



Give Stanley a call for your next project at 770.998.3504 or email him at stanley@stanleyleary.com.

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Just a Speck

"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in someone else's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? – Matthew 7:3



Clayton State Student tries to keep secret about their new dorms.

We have all seen those Plavix ads where they show healthy people being destroyed by something as small as a pinhead. They show perfectly looking healthy people in the ads and then even as formidable as they are they couldn't stop something as small as drop of ink.

We learn how Plavix will help control blood clots. In photography, dust is the blood clot to the digital workflow. These specs become huge dark globs in our photos. While there is not a pill you can take to fight off dust there are some steps you can take to help prevent the dust slowing you down in your workflow.

We often see little imperfections in digital photos and many of us will just use the cloning tool or healing brush in PhotoShop to fix them. When the speck of dust gets onto the sensor this



An ecumenical Habitat for Humanity build located in Alpharetta, Georgia.

1. Attach a telephoto lens or zoom and set it at the longest focal length and smallest aperture.
2. Manually focus on the closest setting on the lens.
3. Using the manual setting set the exposure to one stop over the normal exposure. Photograph clear sky, white wall or white paper. Camera shake will not affect this at all, it will still reveal the specs of dust.
4. Ingest into your computer and increase the contrast to the highest—it will help reveal the dust.
5. View the image at 100% and review the entire image.

If you have no dust—great you are ready to go. If not then I recommend a few steps.

1. Use a hand blower to clear out

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Faith And The City
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ESPN.COM
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Fulcrum Construction

will mean every single photo you take will need to be fixed until that speck of dust is removed.



This is an example of dust on the sensor.

One of the things to help prevent dust problems is keeping the body cap or a lens on the camera at all times. Having a SLR camera dangling around your neck without a lens on it is the number one culprit of dust getting onto your lens. When changing lenses keep the lenses close by and ready to switch out.

Also, keep your camera bag clean. Storing your camera in a dust-filled bag will increase the problems with dust. Clean your lenses regularly as well—don't forget the rear element which goes next to the sensor.

Your camera is not airtight. Just zooming a lens can create a suction that pulls dust into the camera and onto the sensor. It is inevitable dust will get onto a sensor.



Giotto hand blower

the dust. Do not use compressed air as it can damage the sensor or camera. You need to read your camera manual on how to lock up the mirror and keep the shutter open to reveal the sensor for this.

2. After this step, I repeat the steps above to see if there is dust on the sensor. More than 50% of the time for me this works and I am done.

If you have dust at this point, I recommend having a professional clean it and most camera stores can help you find someone to do this locally for you. If you are comfortable with cleaning the camera here are a few more tips.



VisibleDust.com

1. You will need special brushes. Here is one website www.visibledust.com. These brushes have electrostatic charge that similar to products like Swiffer dusting products, which grab the dust.
2. Using a swab, which uses methanol, is another way to get rid of that dust. This company makes a disposable swab www.photosol.com. Occasionally we have all noticed when we dust those things like the glass in a picture frame still need cleaning. The methanol will clean the sensor and not leave streaks like water or other products often do.

If you do this every few weeks, you can avoid the computer cloning and healing spots on every image. This will help you

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Here is how you check it.

focus on the subject and not the speck
in your camera's eye.



**A child enjoys the rabbit at The Art
Barn in Canton, Georgia.**

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