

BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY



Bird photography is challenging on many levels. As a beginning bird photographer, it's a good idea to practice the fundamentals of exposure and focusing on a fast moving object.

Perfect to print A5 size
14cm x 21cm / 5.83" x 8.27"

CHOOSE THE RIGHT SHOOTING MODE



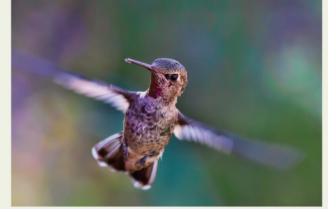
M MANUAL MODE

ISO 200 and f/11 is a good place to start. Manual mode works best (if you are familiar with it), in situations where the birds are semi-still, for example, resting on a branch.



A /AV APERTURE PRIORITY MODE

Start with an of ISO 200/400 and the widest aperture your lens has. This will allow a faster shutter speed to freeze the motion.

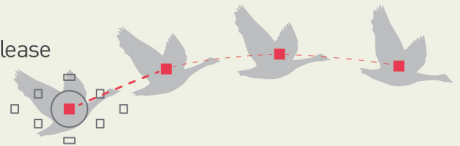


S /TV SHUTTER PRIORITY MODE

Set the ISO to 100 and a slower shutter speed: start with 1/30" to 1/125". Adjust to a faster shutter speed- depending on the level of blur that you want.

KEEP THE RIGHT FOCUS POINT

If your camera allows it, select the central focus point, and the focus tracking mode. Keep the shutter release button half press, as you follow the motion of the bird. Keep the focus on the same spot, and shoot when you like the composition or the background.



MIND THE BACKGROUND - CHECK THE HISTOGRAM



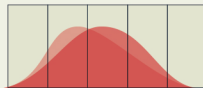
FOLIAGE BACKGROUND



If the background foliage is in the sunlight the histogram should peak toward the middle. If the foliage is in shadows- the peak will be off-center to the left. If not, move the exposure compensation one stop negative.



SKY BACKGROUND



Clear blue skies tend to show a centered peak in the histogram. If the sky is cloudy, the peak will slide off-center to the right. If not, up one stop of positive exposure compensation.