

Canon EOS 300D (EOS Digital Rebel) Digital SLR Camera

Metering modes

The Canon EOS 300D (EOS Digital Rebel) digital SLR camera uses six different approaches to light metering. These are automatically applied in accordance with (a) the current shooting mode, (b) whether the metering is of ambient or flash illumination (both being involved in a flash shot), (c) whether the metering is done in the regular course of shooting or during a preliminary exposure lock (AEL or FEL), 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; the symbols are my own:

Eval-F	35-segment evaluative, selected focus point(s) emphasis
Eval-C	35-segment evaluative, center emphasis [1]
E-TTL	35-segment evaluative through-the-lens flash metering [2]
Average	35-segment uniform average (only applies to flash metering)
CWA	35-segment center-weighted average
Partial	Partial (central cross only measured)

		Metering			
		Ambient illumination [3]		Flash illumination (if applicable) [3]	
		Shooting mode		Shooting mode	
Metering	Focus	All but M	M	All but M	M
Regular	AF	Eval-F	CWA	E-TTL	E-TTL
	MF	Eval-C	CWA	Average	Average
Exposure lock (AEL or FEL)		for AEL (available only if no flash enabled) [4]		for FEL (available only if flash enabled) [4]	
	AF	Partial (ambient form)		Partial (flash form)	
	MF	Partial (ambient form)		Partial (flash form)	

Notes:

[1] This differs from the normal Evaluative metering mode (called here Eval-F) in that "emphasis" is always on an area in the center of the frame rather than on an area around each "selected" focus point.

[2] The metering pattern for E-TTL is essentially the same as for Evaluative ambient metering (Eval-F), and emphasizes the area around the "selected" focus point(s).

[3] With a flash enabled, both ambient and flash metering operations are performed.

[4] Exposure lock (AEL or FEL) is only available in Creative Zone shooting modes; metering does not vary by shooting mode.

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