

EMBRACING THE COLD

Casual and Action Photography

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Casual and Action Photography
Streetsville Ontario Canada
www.casualandactionphotography.com

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Embracing the cold

Cold weather photography has challenges on both your equipment and body but you can get some spectacular images if you take the proper precautions. Other than staying warm the next difficulty arises with the aspect of shooting snowy scenes and getting White snow.

Most Camera use a mid-grey metering system thus causing the snow on auto exposure to appear grey. The professional photographer uses a light meter and sets the camera controls accordingly – You could also use an 18% grey card held at arm's length away from the camera and angled so the light strikes the card on the same angle as the object then dial in the proper exposure.

Constantly check the setting as the sun changes position throughout the day.
Tips : Snowy scenes tend to have a bluish tint because of the reflection of the blue sky on the white snow- set your white balance to cloudy warm or attach a warming filter to the lens. Warming filters come in three stage 81A, 81B, 81C.

The next problem you will encounter in the cold is to keep the condensation off the camera

Never take the camera from the cold outside to a warm inside – allow it to come up to room temperature naturally. To help place the camera in a plastic bag squeeze the air out of the bag and let the camera sit until it becomes warm before opening the bag. For added protection you could add a silica gel bag to absorb the moisture.

Stay warm by dressing in layers , put a scarf over your mouth so you breath doesn't form ice crystals on the camera.

Tips: Make sure you batteries are fully charged and keep a spare set in your coat pocket.

Use lip balm or Vaseline to cover the metal parts of the camera that your skin might touch

Flat snow lacks contrast look for contours, tracks or shadows from uneven surfaces to add contrast. Straight snow scenes tend to look monopolist Add some colour with a person wearing a bright coloured jacket.

In conclusion Winter photography can be fun if you dress warm use the proper light settings and set up your shot accurately

Training Courses

<http://www.casualandactionphotography.com/training.html>