need to delete an item before another is added.

To go back to the setting menu press the menu button.

The next command on the setting menu allows you to sort the items that you have chosen. There will be items that you use all the time and these will be easier to use if they are at the top.

There may be other items that you use infrequently but quickly, and these will be at the bottom of the list.

To move an item simply move the cursor to the item you want to move, the item is highlighted then press set and move the cursor to where you want and press set again.

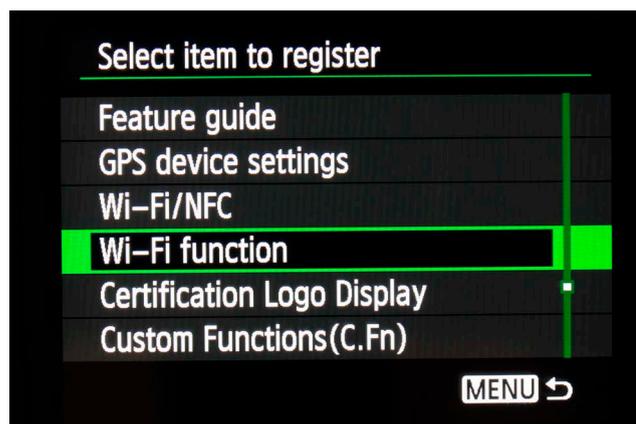
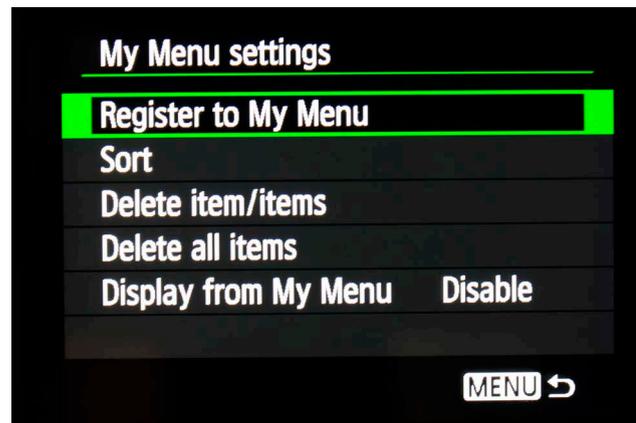
If you find that you have an item that is in the My Menu and you simply do not use it then it is possible to delete a single item.

To do this, simply navigate to the item that you want to delete and press the set button. It will ask for confirmation that you want to do it. Select OK and then press the set button.

The next menu item is delete all items. This allows you to wipe all items out of the menu and start again.

The final item is display from my menu. If this is set to disable then when the menu button is pressed the last menu item that was selected will be displayed. If this is set to enable then the My Menu will always be the first menu that is displayed.

This is a very useful menu item allowing frequently used commands to be more accessible.



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