

STANLEY LEARY

People & Location Photographer

Avoiding Motion Blur

www.StanleyLeary.com

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Client List

Associated Builders Contractors of Georgia
 American Die Technology
 American Power Conversion
 AmeriGlo
 Athlon Sports
 Atlanta Regional Commission
 Baptist Press
 Bank of America
 British Broadcasting Company
 Black Star Publishing
 Blessed Trinity High School
 Burke County Public Library, Inc.
 Burmeister Group
 Calvin Center
 Catholic News Service
 Celebrate Life International, Inc
 Chiropractic Economics
 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
 Corporate Legal Times
 Country Magazine
 Creative Publishing International
 Defenderworx LLC
 Delta Airlines
 Discovery Channel
 Drug Store News
 East Carolina University
 Enzymatic Deinking Technologies
 ESPN.COM
 Faith And The City
 Florida State University
 Fordham University
 Fulcrum Construction
 Galloway School
 Georgia Council of Chiropractic
 Georgia Southern University
 Georgia State University
 Georgia Tech
 Georgia Trial Lawyers Association
 GTP Enterprises Inc
 Hollywood Reporter
 Home Channel News
 International Mission Board, SBC
 It's for Vets
 Journal of Accountancy
 J. M. Huber Corporation
 Kennesaw State University
 Kenyon College
 Ladder to the Moon
 Landmark Christian School
 Lifeway Christian Resources
 Lind-Bergeron
 Marist Catholic School
 Media2K
 Medical Association of Atlanta
 Medical Economics Magazine
 Merchandise Mart
 Mississippi State University
 Molloy Communications
 Morning Glory Farms
 MSI International
 National Education Association
 National Basketball Association
 North American Mission Board
 North Carolina State University
 Old Dominion University
 Ohio State University
 Presbyterian Today
 Princeton University
 Reinhardt College

Avoiding Motion Blur



Country Magazine FEB/MAR 2006

Kodak has said the number one problem people have with their photos is attributed to camera movement.

There are a few things you can do to minimize or eliminate motion blur. The very best thing anyone can do to improve their photos is to use a tripod. Your tripod needs to be sturdy enough for the camera you are using. A small point and shoot camera can use a very small tripod, but a larger camera with a long telephoto lens will need a bigger tripod.

happen, but they are the exceptions which prove to the rule that slow shutter speeds demand camera support.

From the study of the pictures you will readily determine the point, in the range of exposure speeds, at which it is safe to hand-hold a camera; for slower speeds, obviously, a tripod is indicated.

You will need to repeat this test for different focal lengths. If you have a zoom try it at a wide-angle setting and then try it zoomed in setting.



Women's Health JAN/FEB 2006

Another way to control motion blur is to change the ISO setting. Try shooting 100, 400 and then maybe even 1600 ISO. The lower the number the better the quality of print, but sometimes we may have to sacrifice quality to get the image which is usable.

Robert Rytter & Associates
 Roni Hicks & Associates
 Sears & Roebuck
 St. John & Partners
 St. Joseph Catholic School
 Southern Catholic College
 Southern Seminary
 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
 SouthTrust Bank
 Sports Illustrated
 Stetson University
 Summit National Bank
 Sunny Crest Publishing
 SYNC Magazine
 The Community Institute, Inc.
 The Foundation Center
 The Georgia Bulletin
 The Saint Joseph's Mercy Foundation
 Thione International, Inc
 Travel Weekly Magazine
 Union University
 United Methodist News Service
 University Of Alabama Birmingham
 University of Maryland
 University Of Michigan
 University of Nations, Kona, Hawaii
 University Of Tennessee At Martin
 University of Virginia
 Upper Deck
 Vindigo
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Volleyball Magazine
 Wake Forest University
 WireImage
 Woodward Academy
 World Council Of Churches
 World Journalism Institute
 Yamacraw



Here is a great camera motion experiment which will help you determine how fast the shutter speed must be to eliminate blurred images resulting from motion of the camera when it is hand-held.



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You will need a camera with adjustable shutter speeds to do this. Focus the camera on a subject composed of many right angle, sharp lines. The side of a house at a distance of 30 feet from the camera is excellent for the purpose. Make exposures at all marked shutter speeds and adjust the aperture (*f*-number) in each instance to obtain correct exposure.

After you have transferred your photos to your computer examine the photos by zooming in on a detail. It will be readily noticeable that, as the shutter speed was increased, the lines became sharper and cleaner cut. You may discover that 1/2 second gave you sharper picture than 1/30. Put that down to sheer luck. Such accidents

Usable is always more important.

A tripod is by far the best investment for the amateur photographer. There are more reasons the tripod is a great investment than just motion blur alone.

You cannot be in a hurry and use a tripod. It takes a moment to put the camera on the tripod and even longer to get the legs set and finally adjusting so it is level for your picture taking. And actually this is why it is such a good investment. The slowing down and thinking through what you are doing will also make you pick your subjects more carefully.



Today's digital camera can make this a wonderful experience and you can watch yourself get remarkably better in minutes. Because the camera doesn't move while on the tripod the photographer can take advantage of trying different setting for the same scene and the one thing which isn't changing is the composition. You are just changing things like exposure. You may prefer the darker image and by using the tripod to keep everything constant allows you to pick the best exposure for your taste.

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