

Understanding the EOS 850D

Especially written for **Canon EOS** users

A fast track guide to understanding how to use the EOS 850D's key controls and functions



Written by Nina Bailey

About this book

The EOS 850D is a small and light model within the Canon EOS line up. However, it is packed with advanced features that allow you to capture a very wide range of subjects. There are also a whole host of creative features allowing you to create special effects and therefore be less reliant on post production.

I have historically produced two separate books, when covering the models in the EOS range. However, what I am finding is there is a significant amount of repetition needed to ensure that someone only getting one of the books has all the relevant information they need to operate the camera. So with smart devices now having more storage and download speeds getting faster all the time I have combined what was two volumes into a single book, which does allow me to provide better navigation around the book using hyper links.

It is designed to present the information in a much more accessible way than is found in the manual and is liberally illustrated throughout with screen images and also images to show what the features actually do to the images that you take.

There is also a companion Pocketbook available to provide a small A6 size guide that is easy to take with you when shooting, to help you remember how to set the key features on the camera. This is available from the EOS magazine shop.

Click here to find out more about the range of Pocketbooks or go to www.eos-magazine-shop.com and click on the links for books.

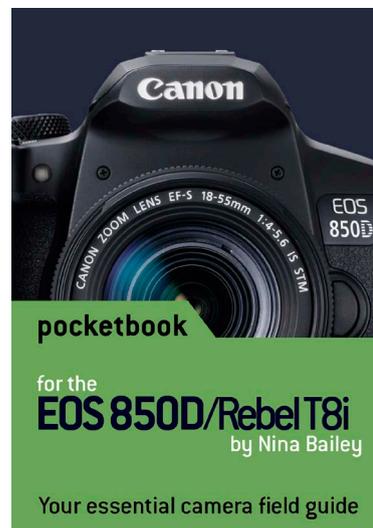
Written, designed and images by

Nina Bailey

www.ninabailey.co.uk

Produced by Nina Bailey © 2020.

All rights reserved. Unauthorised copying, reproduction, hiring, lending prohibited.



**PREVIEW
EDITION**



Some of the test images shot on the EOS 850D whilst producing the books on the EOS 850D showing the great images that can be achieved. These images are straight out of the camera, shot as JPEG files and have had no postproduction done to them.



Nina started her own business in 1999, concentrating on training for amateur photographers. As well as developing the online training academy and direct training of photographers, Nina is a prolific professional photographer producing images not only for the EOS Training Academy but for a variety of outside organisations. In 2014 Nina started producing her own range of ebooks (now over 50 titles) to bring photography training to an ever wider audience. In 2017 Nina also launched a range of printed compact pocket books (now over 20 titles) for the EOS range.

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 shoots to illustrate the many articles and books that she writes.

Navigating the book.

All of the menu items below are hyper-linked to the appropriate page - so just tap on the item you want to go to that page. On each page there is a link like this.



Tap/click on this button to return to this page. These navigation controls make it much faster to “jump” around the ebook.

Basic Camera Layout	7
About the EOS 850D	8
About the layout	9
Camera layout	10
New guided options on the EOS 850D	12
Using the Q button to set the camera's key functions	16
Using the INFO button to change displays	17
Understanding EOS settings	18
Understanding EOS settings	19
The shutter button - an essential control	20
The shutter button - exposure lock	21
What ISO means and controls	22
Test the ISO on your camera	23
What shutter speeds mean and control	25
What the aperture does and controls	26
The exposure triangle	27
Understanding the connections	28
The exposure triangle - the settings we can use	29
The exposure triangle	30
Understanding the effect your lens has	31
Lens jargon and terminology	32
Explanation of sensor size	35
Display options	36
Viewfinder information	37
Where things are set	38
Shooting displays	39
Understanding the Q screen display - guided	40

Understanding the Q screen display - Non guided	41
Using the Q button to set the Live View functions	45
Rear Live View LCD display	46
Understanding the Live View Q screen display	47
Live View/movie displays	48
Additional Live View/Movie display options	49
Playback screen displays	50
Using the Q button to set the playback functions	52
The playback Q button options	53

Understanding the exposure modes	54
Understanding the shooting modes	55
Auto plus or scene intelligent auto	56
Creative Assist	57
Selfie mode	60
Scene or SCN modes	61
Additional options when shooting in Live View	62
SCN mode usage - Portrait	63
SCN mode usage - Smooth skin	64
SCN mode usage - Groups	65
SCN mode usage - Landscape	66
SCN mode usage - Sports	67
SCN mode usage - Kids	68
SCN mode usage - Close up	69
SCN mode usage - Food	70
SCN mode usage - Candlelight	71
SCN mode usage - Night Portrait	72
SCN mode usage - Handheld Night Scene	73
SCN mode usage - HDR backlight control	74
Creative Filters mode	75
Creative Filters mode examples	76
Creative modes	79
Which mode is best	80
P - Program mode	81
How and when to use Program mode	82
Program Shift	82
Understanding when to use TV mode	83
How to use TV mode	84
Understanding when to use AV mode	85
How to use AV mode	86
M - Manual mode	87
How to get B - Bulb mode	89

Auto focus system - Viewfinder	
About focusing on the EOS 850D	
About the focusing - Viewfinder	
Understanding the focusing system - Viewfinder	
Reality check	
Focus lock - Viewfinder	
Focusing mode - One Shot AF - Viewfinder	96
Focusing mode - AI Focus - Viewfinder	97
Focusing mode - AI Servo AF - Viewfinder	98
Focusing point selection - Viewfinder	99
Face detection technology	101
Focusing point selection	102
Focusing point selection - 45 Point Auto select	103
Focusing point selection - Large Zone AF	104
Focusing point selection - Zone AF	105
Focusing point selection - Manual selection 1 pt AF	106
Expanded sensitivity - AF to f8	107
Focusing and Drive selection - Viewfinder	108
How focusing detects subjects - Viewfinder	109
Why the focusing sometimes fails - Viewfinder	112
Focusing customisations	113
AF point display during focus	114
VF display illumination	115
Autofocus system - Live View	116
How focusing works - Live View	117
Setting AF options - Live View	118
Focusing modes - Live View	119
Focusing methods - Live View	120
Face detection+ tracking - Live View	121
Face detection+tracking with eye detection - LV	122
Spot AF - Live View	123
1 point AF - Live View	124
Zone AF - Live View	125
Focusing mode - manual focusing - Live mode	126
Focusing mode - manual focusing - MF Peaking - LV	127
Understanding Key Overrides	128
About the key overrides	129
Image quality and file formats	131
RAW vs JPEG shooting	132
New CR 3 RAW format	133
How C RAW Works	133

Contents

PREVIEW
EDITION

C RAW Testing	134	Understanding Spot metering	188	WB Shift/Bkt	
File formats - JPEG	137	Understanding Centerweighted metering	189	Color Space	
RAW vs JPEG - Which is best?	139	Drive settings	190	Picture Style	
Why these controls are so important	140	Aspect ratio settings	191	The shoot menus - Shoot 4	
Understanding Exposure Compensation	141	Anti flicker shoot	192	Long Exposure Noise reduction	
AEB - Auto Exposure Bracketing	143	Key settings summary	193	High ISO speed Noise Reduction	
Custom functions affecting bracketing and exposure	145			Dust Delete Data	
AE Lock	146	Image processing options	194	Live View shoot	215
Exposure options on the Q screen	147	Highlight Tone Priority	195	The shoot menus - Shoot 5	214
About the EOS 850D's ISO range	148	Long Exposure Noise reduction	197	USM lens electronic MF	214
High ISO Noise Reduction	150	Lens Aberration Corrections	199	AF assist beam firing	214
High ISO Noise Reduction examples	151	DLO - Digital Lens Optimizations	200	The shoot 5 menus - Shoot 5 LV functions	215
Multi Shot Noise Reduction	152	About Peripheral Illumination Correction	201	AF Method	215
Multi Shot Noise Reduction examples	153	About Distortion Correction	202	Eye detection AF	215
Camera overrides and RAW processing	154	About Chromatic Aberration Correction	203	Continuous AF	215
About Picture Styles	155	About Diffraction Correction	204	Lens electronic AF	215
Understanding what the Picture Style is controlling	157			AF assist beam firing	215
Contrast	157	The Menu System	205	MF peaking settings	215
Saturation	158	Menu navigation	206		
Colour tone	159			Playback Options / Menus	216
Sharpening	160	The Shoot Menu	207	Playback options and controls	217
Comparing Picture Styles	161	The shoot menus - Shoot 1	208	Play 1 menu	218
Which to use?	163	Image quality	208	Protect images	218
Customising Picture Style options	164	Still image aspect ratio	208	Rotate stills	218
Why customise Picture Style options?	165	Review duration	208	Change movie rotate info	218
Monochrome Picture Style options	166	Release Shutter Without Card	208	Erase images	219
Contrast	166	Lens Aberration Correction	208	Print order	219
Filter effects	167	Flash control	208	Photobook set up	219
Toning	168	E-TTL II Meter	208	Play menu 2	220
White Balance system and overrides	169	Slow Syncro	209	Creative Filters	220
AWB options	170	Built-in flash settings	209	RAW image processing	221
White Balance - WB preset options	171	External flash function settings	210	Creative Assist RAW processing	222
K settings	174	External flash C.Fn settings	210	Quick control RAW processing	222
Custom White Balance	176	The shoot menus - Shoot 2	211	Red eye correction	222
White Balance Shift	178	Expo.Comp AEB	211	Create Album	222
White Balance Bracketing	179	ISO speed settings	211	Play 3 menu	223
Auto Lighting Optimizer	180	Auto Lighting Optimizer	211	Cropping	223
Metering - measuring the light	182	Highlight Tone Priority	211	Resize	224
Metering - its connection to focusing	183	Metering mode	211	Rating	224
Understanding metering	184	The shoot menus - Shoot 3	212	Play 3 menu	225
Evaluative metering	186	White Balance	212	Slide show	225
Understanding Partial metering	188	Custom White Balance	212	Set Image Search Conditions	225

Contents

PREVIEW
EDITION

Image Jump with Main dial	225	Set up menu 4 Live view changes	245	Movie shoot 2 menu	
Play 4 menu	226	Grid display	245	Time Lapse movie	
Histogram Display	226	Set up menus - Set up 5	246	Remote control	
View from last seen	226	C.Fn I - 1 exposure level increments	246	Video Snapshot	
AF Point Display	226	C.Fn I - 2 ISO Expansion	246	Movie shoot 3 menu	
HDMI HDR output	226	C.Fn I - 3 ISO speed setting increments	246	Movie ISO speed settings	
How to see the image settings on your computer	227	C.Fn I - 3 Safety Shift	247	Auto Slow Shutter	
Canon software that you need	228	C.Fn I - 4 Exposure Comp. Auto cancel	247	Metering Timer	271
Network menu	229	C.Fn II - 6, 7, 8, 9 AF options	247	Movie shoot 4 menu	271
Network menu	230	C.Fn II - 10 Mirror Lockup	248	WB correction	271
Introduction to Wi-Fi functions	231	C.Fn III -11 Warnings in viewfinder	248	HDMI Info Display	271
Connection to a smart phone	231	C.Fn III - 12 LCD display when power on	248	Shoot 5 Movie Menu	272
About Canon Connect app	233	C.Fn III - 13 Custom controls	249	Movie Servo AF	272
Connection to a computer	235	C.Fn III - 14 Retract lens when power off	249	Movie Summary	272
EOS Utility	237	Clearing settings	249	Using the built in flash	273
The Set Up Menus	238	Copyright information	250	Understanding using flash	274
Set up menus - Set up 1 menu	239	Manual/software URL	250	Operating the flash	275
Select folder	239	Certification logo display	250	Built in flash and wireless flash	276
File numbering	239	Firmware	250	Operating the flash	277
Auto rotate	239	Firmware updating	251	What subjects to shoot with flash	278
Format card	239	The My Menu Options	252	How to use flash light - flash only	279
Set up menus - Set up 2 menu	240	The My Menu options	253	How to use flash light - fill in flash	280
Auto power off	240	Custom controls	255	Changes in operation	281
Disp. brightness	240	Custom controls	256	Other produces and services	282
Screen OFF/ON button	240	Custom controls - Shutter button	257		
Date/Time/Zone	240	Custom controls - AF-ON button	258		
Language	240	Custom controls - AE Lock/FE Lock button	259		
Set up menus - Set up 3 menu	241	Custom controls - DISP button	260		
Video system	241	Custom controls - Set button	261		
Touch controls	241	Camera button customisation summary	262		
Beep	241	Basic Movie shooting	263		
Battery info	241	Basic Movie shooting	264		
Recharge performance	241	Movie Q screen options	266		
Sensor cleaning	242	Movie Creative Filter options	267		
Set up menus - Set up 4	243	Movie shoot 1 menu	269		
Viewfinder display	243	Movie rec size	269		
Info button display options	244	Digital zoom	269		
Switch AF area selection button/AE Lock button	244	Movie self timer	269		
HDMI resolution	245	Sound recording	269		
Multi function lock	245	Lens Aberration Correction	269		



Basic camera layout

About the EOS 850D

The EOS 850D is a great EOS model to use to learn photography. It has a range of modes that will allow you to shoot most subjects with the settings remaining under the camera's control. This gives you chance to become familiar with your lenses and what they do and understand the lighting that will give you the best images, before you need to start understanding some of the settings used within photography.

Some of the fully automated modes give you some control over how the image is going to look and this is an excellent way to start to understand what photography with a digital EOS is all about, which is creativity. This is the ability to control how the finished image looks, something that many compacts and phone cameras give you little control over at the time of shooting.

Photography has always had a steep learning curve, and in this modern digital age this has become steeper, as there are now far more controls on the camera. This is why I have tried to break the book into sections that allow you to get some great results and build your confidence, before tackling the areas that are by nature more technically challenging.

I always try and teach photography in a very modern way, starting off by taking images using the basic modes and building confidence that you can get great images without needing to take control of everything on the camera. Then, as time progresses and you start to shoot more challenging areas, it becomes time to start to use the camera on modes with more controls, where more understanding is needed.

Far too often I come across photographers who are the verge of giving up photography as they have been told to shoot manually because a photographer, whose techniques are well out of date, has told them that its the only way to shoot.

It's far from the truth as most of the images you will see in this book are shot on one of the camera's automatic or semi automatic modes. A handful will be shot manually as in those situations it may be the only way to get consistent results, but those

occasions are few and far between. I originally learnt on a fully manual camera, but today choose not to shoot that way, as most of the time the camera makes the same decisions as I would and usually a lot quicker.

The automation on the camera works incredibly well, providing you understand what it is doing. The art is using the right mode at the right time. The key to using the camera, is to understand it fully, and simply pick the right setting at the right time.



About the layout

The 850D has similar controls to the other introductory models. However, it has had a lot of additional functions and features added to it which bring it more into line with the functionality of the mid-range models such as the EOS 80D/90D. The focusing system has been upgraded and now offers the ability to shoot at up to 7 frames per second utilising the iTR AF system which can recognise faces or detect subjects by colour which has previously only been seen on higher level models.

If you have previously been using an earlier model such as the EOS 300D, 350D, 400D or 450D then its layout is going to be a little different from what you are used 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 it is a very easy model to get to grips with.

Like several of its predecessors this model utilises touch controls and this is by far the easiest way to set most of its key functions. In fact the camera is more designed around the use of touch controls than any model we have seen in the range so far.

Some of these changes have been caused by the flip screen, others simply reflect the newer ways of setting the camera and the small size of this camera which makes buttons smaller and so in fact the touch controls are that much easier to use. If you have not had a camera with touch controls on before it is worth spending time getting used to them as it can make the operation of the camera quicker and simpler.

The touch controls work just like a phone or tablet that has touch control as all the familiar taps and gestures work within the menu system.

This model has the standard Main dial on the top of the camera and features Quick control dial directional buttons on the rear of the camera which are used for navigation. However, around the outside of the Quick control dial directional buttons is a Quick control dial which allows instant setting of a feature called exposure compensation and also functions as a useful navigation control. This feature is much more commonly associated with mid and high end models than this series of cameras.



Camera layout

PREVIEW EDITION

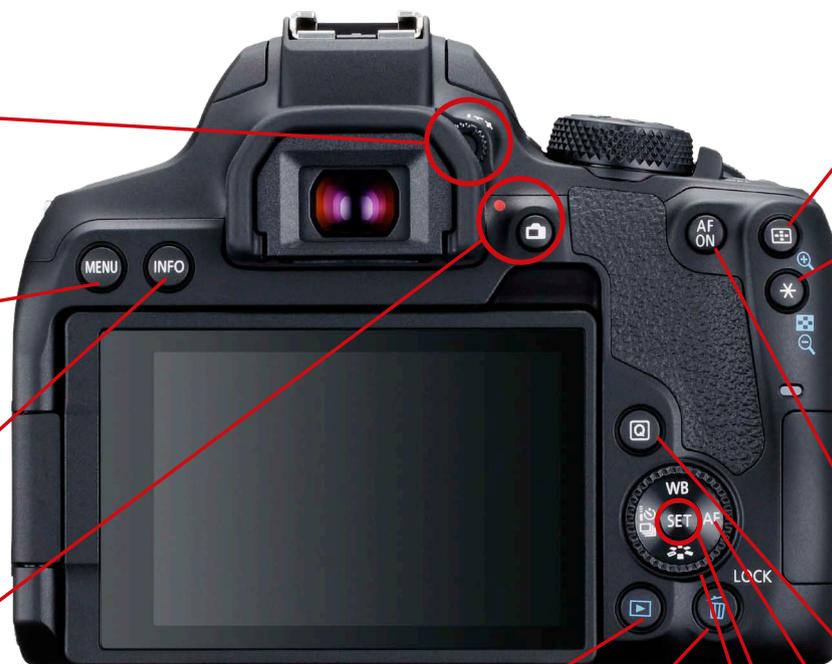
DIOPTRIC ADJUSTMENT

Turn the dial to sharpen the viewfinder image to suit your eyesight (minor correction only).

MENU BUTTON Press to access the camera's menu system where many options are set. Press again to escape the menu.

INFO BUTTON Toggles between display options during playback, and gives you more information when within the menu.

LIVE VIEW/RECORD BUTTON Displays real-time image when shooting stills (Live View); the same button starts and stops recording when switched to Movie mode via on/off switch.



PLAYBACK BUTTON Shows the most recently taken image; use the Quick control dial directional buttons or swipe with touch controls to scroll.

ERASE BUTTON

Deletes image in playback.

Also acts as lock button to lock controls when shooting.

AF POINT SELECTION BUTTON

the focusing points in the viewfinder screen.

MAGNIFY The same button zooms in on a

AE LOCK BUTTON (*) Press to lock the exposure. In evaluative metering with One Shot AF both the focusing and exposure lock automatically with a half-press of the shutter button. Using this button instead separates out their operation. **REDUCE** The same button allows you to zoom out, then to bring up an index display in playback.

AF-ON BUTTON Activates the focusing and metering (like the shutter button). The use of this button for focusing when in AI Servo AF is often referred to as back button focusing.

Q BUTTON Pressing this will activate the Q screen where the main settings are made.

QUICK CONTROL DIAL DIRECTIONAL BUTTONS Four directional buttons that allow you to move up, down, left or right in menus and on the Q screen. The buttons can also be used to access certain functions as shown directly without the need to access the Q button options.

SET BUTTON This is used within the menu system to apply settings; within the Q screen it allows you to see a more detailed screen.

QUICK CONTROL DIAL A rotatable dial for navigational use within the menu system and on Q screen.

Tip

Icons in blue are only active when in playback mode.



- SHUTTER BUTTON** Half-press activates focusing and metering. Same press will also escape from playback mode and from within menu.
- MAIN DIAL** Turn to adjust shutter speed or aperture within relevant shooting mode. Can also change settings on Q screen.
- DISP BUTTON** Turns the rear display on or off.
- ISO BUTTON** Hold this down and turn the Main dial to change the ISO setting (Creative Zone modes only).
- AF AREA/AF METHOD SELECTION BUTTON** pressing changes the AF method or area once the AF point selection button is pressed.
- OFF/ON/MOVIE SWITCH** Turns the camera on and off: switch to the video icon to enter Movie mode.

MODE DIAL Where you choose the shooting (exposure) mode. This is the only place the mode can be changed.

RED EYE REDUCTION/SELF TIMER LAMP when Red eye reduction is on lights to provide light to make pupil of eye close down and flashes when self timer is operating.

DEPTH OF FIELD PREVIEW BUTTON press and hold down button to preview depth of field



New Guided options on the EOS 850D

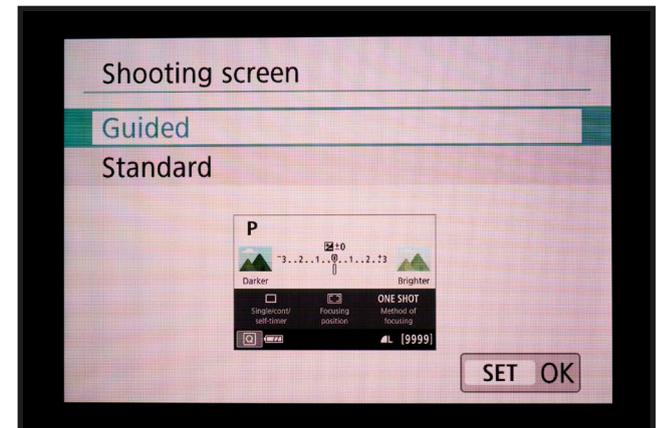
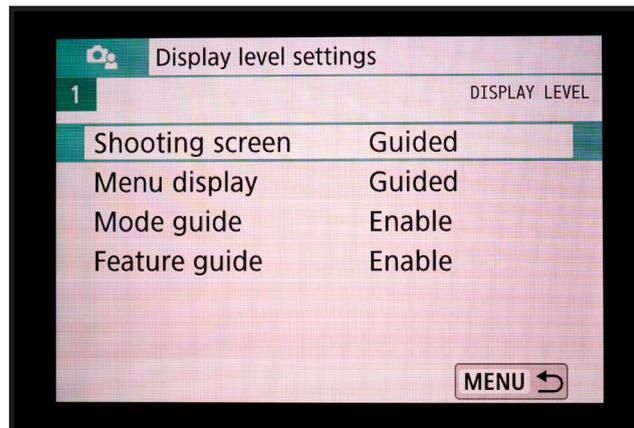


The 850D comes with a range of guided options and guides that make the operation of the camera easier for the novice. To see these options, press the menu button on the rear of the camera, highlighted in the camera image to the right. Once the menu appears the easiest way to navigate is using the touch controls.

Once in the menu tab press set which takes you to a menu with the options shown.

Once the menu appears press the INFO or Q button, several times until the last menu tab is highlighted as above. To navigate down the menu you use the cross key up or down buttons or the Quick control dial on the rear of the camera to highlight the shooting screen and then press the set button and choose the guided or standard option.

The guided menus are always white backgrounds, whilst the non guided ones are always black backgrounds.



New Guided options on the EOS 850D

The EOS 850D has some features designed to make its operation easier for the newcomer to photography.

The EOS 850D as supplied in the box will have the Shooting screen and Menu display defaulted to the guided settings. Plus the Mode guide and the Feature guide will be enabled. This makes the camera much more user friendly to use, and prevents common errors occurring when shooting. In this book I have assumed that these settings are left on their defaults if you are using the Auto+, SCN and Creative Filter modes.

The Creative modes, P, TV, AV and M assume that you have turned off all 4 of the guided settings as you are using the more advanced features on the camera and by this stage should not need the help of the guided system any more.

If the shooting screen is left on the guided option, which is shown in the image bottom left some of the controls are not available, but for those very new this might be a better way to start off until you become more confident using all the options.

Once the shooting screen is turned onto the standard option the menu screen will change from white to black and as you can see there are a lot more controls available to you.

If you find that this is too much to start with then the guided option does give you access to the key things you need to override. The top control allows you to change the brightness of the image, called Exposure Compensation on the standard screens. Bottom left are your drive controls. This allows you to change the camera between single and continuous shooting



along with access to the Self-timer controls.

The central control along the bottom allows access to the focusing area or method as it is sometimes called. This model has a more advanced focusing system offering 45 AF points which can be used in a choice of four different AF areas. The final option at the bottom right is the focusing mode.

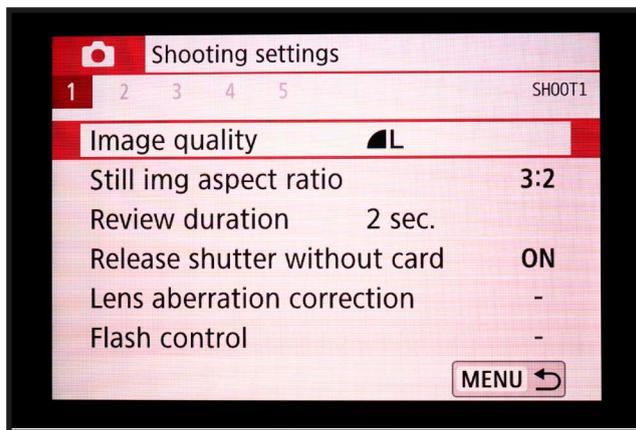
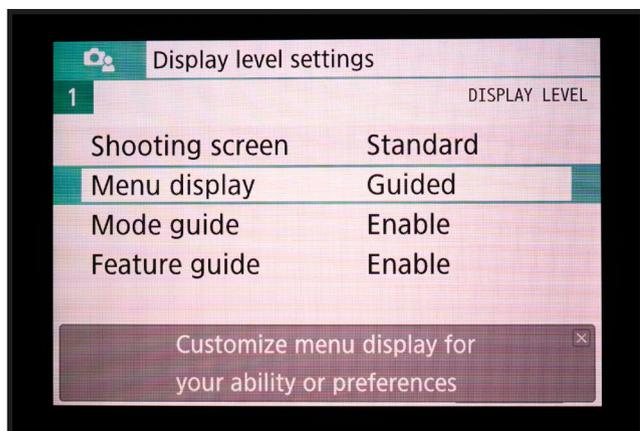
This has three options according to the type of subject that you are shooting. One shot AF is used for static subjects, AI Servo is used for moving subject and AI

Focus chooses for you.

These same controls are also found on the black version of the screen and you will find that the symbols used are fairly similar to one another.

I will look in a lot more depth at the options found on the black quick control screen later in the book.

PREVIEW EDITION



The guided menu display makes the menu simpler to understand and reduces the number of options that you need to think about.

However, this is the setting that causes the most difference in how the camera is working. When the menu is guided the menu is completely in white and has a front screen (Centre top) where you select the tabs from, once you have pressed the menu button. The selection of items can be done using the touch controls or via the normal manual navigation. The

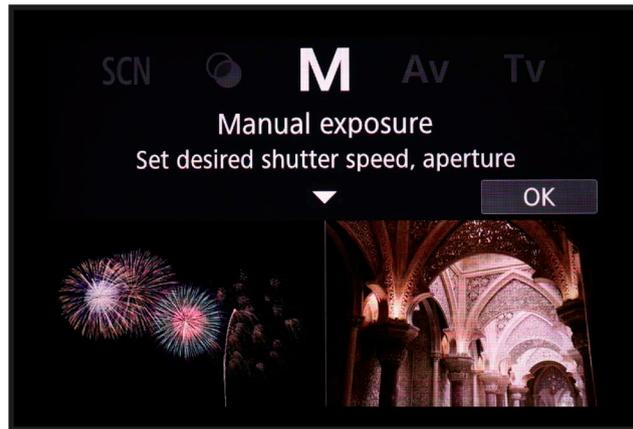
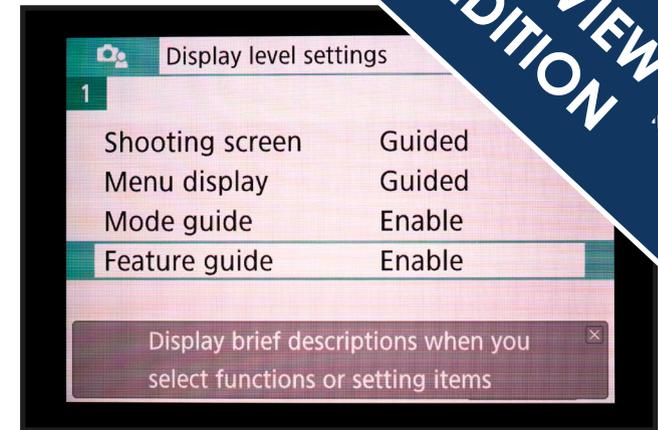
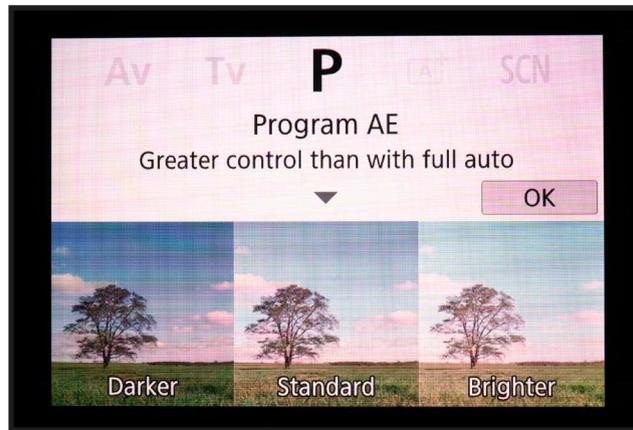
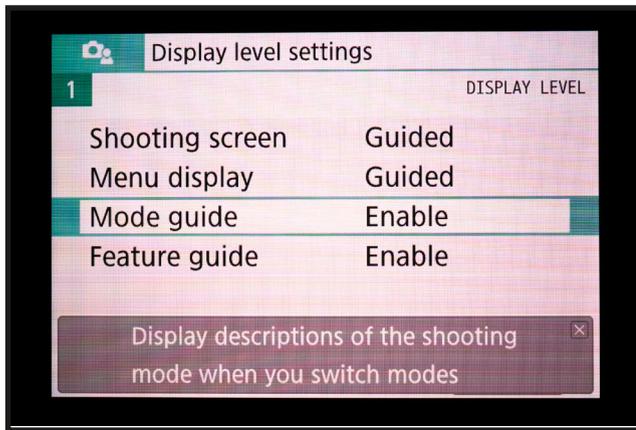
touch controls are by far the quickest and easiest way of operating the camera. When in the front screen you tap on the tab at the top for the menu that you want to use and then tap the OK button or press the Set button on the rear of the camera.

Once in the menu itself the operation is very similar to the standard menus except there are less items to choose from in some menus and the screen is white.

To go to another menu type, ie. shoot to playback you have to either press the menu prompt on the screen

to go back to the main screen or press the menu button and then go back in from the front screen to the next menu you want. This makes the operation of the camera significantly slower than when using the standard menu system.

On the standard menu you can move between the main top tabs by tapping or using the INFO or Q button, without the need to go back to a main front screen first.



The mode guide will display brief descriptions of the mode at the time you turn the mode dial on the top of the camera. If you tap the arrow on the screen then it will display additional information. What the mode screen shows depends on the mode itself. For example on the SCN modes it gives you an option to choose which of the scene modes you want to use in addition to telling you what the SCN modes do. The mode guide is a nice idea but it does slow down the operation of the camera. However, for those very new to the system it does help to explain some of

the common terms that are used. If you have the shooting screen on guided when you tap on the OK on the mode screen it will go straight to the shooting screen that is set up.

If the mode screen is in white (top centre image) it indicates that the shooting screen is set to guided. If in black (bottom centre image) then it indicates that the shooting screen is set to its normal non guided option.

The feature guide will bring up a box that tells you briefly what the feature that is highlighted within the menu system does. The box can be closed by tapping on the X in the top right hand corner of the text box.

It is worth leaving these on whilst learning the camera as they will give you helpful tips whilst out and about shooting. However, they do slow down the camera's operation, and sometimes block other information on the display and so once you no longer need them they are best all turned to the disabled setting.



Q screen

Quick control dial with inset directional buttons and Set

Q button

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 Creative mode and you have come away from the guided options that I have looked at in the last few pages. That's P, TV, AV or M mode on the 850D. If you are in the Av mode or the SCN modes the display will be different, as there are less options available but all of them now have some degree of overrides. When you press the Q button on the rear of the camera, or tap the Q at the bottom left of the screen, the screen appears with the ISO speed highlighted in a yellow box. In the example left, the ISO is highlighted, top right. I have given the manual navigation options below but on this model the touch controls are by far the easiest to operate.

To navigate around the screen, the touch controls or the Quick control dial directional buttons are used. Once the item is highlighted then you set the feature using the Main dial on the top, or for most controls the Quick control dial 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 Quick control dial directional buttons or the touch controls. On some features the Main dial/Quick control 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.

I will look in more depth at the Q button and what it does and sets a little bit later in the book.

DISP/INFO BUTTON OPTIONS

The Q screen stays on normally at all times. If you press the DISP button on the top of the camera the display goes to maximum brightness for a short period, The INFO button allows you to scroll through different displays.

If you want to escape from any screen or menu - it is actually very simple - press the shutter button halfway and you will be back to normal shooting operation.



Basic mode non guided Q screen



Creative mode guided Q screen

Using the INFO button to change displays

PREVIEW EDITION



The INFO button on the rear of the camera allows you to change the information which is currently displaying on the rear screen. The information can be changed when you are playing back an image, shooting using the Live View function on the camera or shooting using the movie option on the camera. The info button cannot change the viewfinder information.

This is an important option to understand as so often I get contacted by photographers who have got a histogram displaying that they don't want, have lost the information or got other things displaying that apparently it's impossible to get rid of. The answer in all cases is in the display where the problem's occurring, simply press the info button and it will cycle through the various displays that you have.

This is not a new option on the camera, it actually goes back to the start of digital EOS models, although on the very earliest cameras it was called

a DISP button. Don't get it confused with the DISP button on the top of the camera which now does a different function and is actually programmable as to what it does.

The top three images are the options available when using the playback function on the camera. You have a choice of no information, basic information or what is called the information screen which also has a small histogram. Once on this screen the up and down Quick control dial directional buttons

allow you to scroll through the various information screens that the camera has.

The lower six images show the cycle that the Live View or indeed the movie screens would cycle through. You have information ranging from simply the image with a focusing display right through to full information plus a histogram and a level. Be aware that the level only displays if the camera's focusing is not set up to face detection plus tracking.

PREVIEW
EDITION



Understanding EOS Settings

Understanding EOS Settings

PREVIEW EDITION

The EOS 850D can be very automated. However, to make the most of the camera you really need to get away from its fully automatic settings.

Even within the fully automatic modes on this model you have some control and so it's important to understand some of the terms that are commonly used within photography and what they actually mean.

This section of the book is designed to give you a basic grounding in a lot of the terms that I am going to use throughout the book.



The way the camera works and how much you need to understand to get it to do what you want will depend on the mode that you are shooting in. I will look in depth at the modes in a couple of chapters time. However, it is almost impossible to look at any of the camera settings without talking about some of the things controlled within the modes.

Fundamentally, the exposure modes all do the same thing - they control how the three values that have to go together to get the exposure of the image correct are set. These are often referred to as the exposure triangle. The things I'm referring to are the ISO, aperture, and shutter speed.

So in order to understand the modes, it is crucial that you understand in-depth what part the ISO, aperture, and shutter speed play within taking an image.

Although a lot of photographers understand the terms, they far less often understand in depth what part they play within photography.

Even fewer photographers seem to understand the correct combination of the settings that can be used successfully under varying light levels.

Over the next few pages I will briefly explain what these three key controls do and how they affect the images that you are taking.

I will also look at a few other things that do have an effect on the images that you take and from the experience I have gained training are things that a lot of photographers fail to really understand.

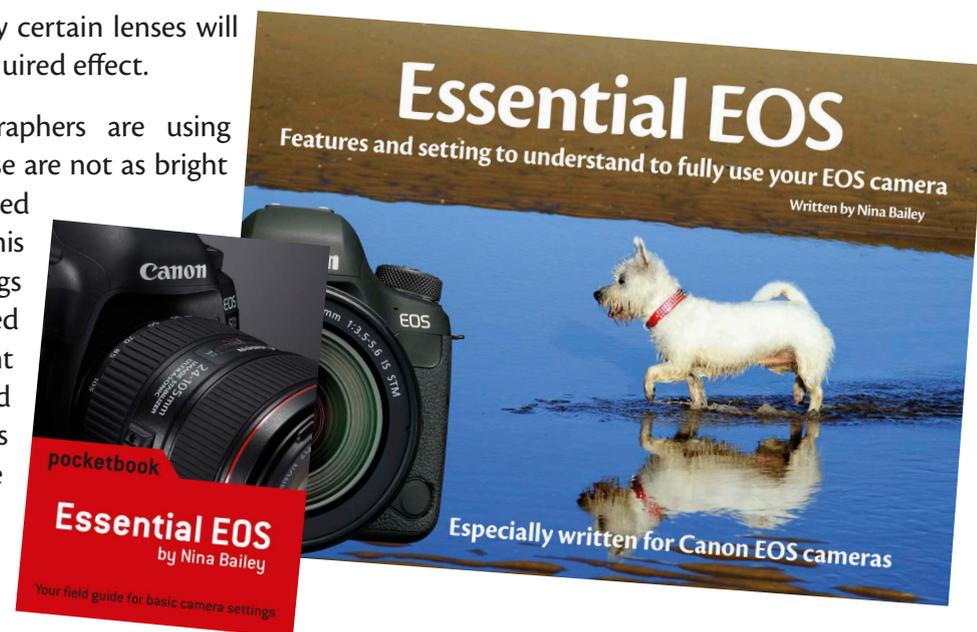
I am also going to take a look at the role lenses play in the way an image looks, as even to talk about the correct use of the SCN modes on the camera it is important to understand why certain lenses will need to be used to get the required effect.

Generally today all photographers are using zoom lenses and some of these are not as bright as we would experienced back in the days of film. This means that higher ISO settings sometimes need to be used to compensate for less light entering the camera and producing blurred images through camera shake, as the shutter speeds used are not high enough for the light levels.

Although today the majority image stabilisation built into the. to respect the normal handholding. shutter speeds that allow us to safely ha. lenses.

I am only including this as a very short section due to restrictions of space, and of course a number of photographers will be familiar with these basics.

For those that are very new to photography, or have switched to the EOS 850D from a compact or mobile phone, my e-book Essential EOS, or its compact printed version Essential EOS will provide a good grounding of all the basic information about EOS cameras and the settings featured on them that you need to know to make the most of your camera.



The shutter button - an essential control

The shutter button on the EOS 850D and indeed all EOS models, features a two-stage operation. The first half pressure wakes the camera up and turns on both the focusing and the metering on the camera.

If the camera is set to One Shot AF and the metering is on its default Evaluative mode, then the camera will focus, meter the subject and then lock both the focusing and metering. This allows you to use a control called Focus Lock which puts you firmly in control of where the camera focuses and exposes.

Understanding Focus Lock

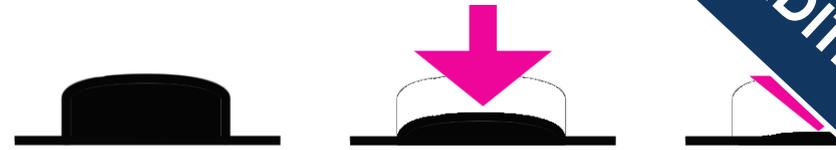
Focus Lock is simply pressing the shutter button onto its first stage. Assuming you have just the central focus point active, this enables you to point the central focusing point at the subject you want to focus on and focus it there.

The first illustration to the top left is the shutter button at rest, when there is no pressure on it.

Focus Lock can be used with all the different ways that the focusing points can be set up, however, it is most commonly used in conjunction with a single focusing point, which is most commonly located in the centre of the frame. Once the focusing is locked, which happens automatically in the default One Shot AF mode when you take the shutter button onto its half pressure, illustrated by the centre illustration top, you then keep the shutter button on its first stage until you have moved the camera, to now give you the composition you want in the viewfinder.

This is the normal way to get the camera to focus where you want. You then continue to press the shutter button fully down until the image is taken as in the final illustration to the top right. There will be very little movement from the half pressure to taking the image, so there is less chance of camera shake occurring.

Focus Lock also allows you to focus on a part of the scene that will give the best exposure for the image or to avoid subjects that are giving a large exposure error in the image. For this to work to lock exposure, the subjects need to be at the same distance from the camera.



In the image above the most reliable way to focus is to use the centre focusing point and position on the cathedral and lock the focus. The image can then be reframed to its final composition and the shot taken, this ensures that the cathedral is sharp. If using more than 1 AF point this can be difficult as the camera will always try and focus on whatever is closest to the camera and in the example above it would be almost impossible to focus on the cathedral without using the focus lock.

eBooks for your EOS photography

You've just read a **free 20-page preview** of this eBook, part of a comprehensive series of Canon EOS camera eBooks that I've produced, based on years of experience training Canon EOS photographers like you. Thanks for downloading it.

There's much, much more – most of my eBooks are around 150 pages long, so you've had just a small taste of what you can learn about your camera. And it won't cost you the earth – prices start **from just £4.95**.

So get the **COMPLETE** picture – buy the **full version of this eBook** and, in minutes, you'll have the key to unlocking your EOS camera and your potential as a photographer.

Nina

10% off
quote
FULL10

UNLOCK
THE FULL
VERSION

visit: www.eos-magazine.com/ebooks