

September, 2019



2019 Assigned Subjects

September-Cars

October-Round Things

or Print Competition

November-Blue Hour or

Round Things

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Lebanon Camera Club

News

September Meeting: Tuesday, 9/3/19 6:30 pm

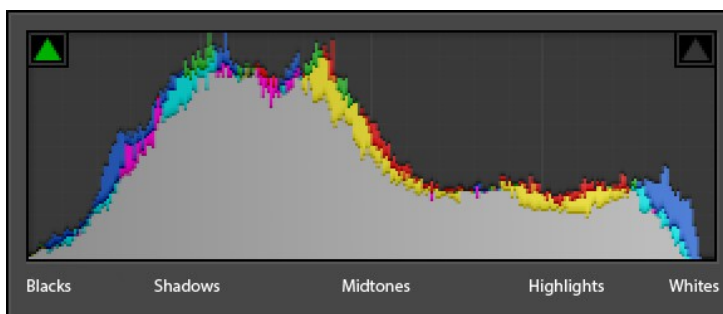
Mini-Program: Exposure: The Histogram

Digital Competition Assigned Subject: Cars

October Program is Image Evolution presented by club members

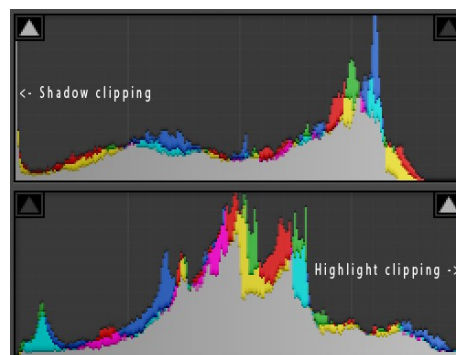
Photography Educational Series—Histogram

A histogram is a graphical representation of the tonal values of your image. In other words, it shows the amount of tones of particular brightness found in your photograph ranging from black (0% brightness) to white (100% brightness). As shown in the image below, dark tones are displayed on the left side of the histogram. As you move rightward, tones get lighter. The middle portion of the histogram represents midtones, which are neither dark nor light. Vertical axis of a histogram displays the amount of tones of that particular lightness. The histogram is exposure-dependent, but is also affected by tone curve and other settings.



Shadow and Highlight Clipping: If a certain portion of the histogram is “touching” either edge, it will indicate loss of detail, also called clipping. Highlight clipping (areas that are completely white and absent detail) occurs if the graph is touching the right side of histogram. Shadow clipping (areas that are completely black and absent detail) occurs if the graph is touching the left side of histogram. Either case can be often fixed by altering exposure settings. However, you must remember that it all depends on the scene. For example, if there’s sun in your image, it is only natural it will be so bright – completely white, in fact – that highlight clipping will occur.

Should you notice any highlight or shadow clipping, alter your exposure accordingly: to save shadow detail, make images brighter by dialing in positive exposure compensation value (+0.3 or +0.7, for example); to save highlight detail, make images darker by dialing negative exposure compensation value (-0.3 or -0.7, for example). Exposure compensation is usually set using “+/-” button on your camera. If you prefer to shoot with manual settings, just change ISO, aperture or shutter speed accordingly.





"Photography for me is not looking; it's feeling. If you can't feel what you're looking at, then you're never going to get others to feel anything when they look at your pictures." – Don McCullin



Histogram cont'd.

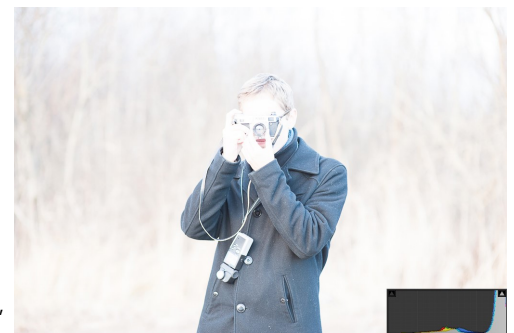
Color Channels: Histograms usually display information for three primary colors – red, green and blue – and are known as RGB histograms. Such is the histogram shown above. You will notice that it consists of several diagrams marked with different colors. Three of these diagrams represent red, green and blue color channels accordingly. Gray diagram shows where all three channels overlap. Yellow, cyan and magenta appear where two of the channels overlap.

Histogram and Exposure: Some are used to seeing histograms as graphical representations of exposure. Quite a few photographers are used to evaluating exposure based on histograms alone and state them as either "good" or "bad". Usually, a "good" histogram would render most tones in the middle portion of the graph, and no or few tones would be found at the extreme edges. A "bad" histogram would have tones at the very edges of the graph, which would basically mean either underexposure to the point of lost shadow detail (shadow clipping), or overexposure to the point of lost highlight detail (highlight clipping), or even both in a single image. If we agree with such an approach, the histogram shown at the top of this article would represent an image that is ever so slightly underexposed (tones are shifted slightly to the left), but mostly ok.

Underexposure: The first copy shows an underexposed photograph (too dark). As you can see, most of the image lacks any sort of bright detail. Histogram clearly shows a strong shift to the left side with most tones in the shadow range, and some are even clipped (completely black).

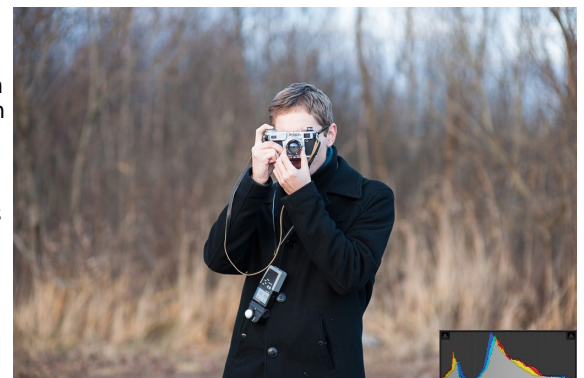


Overexposure: The following image is overexposed (too light). Many tones are very bright and there are basically no darker tones. A large portion of the image is blown-out (completely white) and bears no detail at all. As you can see, the histogram confirms that the image is much too bright – it is shifted strongly to the right.



Can you see a small amount of midtones displayed in the histogram? They represent the coat, which, in real life, is black. The tones of the coat should be shown at the left side of the histogram as "shadows" in a well-exposed image. Let's see if that is true by looking at the following image. It is exposed correctly and bears a much broader tone distribution with most of them found in the "midtone" section of the histogram.

Correct Exposure: Let's analyze the histogram of that last image. As you can see, there are barely any tones at the extreme left-side of the histogram, where blacks are shown, which means there is no detail lost in shadows. Then we see it spike – as mentioned earlier, this portion of the histogram shows the tones of the black coat. It is sufficiently dark, yet still bears enough detail. Note that the spike ends with blue channel – it represents the tones of the scarf. Moving leftward, we see a decrease in the amount of lighter-than-the-coat tones. Clearly, if we examine the photograph, the coat is more or less the darkest element of the photograph. Any other portion of the



Cont'd

Histogram cont'd.

image is significantly lighter.

Then we see our histogram spike up quickly again. These values represent the background, which is moderately bright and takes up the biggest portion of this particular photograph. Histogram confirms this. Gradually, as the tones get lighter, their amount decreases – that's where information about the lightness of the face and sky is represented. Both these areas are small, but noticeably lighter than the background. Finally, we end up with a small amount of highlights. We can find them in the lightest portions of the sky as well as the camera being held.

Should you Set Exposure using Histogram?: Based on these samples, a "good" histogram – one with most tones stored in the middle portion – does in fact indicate correct exposure. Does that mean histogram can indeed be used to judge exposure? Not quite. Let's examine one more example with a completely different histogram to the "good" one shown earlier. It is a product shot of a couple of earrings.

As you can see, the histogram is shifted heavily towards the right where bright tones are represented. If you were to judge the exposure of this particular photograph based on the histogram alone, you would probably say it is overexposed considerably. There is barely any sign of midtones, let alone shadows. However, would you say that the image above is not exposed properly? Should I alter my exposure settings and aim for the "good" histogram, this photograph would be much too dark.



A simple conclusion can be drawn, then: the histogram is not necessarily good for evaluating your exposure. The "correctness" of it depends on too many factors, not the last of which is your vision as well as the scene you are photographing. Histogram merely shows you the amount of tones of various brightness levels in your image, and nothing more. It can be used to discover whether you have clipped any highlight or shadow detail at specific exposure settings. You can use it as a guide to avoid such loss of detail as you take pictures, and that is where histogram excels. As long as you keep that in mind, in general, there is no "good" or "bad" histogram.

[Click here for a 30 minute video on histograms.](#)

[Click here for a short 4 minute video on histograms.](#)



"Photography is about finding out what can happen in the frame. When you put four edges around some facts, you change those facts." – Garry Winogrand



Photo Contests

Great American Photo Contest—Monthly Baby Photo
www.greatamericanphotocontest.com

ND Awards—deadline 9/22
<https://ndawards.net/>

Various Photo Contests (Many Different Topics)

- <https://www.photocontestinsider.com/>
- <https://photocontestguru.com>
- <http://www.voubs.com>
- <https://www.outdoorphotographer.com/photo-contests/>
- <http://www.photocrowd.com>
- www.life-framer.com/
- <https://www.fanartreview.com/>

Photo Opportunities

Kipona Festival—Harrisburg—8/31-9/2 <http://harrisburgpa.gov/kipona-2/>

Golden Age Flying Circus 8/31—Grimes Airfield
www.goldenageair.org

Hawk Mountain 9/7
 Vulture Awareness Day
www.hawkmountain.org

York Fair 9/6-9/15
www.yorkfair.com

Haycreek Festival 9/6-9/8
www.haycreek.org

Denver Fair 9/10-9/14
www.thedenverfair.com

Fall Harvest Fair 9/14
 Schaefferstown
www.hsimuseum.org

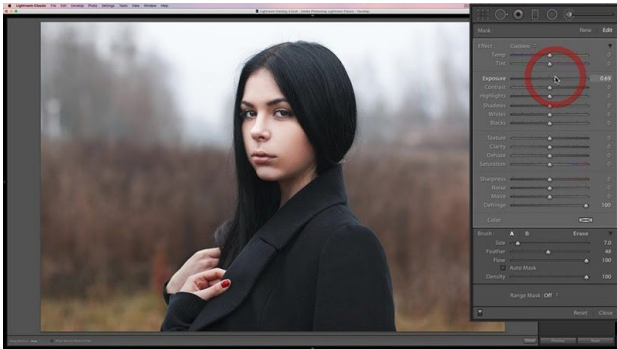
Kinzua Bridge State Park Festival—Mt. Jewett, PA— 9/21-9/22
<https://www.kinzuabridgefoundation.com/>

Southern Lancaster County Fair
www.solancofair.com 9/18-9/20

Bloomsburg Fair 9/20-9/28
www.bloomsburgfair.com

Photo Editing Feature of the Month—Adjusting Faces in Lightroom

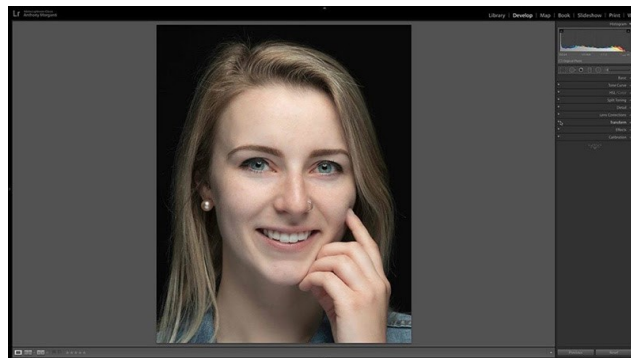
[How to Brighten Faces in Lightroom:](#)



[How to Soften Skin in Lightroom:](#)



[How to Process a Portrait in Lightroom:](#)



Product of the Month-Macro Photography—Reverse Lenses



Click on the picture for a video on macro photography and reverse lenses!

Workshops and Tours

Apogee Photo Magazine

For more information log on to
http://www.apogeephoto.com/photography_workshops.shtml

Wildlife and Nature Travel

www.wildlifeandnaturetravel.com

Art Wolfe Photography Workshops

www.artwolfeworkshops.com

Don Smith Photography

www.donsmithphotography.com

Brenda Tharp

www.brendatharp.com/

M&M Photo Tours

<http://www.mmphototours.com/>

Arizona Highway Photo Workshops

<http://www.friendsofhighways.com/>

John Shaw 2-Day Nature & Digital Photography Seminar

<http://www.photosafaris.com/>

Jack Graham Photography

<http://jackgrahamphoto.com/>

Rocky Mountain Reflections

www.rockymtnrefl.com/photographyworkshops.html

Slonina Photography—Explore Wild America

<http://www.sphotography.com>

Darwin Wiggett Tours & Workshops

<http://oopoomoo.com/workshopsandtours/>

Outdoor Photo Workshops

<http://www.outdoorphotoworkshops.com>

Photo Workshop Adventures

www.photoworkshopadventures.com

Michael Francis Photo Shoots

www.michaelfrancisphoto.com

Osprey Photo Workshops & Tours

www.ospreyphoto.com

Tom Dwyer Tours & Workshops

www.tomdwyerphoto.com

Horizon Photography Workshops

www.horizonworkshops.com

Below is a link of online pdf files from
past monthly meeting presentations:

[http://www.bellallum.kotay.net/public/
program/LebanonCameraClub/](http://www.bellallum.kotay.net/public/program/LebanonCameraClub/)

2019 Officers

President: Paul Hess
rvdoc@comcast.net

Vice President: Ed Gundrum,
ejgun@evenlink.com

Secretary: Tammy Wolfe,
lebanoncamera@gmail.com

Treasurer: Joni Bonus O'Ship
mjoship@comcast.net

Program: Keith Kotay
keith@kotay.net

Newsletter: Connie Fullenlove
connief922@gmail.com

Competition: Melodie Bechtel,
bechs@verizon.net

Community Affairs: Bill Sypher,
sypher1@comcast.net

Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month!

If you would like to do a program on anything digital related or know someone who would, please let us know.

Or

If you have something of interest for our members, please email them to the Newsletter Editor, Connie at lebanoncamera@gmail.com.

**MONTHLY
MEETING**
Be Connected. Be Heard. Be Informed.

Everyone is invited to attend our regular monthly meetings.

Unless otherwise noted we meet the first Tuesday at 6:30PM in St. Stephen's Christian Fellowship Church, 1100 Hunter Chase Lane, Lebanon PA.

Directions: From Rt 72 N of Lebanon where N 12th St becomes Jonestown Road at the McDonalds, follow Jonestown Road north past the Turkey Hill. Jonestown

Road will become Sandhill Road. Keep on Sandhill road until it branches to the left into Grace Avenue. Church is on the left 3/10 of a mile from the split *before* you pass Youth for Christ and Fisher Bus..

The club is a member of the Photographic Society of American (PSA).

Cancellation or last minute changes of events will normally be sent to members via email and broadcast on radio station WLBR, AM 1270.

Only members may enter competitions. Dues are \$25 per year and include the newsletter and monthly meeting minutes.

Digital Competition entries are due at least one day prior to the scheduled competition.

Competition Committee will keep winning Print entries for the end of year competition unless the member requests return of entries before then. In that case, the member would be responsible for re-submitting them for the end of year competition.

Products and services of interest to photographers are presented as a service without review or endorsement.

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Dates and times of events may change. Please check local listings.