

Bracketing

Unlock the mystery

To insure you get the correct exposure when you are photographing, use the technique of bracketing.

To bracket:

1. Meter the scene you are going to photograph and get the correct exposure.
2. Take the photograph
3. Over expose the film by one stop by moving either the shutter speed to a slower speed or by moving the aperture to a wider opening. The needle or meter will move toward the + sign.
4. Take the photograph.
5. Move the control back to the original, correct exposure.
6. Now underexpose your film by one stop by moving either your shutter speed to a faster speed or by moving your aperture to a smaller opening. The needle or meter will move toward the – sign.
7. Take the photograph.

You will have 3 photographs of the same thing. The only difference between the 3 will be the exposure.

Example with shutter speed:

1. You are photographing your cat sleeping.
2. Your meter reads f/8 at 1/125 as the correct exposure.
3. Take the photograph
4. Move the shutter speed from 1/125 to 1/60 to over expose the film one stop. The needle or meter will move to the + sign.
5. Take the photograph.
6. Move the shutter speed back to the correct setting.
7. Move the shutter speed from 1/125 to 1/250 to underexpose the film one stop. The needle or meter will move to the – sign.
8. Take the photograph.

Example with aperture:

1. You are photographing your cat sleeping.
2. Your meter reads f/8 at 1/125 as the correct exposure.
3. Take the photograph
4. Move the aperture from f/8 to f/5.6 to over expose the film one stop. The needle or meter will move to the + sign.
5. Take the photograph.
6. Move the aperture back to the correct setting.

7. Move the aperture from $f/8$ to $f/11$ to underexpose the film one stop. The needle or meter will move to the – sign.
8. Take the photograph.