

Canon EOS 300D (EOS Digital Rebel) digital SLR camera

Metering modes

The Canon EOS 300D (EOS Digital Rebel) digital SLR camera uses four different approaches to light metering (one of which has two variants, and one of which is rarely known to exist). These are automatically applied in accordance with (a) the current shooting mode, (b) whether the metering is for ambient or flash illumination, (c) whether the metering is done in the regular course of shooting or during a preliminary exposure lock, and (d) whether the lens is set to automatic or manual focus (AF or MF). The user has no control over metering mode other than through the choice of these operational alternatives. The assignment of modes is shown in the following table.

In the table, the metering modes are indicated as follows:

- Eval-F 35 segment evaluative, selected focus point emphasis [1]
- Eval-C 35 segment evaluative, center emphasis [1]
- Average 35 segment uniform average [not generally known to exist]
- CWA Center-weighted 35 segment average
- Partial Partial (central cross)

		Illumination			
		Ambient		Flash	
		Shooting mode		Shooting mode	
Metering	Focus	All but M	M	All but M	M
Regular	AF	Eval-F	CWA	Eval-F	Eval-C
Regular	MF	Eval-C	CWA	Average	Average
Lock [2]	AF	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial
Lock [2]	MF	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial

Notes:

[1] In evaluative metering, the system measures the scene luminance in each of 35 segments across the image frame, and uses an "intelligent" algorithm, known only to God, to draw conclusions about the distribution of luminance across the whole scene. In doing so, for the Eval-F form, "emphasis" is placed on a region surrounding each of the active focus points that is "selected" by the camera as apparently lying within the "main subject". In the Eval-C form, this emphasis is always on a region at the center of the image.

[2] Exposure lock: AEL (automatic exposure lock) if no flash unit is enabled (applies to ambient metering), FEL (flash exposure lock) if a flash unit is enabled (applies to flash metering).

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