



USE THIS CHECKLIST

“No wise pilot, no matter how great his talent and experience, fails to use his checklist.” ~ Charlie Munger

REMINDERS



- 1. Use your set up check list.** Check all settings and configurations. Give yourself extra set up time.
- 2. Variety is the spice of life!** Try for full length, 3/4, close up, turn.
- 3. Be mindful of your crops...** watch for off the backdrop or cropping too close!
- 4. Take time to troubleshoot** - if something doesn't look right fix it!
- 5. Know when to say when.** You won't get every kid: Try. Ask for favorite teacher, try again, then move on.
- 6. Build relationships** with everyone you come in contact with. Say hi to kids in the hall, greet parents and staff. Smile.
- 7. Have FUN.** Expression trumps everything else! 3 P's: Play, Pull out Personality, & then Pose.

You Got This!
I believe in You!
-Melissa

EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST



Camera Equipment

- Primary camera and lens
- Back-up camera and lens
- Memory Cards (min 32 GB/day)
- White Balance Filter or Target
- Neutral Density Filter (outside sessions)

Light Kit

- Strobes, Stands, Modifiers
- Transmitter (primary & back up)
- Extra batteries

Set

- Backdrop Stand
- Backdrop, Floor or Rug, Props and Furnishings
- Baby Basket and Blankets
- Rolling Stool
- Transport Cart

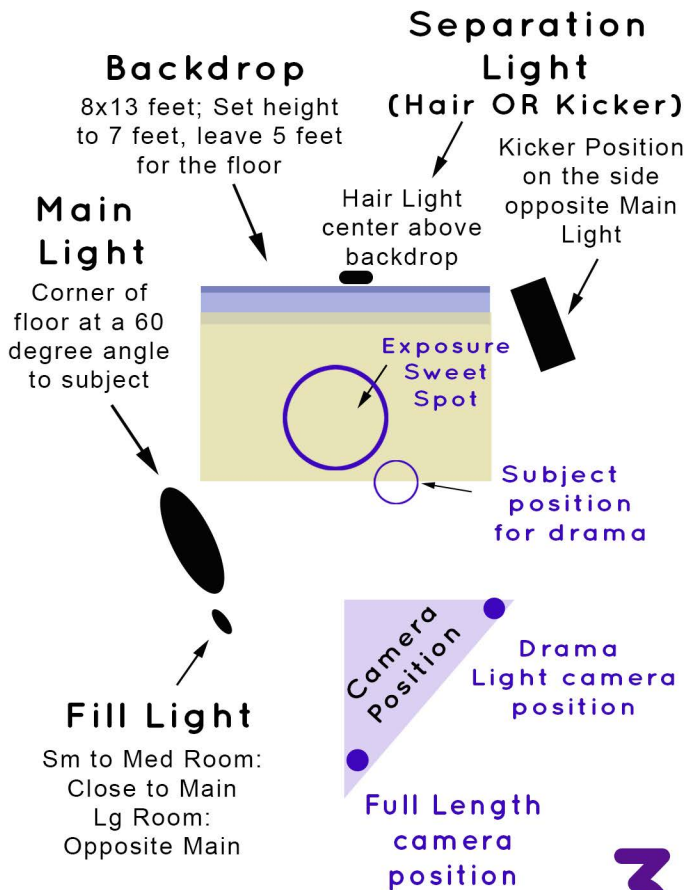
Emergency Kit

- Wipes, Combs, Attention Getters

Administrative Supplies

- Bar-codes, Folder, Pen
- Session notes, Schedule

STUDIO SET UP



baseline **STUDIO** settings



Studio Camera Settings

Mini-Session (Baseline)		Groups Need > DOF
Aperture: f5.6	File Size: Med Raw or CRaw *1	f8
SS: 1/160 *2	WB: Custom	SS: 1/160 *2
ISO 320 *8	LOCK: ON	ISO 640 *8
Focus Selection: Single Point or Eye Detection *6	Lens: 24-105 *7	Focus Selection: Multi Point *6

Studio Strobe Settings

Main Large Umbrella w Baffle	Fill Dome	Separation MagMod or Strip
1/8 Power	1/32 Power	1/8 Power
Aimed @ 60° to subject	Place behind peeking over main	Peek over backdrop
5 ft from subject @ corner of set - Unicorn Height	Aim dome @ ceiling	Aim at back of head *4
> distance for groups (add power)	Large Room w/o bounce- place opposite Main	OFF for people w/o hair



STUDIO SETTINGS NOTES



- *1 **Use full raw** for larger prints (custom sessions).
- *2 **Know Sync Speed** of your camera. Faster speeds create black band on images. 6D (1/160 or 6DMii 1/200 or R6 1/250)
- *3 **Large room** w/o bounce, place fill opposite main.
- *4 **Separation Light** can be placed as kicker (side) or hair (above)
- *5 **Proper lighting pattern** - use unicorn placement; strobe higher than eyes - ensure proper catch-lights.
- *6 **Focus Selection:** for sharp images
f5.6 & lower: SINGLE POINT
f8 & higher: Auto Multi-Point OK
- *7 **BACK UP - ZOOM IN!**
At wide angles things closer to the lens look larger than real life!
- *8 **Adjust ISO** as needed for proper exposure - check histogram on white balance image for proper exposure.



Shadow on Backdrop

1. Subject too close to backdrop
2. Fill light too powerful & or too directional.

Flat Lighting

1. Main & Fill lights are powered so they give the same amount of light on both sides of the face.
2. Camera position too close to the main light.
3. Your light is positioned directly in front of subject.

TIP: Lighting Pattern Problems

ISOLATE YOUR PROBLEM to help know what you are trying to solve!

Turn on main only... get your proper exposure & lighting pattern, then the fill and hair or kicker light.

STROBE TROUBLESHOOTING



Light Not Firing OR Frequent Misfires

1. Check Transmitter & Receiver are on the same channel.
2. Tighten or re-seat loose bulb.
3. Change channel.
4. Replace transmitter battery.
5. Replace damaged or burnt bulb.

Missing or Damaged Transmitter

1. Use back up transmitter
2. Use speed light on hot shoe to trigger (put AD200 in slave mode, F2 set to S1)

Light taking too long to recycle

1. Check for low battery on strobe.
2. Reduce power to increase recycle times
3. Strobe battery may be at end of its useful life and need replacing.

Weird things happening: settings changing by themselves, etc

1. Change channel - different channels seem to work better in different locations.
2. Update AD200 firmwear, contact manufacturer support.

2 OR 1 LIGHT SET UP



Main and the separation (no fill).

Good for small rooms. Walls will bounce the main light back on the subject and provide some fill light. You may also need to move the light further away from the subject to get acceptable lighting pattern.

Main and fill (no separation).

Good for larger rooms. Good for lighter backdrops. Your portraits will not have the nice hair or rim light, but they will still be pleasant and properly exposed.

Main (no fill, no separation).

Not optimal, but you are in survival mode, make it work!

Determine which light is missed least.

Retake custom white balance - light temperature will change, beware of possible color cast from walls.

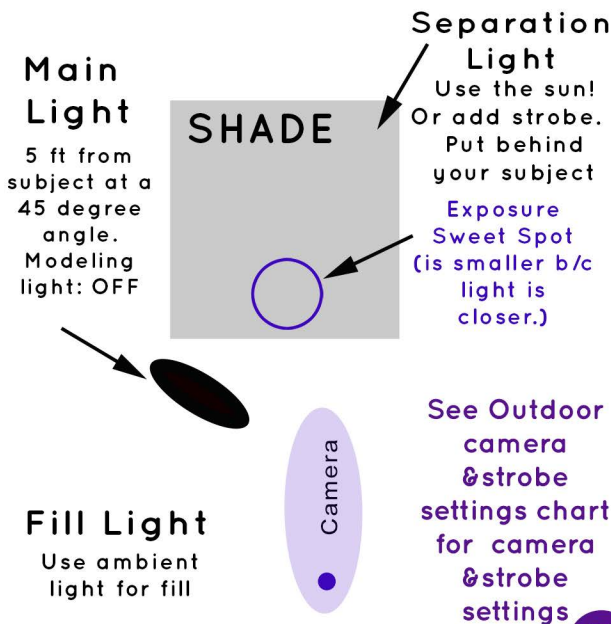


OUTDOOR SETUP



SET UP

1. SHADE, SHADE, SHADE!
(for session duration)
2. Uncluttered background
3. Sun Behind Subject
(or add separation light)





Outdoor Camera Settings

Campus Candids (Baseline)		Groups Need > DOF
Aperture: f4.0 (shallow DOF)	File Size: Med Raw or CRaw *1	f8
SS: 1/160 *2 *3	WB: Custom	SS: 1/160 *2
ISO 320 *7	LOCK: ON	ISO 640 *8
Focus Selection: Single Point or Eye Detection *6	70-200mm (@ 200mm for shallowest DOF)	Focus Selection: Multi Point *6

Outdoor Strobe Settings

Main Sm Enclosed Umbrella	Fill	Separation
1/8 Power	Ambient Light	Sun
Aimed @ 45° to subject	If more fill needed, bring main light more in front of subject	OR 1/4 Strobe Power
5 ft from subject @ corner of set Unicorn Height		Aimed @ back of head; watch for lens flair
> distance for groups (add power) *4		Small Modifier (Mag Mod)

OUTDOOR SETTING NOTES



- *1 **Use Full Raw** for larger prints (custom sessions).
- *2 **Know Sync Speed** of your camera. Faster speeds create black band on images 6D (1/160 or 6DMii 1/200 R6 1/250).
- *3 **Background too Dark?** Slow the shutter speed down to 1/60th. Steady camera. Subjects must be still.
- *4 **Groups (more people in scene)** - Increase distance between light & subject. Adjust exposure. (Increase strobe power, make aperture larger or slow shutter speed).
- *5 **Proper lighting pattern** - use unicorn placement; Light higher than eyes - ensure proper catch-lights.
- *6 **Focus Selection:** for sharp images
f5.6 & lower: SINGLE POINT
f8 & higher: Auto Multi-Point OK
- *7 **Adjust ISO** - for proper exposure if changing distance from strobe to subjects.
- *8 **Long lens** allows more zoom & shallower depth of field. Shorter focal length lens useful for wide angle needs - careful of distortion.
- *9 **Use NDF** for bright background. Increase strobe power to compensate.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING TROUBLESHOOTING



- 1. Flat Lighting:** Your light is in front of subject. OR fill light (sun) same or greater power as strobe. (Increase strobe power, adjust settings for proper exposure)
- 2. Black band on your images:** Slow shutter to at least 1/160
- 3. Image too “flash-y”:** need more ambient light, increase your ISO & decrease strobe power.
- 5. Background too dark:** add strobe for separation light or slow shutter speed to allow more ambient light- to 1/60. Steady camera, no moving subjects!
- 6. Eye not in focus** – use single point & hold focus on closest eye, then re-compose. Check for slow shutter speed. Too shallow DOF.

SRP PORTRAIT CHARACTERISTICS

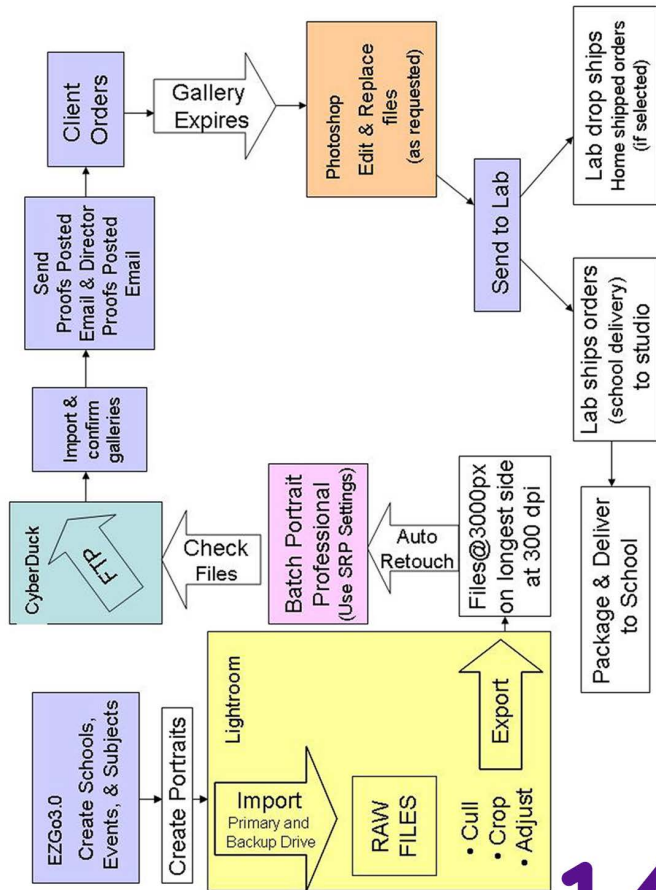


Authentic and E.P.I.C.

1. Is **Authentic** How subject would look on their very best day, Real Expressions- never contrived; Props and settings support subject.
2. Technically **Excellent** - properly exposed & color balanced, never over enhanced, flattering, directional lighting
3. Flattering **Posing** - natural and unforced, arms and legs should never be severed at a joint, for groups: subjects are balanced and share prominence
4. Is **Impactful** - Portrays emotion. Leaves a lasting impression.
5. Pleasing **Composition** - In most cases the rule of thirds should be used, no merge errors, allows for 8×10 and 4×6 crop.

Make each portrait A.E.P.I.C.!

WORKFLOW



“You are amazing, strong, brave,
wonderful, kind, & worthy.

You make the world
a better place!

YOU ARE LOVED!” ~Melissa

