

DIGITAL
COMPACT

BRIDGE
CAMERA

DSLR



Total Picture Control

B. BoNo Novosad

From Snapshots to **Great Shots**
with DSLR, compact & bridge camera

Take a total picture control

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Who is this book intended for?

This book is intended for all the enthusiastic owners of digital cameras, regardless of their age and level of education.

It could be your first book about photography. My intention as the author - and a teacher of photography - is to encourage your interest in photography.



The ability to take pictures is a creative skill of a cultural educated person.

Why should I read this book?

In today's modern world of digital technology it is usual that you take into your hands a mobile phone, a smartphone, a tablet, a digital compact, bridge or a DSLR camera and you try to make a good photo.

You rely on the amazing abilities of the intelligent electronics. You have been convinced that "it makes photos itself!".

Despite the great advertising, the created photos do not meet your expectations. You are disappointed. You look for a way to make things right. You ask your friends, search on the internet, buy books.

Today's books about photography are full of amazing pictures, quick guides and guaranteed tricks to make perfect photos. Some authors offer a quick response: "Hey Scott, how should I take a picture of this flower?" - "Just look in the right way and do this with your camera..." They don't deal with explaining the basic concepts, they go straight to the point.

These authors have (unfortunately) already forgotten how they learned to make photos. They have forgotten how they obtained their particular abilities. They describe taking pictures as something natural. They say that "it is enough to have eyes", after all it's that simple. You are impressed by their instructions. You try their tricks but the magic disappears.

Once again you remain alone with these unanswered questions:



How should I get rid of the automatic mode?

What should I set up so that the photos meet my expectations?

In this book we will answer the questions that keep troubling a beginning photographer like you.

How to learn to take pictures?

Photography, like other skills of people, consists of sequential abilities, steps. These lead a person to his/her overall ability to create or control something.

How do you acquire these skills?

Just remember, for example, how you learned to ride a bike in childhood. At first you didn't know where to put your feet, what to do with your hands, how to strike the pedals and maintain your balance and direction at the same time. You were falling, it was difficult for you. However, little by little you involved different activities of this skill into a whole. And suddenly, hop! You gained control of riding and started enjoying the speed and graceful movements. From that moment on you will never forget how to ride a bike.

Over some time, it is you who gives advice about cycling to a beginner and you wonder: "What does that clumsy one do with his/her legs? Why does he/she often lean on one side and loses his/her balance? I mean, riding a bike is so easy!"

Now think of the tricks and tips of the authors of the books on photography that I have mentioned. Do you want to be able to take pictures? Just look in the right way and press the release, I mean, it's so easy! These authors have already forgotten how many little steps they had to do before they learned to take pictures. Today, it is nothing more for them than one complex skill which they control. And they wonder how come that the others do not understand it.

Do you understand now how learning works?

As a teacher of photography I can see the difficulties in making the first steps on a daily basis. Knowing how to gradually join these steps into a whole is difficult until the right moment comes and you'll suddenly know how to make a good photograph.

In this book I will give you tips on how easy it is **to learn to take pictures in a step-by-step way**. I will acquaint you with my method of teaching. It is simple, perhaps it will surprise you. It is based on remembering a few questions, on being able to ask them yourself always at the right moment and on being able to answer them correctly according to the situation.

I am offering you a step-by-step teaching method through which I have been successfully teaching the beginning photographers for five years. I have named this method the "Total Picture Control".

Find out how to get the content of your photographs under control.

The advantages of your first book about photography

- It makes use of all the possibilities of e-books and e-readers
- The text includes interactive links to the sources of information or to other locations within this e-book
- The interpretation of the professional issues is given in a form of simple questions and answers
- It includes practical illustrated instructions
- The examples and exercises are presented in a step-by-step way. Thus you can easily understand all the essential photographic techniques and procedures
- It includes an online illustrated appendix with photographs in high resolution
- It includes an online glossary of technical terms
- The method of interpretation and the difficulty of the explained issues are adapted to the **LEVEL 000** - For beginning photographers
- This book is a part of a comprehensive edition of textbooks for all levels of photographic skills

About the Author



B. BoNo Novosad (1964)

A photographer, photography teacher and entrepreneur. He has been dealing with photography and photographic techniques since 1980. In 1988 he graduated from the Technical University with an engineering degree. Since that time he has worked as a freelance photographer. In 2008 he founded his School of Digital Photography where he works as a chief lecturer and a teacher of photography.

In 2010 he created a method of teaching photography and a series of textbooks on photography both entitled the "Total Picture Control".

Using this method he gives photographic classes and lectures and writes textbooks on photography. He works in Prague and Bratislava.

Acknowledgements

I thank my students for the questions asked during the courses and lectures. They help me to better understand the problems of the beginning photographers which contributed to the creation of the "Total Picture Control" method of teaching photography, as well as to the creation of this e-book.

B. BoNo Novosad

Online appendix to this book

I hold to the principle that the essential ability of a photographer is to express things through images. All the photos in this book are very important for understanding the studied issues.

The possibilities of some e-readers when displaying photos may be limited. Therefore, all the photos contained in this book can also be found in a special online appendix.

If your e-reader has a web browser, to visit the online appendix [click here](#).

The online appendix can also easily be visited by entering this simple URL address in the web browser of your PC:

<http://www.to-pi-co.com/fris-en>

What will you find in the online appendix?

- All the photos in high resolution
- Photos with the true colour rendition
- Photos logically grouped into photo galleries
- Photos used in the illustrative examples and exercises are arranged in the step-by-step way

Other things you will find in the online appendix:

- Bonus photos which are not published in this e-book
- Photos showing the backstage preparation of examples and exercises
- Unique "behind the scenes" photos on which you can see and learn "how the things were photographed"

A short online glossary of technical terms

As a bonus I am offering you a short, online glossary of the technical terms that I use in the explanatory part of each of my textbooks.

The important terms and expressions in the text of this book are highlighted as interactive links to the online glossary. If you find a term or an expression in the text that is new to you, try to look it up in the online glossary on the website www.total-picture-control.com

If you want to visit the online glossary, just visit this short and simple URL address:

<http://www.to-pi-co.com/glossary>

The entries in the online dictionary have been carefully chosen and complemented by the appropriate photographs and illustrations in cooperation with our fellow graphic-designers and programmers. The entries are arranged according to the topic and level of knowledge.

Disclaimer

With respect to the situations that involve some degree of uncertainty or risk, read carefully the following warnings before purchasing this e-book:

Make sure that the level of your knowledge really meets the requirements stated above and that you can set and control the required functions on your camera.

In order to master the techniques successfully and to achieve the proper results of the practical exercises described in this e-book it is necessary that

your camera allows you to adjust the settings of at least the following basic photographic parameters:

- **Sensitivity of the image sensor (ISO)**
- **Value of the shutter speed (S, Tv)**
- **Value of the F-number (A, Av)**
- **White balance (WB)**

Make sure in advance that the enumerated parameters are really available on the camera you want to use while studying these photographic techniques and working on the practical exercises and that the camera allows you to control them. The procedures described in this e-book are definitely not a substitute for the basic user procedures indicated in the basic user manual supplied by the camera manufacturer.

Before you start following the procedures and practising the exercises presented in this e-book, study carefully the basic user manual of your camera.

Before purchasing this e-book, make sure that your camera belongs to the class for which this e-book is intended.

Furthermore, familiarize yourself closely with the disclaimer statement of the authors and the publisher.



If your camera does not meet the above mentioned basic requirements, your user experience does not correspond to the level of knowledge mentioned above, you disagree with a provision in the disclaimer statement of the author and the publisher - **do not buy this e-book!**

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Currently granted license allows the purchaser to:

Use this book only for the purpose of personal education.

Symbols used in this book and their meaning

In each of my interpretation, in each of my books I prefer the graphic and visual way of expressing to the complex and extensive text.

In your first book about photography I have also chosen the way of expressing through simple and easy-to-remember symbols.

Basic information



Motto



Warning



Tip



Advice



Control question



Weblink

Information about the distance



Stand close (within a small distance)



Stand at a normal distance (maintain a common distance)



Stand at a long distance

Properties of a lens



Wide-angle lens



Normal lens



Telephoto lens

Changing the parameters, setting the functions



Basic dial



Changing the value of a parameter



Selecting from the menu of the device

TIP 7

Make use of the properties of the aperture

Let's accompany our tourists to the edge of a volcanic lake Kerið in the Grímsnes area in the south of Iceland.



[img. 7-1](#) - [Canon EOS 5D, EF 24-105/4L IS USM na 85mm, 1/100s, F6.3, ISO 100, Author: BoNo (c)2011]

What F-number should I use?

Together we will do several photos of the whole lake. I have advised our friends what settings to adjust on their cameras so that all the photos are perfectly sharp. Take a look at the result. In the first photo everything is sharp indeed. In this view of the lake, however, you can hardly estimate how big the lake is and how far away in front of us it is situated.



[img. 7-2](#) - [Canon EOS 5D, Carl Zeiss Flektogon 2,8/20mm, 1/80s, F9.0, ISO 200, Author: BoNo (c)2011]

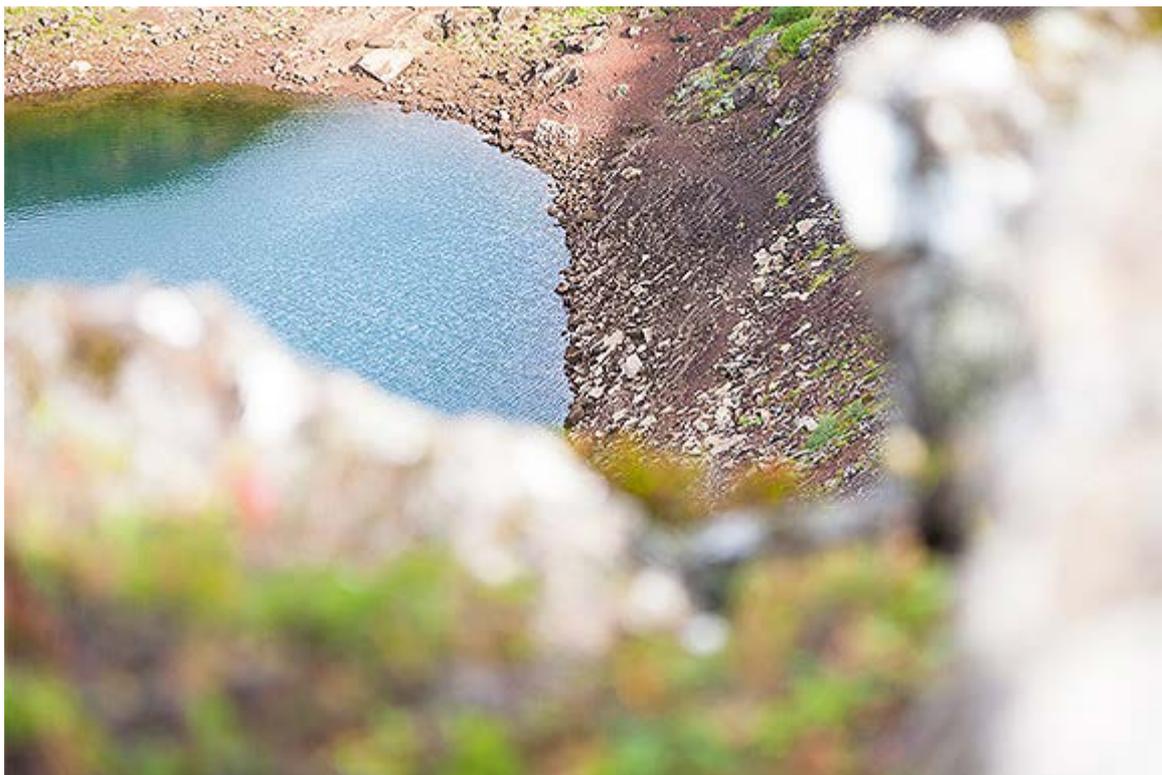
With the second photo, I have advised the tourists to insert on purpose also a piece of the edge of the crater into the composition of the picture. In this way you get the impression that the lake is far from the edge of the crater. However, no detail will catch your eyes considerably. You are perceiving the image as a whole.



[img. 7-3](#) - [Canon EOS 5D, Carl Zeiss Flektogon 2,8/20mm, 1/100s, F9.0, ISO 200, Author: BoNo (c)2011]

Looking at the lake from the edge of the crater, let's now try to choose a detail and draw the viewer's

attention to it. I have advised the tourists how to change the camera settings. Together, we have made three photographs showing a detail of the rocks at the edge of the crater. Take a look at the first photo.



[img. 7-4](#) - [Canon EOS 5D, EF 70-200/2.8L IS USM na 100mm, 1/200, F4.0, ISO 100, Author: BoNo (c)2011]

What did your eyes rest on? On the surface of the lake in the distance.



[img. 7-5](#) - [Canon EOS 5D, EF 70-200/2.8L IS USM na 100mm, 1/200, F4.0, ISO 100, Author: BoNo (c)2011]

Where did your eyes stop at in the second photo? On the detail of the rocks in the middle of the picture.



[img. 7-6](#) - [Canon EOS 5D, EF 70-200/2.8L IS USM na 100mm, 1/200, F4.0, ISO 100, Author: BoNo (c)2011]

What can you perceive in the third picture? Your eyes were drawn by a rock on the right edge of the picture. Are you asking what caused such changes in the content of the images? What camera settings have I advised to our tourists? Is it possible to achieve a completely sharp photograph of a large area around the lake only by choosing the proper camera settings? Are you asking what has changed in the camera settings if in the last three photographs only a certain part of the picture is in focus?

When creating these photographs I reminded our friends about the [TIP 3](#) and [TIP 5](#) and I explained them how to set the F-number.

Remember: if you want to decide whether the entire photograph will be sharp or vice versa - whether only a certain part of it will be sharp, you must always ask yourself this question: **What F-number should I use?**



Concentrate on the effects of the F-number. Thus you will create sharp or blurred places in your photos exactly according to your decision.

How to proceed correctly in practice?

At the end of this tip you are certainly wondering how the photos by the volcanic lake Kerið were created.



[img. 7-7](#) - [Olympus E-520, Zuiko 70-300mm f/4.0-5.6 ED na 70mm, 1/320s, F5.6, ISO 100, Author: Ján Vošček, ASDF (c)2011]

Are you asking how to correctly proceed in practice in order to create different image sharpness and not to rely on the automatic functions of your camera to achieve it?

I will briefly familiarize you with my step-by-step way of teaching the photographic techniques in my textbooks for real photographers:

To make the pictures of the whole crater with the lake (the first two pictures) I have used:



A wide-angle lens with the focal length of 20 mm



I have set the F-number value to F9,0

To make the pictures of the detail of the rocks I have used:



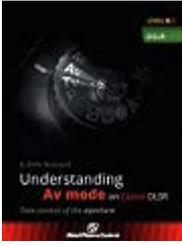
A telephoto lens with the focal length of 200 mm



I have set the F-number value to F2,8 and I was changing the focus area



I will teach you everything about the effects of aperture value in following e-books:



[Understanding Av mode on Canon DSLR - Take control of the aperture](#)

A photography e-book dedicated to correct setting of an aperture on your Canon DSLR, which will make you understand all aspects of an aperture in the digital photography step by step.



[Understanding A mode on Nikon DSLR - Take control of the aperture](#)

A photography e-book dedicated to correct setting of an aperture on your Nikon DSLR, which will make you understand all aspects of an aperture in the digital photography step by step.

Appendix 1

Climb to the top of your photographic knowledge



Your next steps

Did you like our photo trip? Did the tips that I gave to the tourists also help you? Do you want to continue your education? Do you want to become a real, educated photographer and to set out on a journey to perfect photograph? Are you asking what should your next steps on this journey be?

If you found my advice and tips interesting, let me offer you the textbooks for real photographers. For the beginning photographers I recommend the following titles from the Total Picture Control edition:

LEVEL 

Textbooks for beginning photographers

LEVEL 

Textbooks on the fundamental knowledge in the digital photography

LEVEL 

Textbooks on advanced photographic techniques and thematic textbooks

LEVEL 

Textbooks on master techniques in the digital photography

In accordance with the difficulty of the issues in question and the methods of interpretation, the textbooks are divided into these levels. Each topic in question contains examples and exercises presented in a step-by-step way through which you will easily understand (and learn) all the important photographic techniques and procedures.

Remember my advice from the [TIP 2](#).

It is very important, so I will give it to you again: **The quality of a photographer is not determined by his/her equipment but by his/her knowledge.**

If you want to become a really good photographer remember the following:



A good photograph is intended for the audience to applaud you.

A failed photograph is intended for you! A photographer learns from mistakes.

Appendix 2

Glossary of terms



A good photographer is not born - a good photographer grows on knowledge!

Have you come across an expression which you did not understand while reading your first book on photography? Visit the online glossary of terms compiled according to the Total Picture Control teaching method:

www.to-pi-co.com/glossary/level-0

Terms that you haven't found in this glossary

The terms that you haven't found in the online glossary or in the image attachment to this book can be found in other textbooks for real photographers from the Total Picture Control edition.

Choose from a range of our textbooks and you will surely find the explanation of a term that you have been looking for.

www.total-picture-control.com

What is Total Picture Control?

Total Picture Control as a teaching method

As a teacher of photography I am constantly faced with the fact that a beginning photographer understands photographing as a question of setting the camera correctly. He/she dedicates all the time and energy to studying of instructions for use, checking the discussion forums on the internet and reading books about photography whose authors have (unfortunately) already forgotten how they learned their individual skills and who describe photographing as something natural, claiming that it is enough to have eyes.

It is very difficult to learn how to take pictures in the right way and to understand this comprehensive ability of a person at once. That's why I have divided the teaching of these comprehensive skills into several simple steps. I have formulated the right procedure to do these steps into 6 simple questions.

I have named this method of teaching the "Total Picture Control". Using this method I have been teaching photographic classes and giving specialized lectures, in which thousands of beginning photographers, irrespective of their gender and age, have taken part.

Now I am offering you the most comprehensive edition of textbooks on photography created by this method:

Total Picture Control is a complete edition of textbooks about photographing.

Under the title Total Picture Control I am offering you a complete edition of textbooks about photography. Such an edition cannot be found in the offer of any other publisher. What makes it so unique?

- The textbooks are classified into levels according to their degree of knowledge - from beginner to master level.
- The individual titles are interlinked within the same level of knowledge according to the discussed topics.
- The titles are also interlinked in the growing level depending on the extent of knowledge.
- The titles are offered individually or grouped into sets – in this way you can get a complete set of knowledge and, of course, for a bargain price!

Educate yourself! Reach to the top of the photographic knowledge - The Total Picture Control is your right way to the top!



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