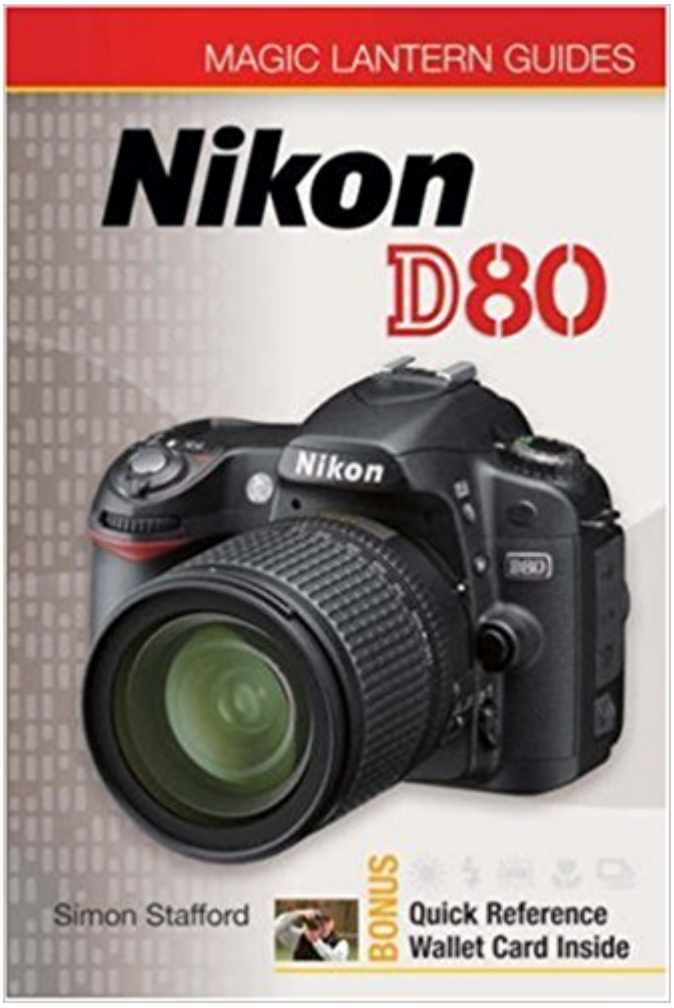
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Magic Lantern Guides: Nikon D80



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Synopsis

The new, mid-priced Nikon D80 replaces the Nikon D70s/D70—which was the subject of our best-selling Magic Lantern Guide ever! This model features a 10 megapixel sensor, up-sized 2.5Ã¢â ¬Â• LCD monitor, and 4.5 fps capability.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 181 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,166,742 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 inÃ Â Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Reference #501 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Handbooks & Manuals #901 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Equipment, Techniques & Reference > Equipment

Customer Reviews

This book was recommended by my photography teacher at the local technical college. I had to buy a used copy to get one, but he highly recommended it. Maybe he set my expectations too high, but I wasn't impressed. The book has some good pictures, but is not organized in a user/dummy friendly manner. It took me longer to find something in the book than just clicking through the settings on the camera. I love my camera, but there has been a learning curve for me. Unfortunately I didn't find this book to be the answer to catching me up.

.I purchased the D3 as a used item. The seller provided the original manual with the item. The manual was difficult to navigate and understand. The guide explained each feature clearly and concisely in a way that a non-techie could understand. I have not completed reading it as yet, but the portions which I have read were very informative and edifying. I would recommend this item to everyone who is a first time owner of the D3.

I’ve bought the D80, D90, and now D700 Magic Lantern Guides;Very detailed, excellent tips, clear explanation, and significant effort to add value beyond the information readily availalbe in the Manual; although not as important as the content, I always felt the presentation a bit trite/lack-luster - because all illustrations/pictures were in black and white - but not anymore! Wow, with nice relevant color picture, and great accompaning text this is a fantastic guide! I usually buy 2 to 3 books for every camera I buy; but I only could keep one, this would be it!

If you own this camera, are a novice photographer, you need this book

I think the other reviewers don’t understand the rating system - 1 star bad, 5 stars good.Although there is some useful information in this book, overall it is full of errors, poorly organized, and doesn’t provide much more than the manual considering the number of pages and the price ($20 list).Here are a few problems:- Black and white photos - that alone should tell you how much faith the publishers have in the book. They didn’t want to invest a lot in it knowing how bad it was.- Following the White Balance topic is White Balance Bracketing. The latter includes the steps for setting White Balancing but NOT Bracketing.- In the chapter Quick Start-up guide he gives a couple of paragraphs on each of the Vari-Program modes. But the next chapter on Detail he goes right into White Balancing without mentioning which mode you can use. This is common through out the book.- He constantly refers to the menu options by name. Why didn’t they include the icons for designating the menu options as they do refering to non-menu items?- Speaking of icons and errors, the icon is wrong on page 119 for selecting the histogram.- He tried to fill pages with information that was already in the manual such as several pages on how to install the battery and the memory card.- There are plenty of typos like you instead of your, repeated words, missing spaces, much, much more.- page 90 shows a list of how many pictures can be in the buffer. On the left under quality it shows JPEG Large which should be Fine.With the number of errors in the book I question the accuracy of the information and suggestions by the author. The topics are not organized well enough to be used as a reference. It’s almost as if he sat and rambled into a recorder and gave it off to someone to type up. Not much thought was put into how the information was presented.What I was really hoping for and what is drastically missing is how the different features could be used to affect the photos. Examples (which would have to be in color) of the same scene with different settings. What settings to use in different situations, etc. There are a lot of features in this camera but putting them to use can be overwhelming.I gave it 2 stars as I did get a

little out of it but I had to wade through a lot to find it.

I really dislike these Magic Lantern guide, but I keep buying them since they are much easier to understand than the awful manuals that Nikon produces. This guide for the D700 is the same. I leave it on my camera table to look up settings from time to time, but found that beyond the manual itself, the "opinions and experienes" of the writer are actually relatively flawed.One instance is the authors discussion of the battery -- the writer says they got about 300 shots from the battery -- the exact same wording the writer used in his D300 Magic Lantern guide...in fact, a lot of this book is just template copy and paste from the D300 book. BUT....that is wrong. I am getting 1600-2000 shots from a single battery charge on my D700, and easily got almost 2400 per battery charge on my D300...It's okay for what it is worth, but there are better guides out there at this point.

This book is certainly more useful than the factory supplied manual. The book starts by providing an over-view of the camera's features. Then the myriad of features and functions are generally quickly, accurately, and thoroughly explained; item by item. After the functions are explained, possible applications are referenced. The book is an essential item for several reasons. This camera is extremely complicated. Many settings are only occasionally used and one will not remember how to access them. Finally, some settings need to be exited from in a very specific manner or they will affect future exposures. Lastly, the book is small and easy to carry along with you if necessary. No matter how proficient you think you are, the multitude of functions built into this camera are impossible to negotiate without a book such as this. The book does a good job of breaking down complicated procedures into basic useful elements. Hope this helps evaluate your future need for this book.

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