

Instructions

The Lastolite Ezybalance is a versatile grey card system, which has many uses for both conventional and digital cameras.

1) 'Point and Shoot' Function – typically used in product photography the point and shoot function ensures photos are correctly exposed i.e. removes grey tones to give a bright, well exposed shot. It will also colour correct to give more accurate colour replication. This function can be used in two ways:

- a) In fluorescent light (3500k+), HID, HDI & HMI bulbs and daylight:

- i) Simply set camera to auto.



- ii) Frame shot.
iii) Place Ezybalance on object.
iv) Half depress shutter. Ensure Ezybalance completely fills the view finder.



- v) Remove Ezybalance.
vi) Shoot.

- b) In tungsten light:

- i) Set white balance (refer to camera manual).
ii) Follow instructions above from ii).



Poorly exposed photo, taken in Tungsten light

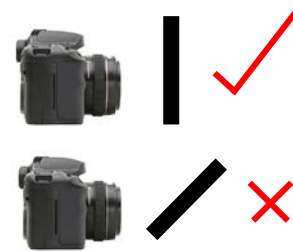


Perfect exposure, focus and improved colour replication

Using Ezybalance Sets – follow the 'point and shoot function' instructions as above for each of the different grey surfaces. Then compare all three images on a screen and select the best one.

2) Colour correction (post capture). If you want to adjust colours accurately when you are short of time while shooting :-

- a) Position Ezybalance so that there is no direct light on it ensuring it is in the same plane as the subject to camera.



- b) Take photo with grey card in shot and then repeat without the grey card. This would need to be done with each variation in light conditions, for example, indoors or outdoors.

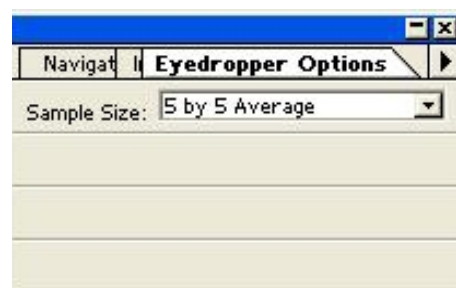
- c) In photo imaging package Adobe Photoshop™, select an area of grey card.



- d) Apply Gaussian blur in filters' section of Adobe Photoshop™ and deselect.



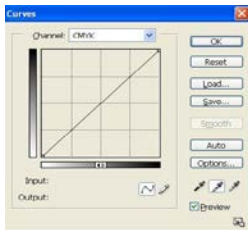
- e) Pick eye dropper and set to 5 by 5 average.



- b) Use a light meter to take a reflective reading off the Ezybalance and then set camera as indicated by the light meter.

- f) Click on to image / adjust / curves

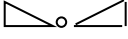
Apply the middle dropper (grey) to the treated part of the Ezybalance and press ok.



- g) In some versions of Adobe™, this action can be saved and applied to a group of images simultaneously allowing each setting to be adjusted via batch processing.

3) White Balance (pre - capture).

For accurate colour rendition, first follow instruction 2a) using either the grey or the white side of the Ezybalance.

Point the camera so that the viewfinder is filled only with the Ezybalance. Find the white balance function on your camera. Use the custom white balance (often shown as  symbol) and follow the camera instructions. Remember to rebalance in each lighting circumstance.

4) Exposure Control.



Getting a scene like the once above correctly exposed can be difficult. What do you want to take the exposure of - the sky, the mountains, or foreground? The Ezybalance will expose the image accurately.

- a) Using the camera's light meter

Set the aperture of the camera with the Ezybalance sitting near the principal subject, but without direct light shining on the card. Fill the screen with the grey Ezybalance and take a camera reading. Recompose and set the speed as previously indicated. Remove the Ezybalance and shoot.

5) The white side can also act as a small reflector.