

lingo

depth of field: The zone of an image that **appears** in focus. It is greater at smaller apertures, and with wider angle lenses. It also changes with print size (what appears sharp at 4x6 may be “soft” when enlarged to 11 x 14.)

f-stop (aka. aperture): Opening in lens that lets light through. Usually adjusted by thin blades in the lens. The smaller the number, the larger the opening.

fast (lenses): Lenses having a large maximum aperture. More expensive than **slow** lenses.

ISO (aka. film speed): Film’s sensitivity to light. The higher the number, the more silver in the emulsion of the film, the faster, grainier and more expensive it is.

opening up (the lens): Making the aperture of the lens larger, thus doubling the light exposing your film. Opposite of **stopping down (the lens)**.

SLR: Single lens reflex camera. You look through the viewfinder and see the image through the lens of the camera. Usually found on 35mm. “professional” cameras with interchangeable lenses.

stopping down (the lens): Making the aperture of your lens smaller, thus halving the amount of light exposing your film, while increasing the depth of field. Opposite of **opening up (the lens)**.

shutter: A device built into lens or camera which controls the amount of time film (or CCD on digital camera) is exposed to the light entering through lens. The smaller the number (ie. 1/500th vs. 1/250th) the faster the shutter speed. The shutter in SLRs is located just in front of the film (and is EXTREMELY delicate).

synch (synchronization): The fastest shutter speed on a camera that allows a flash to fully expose film.