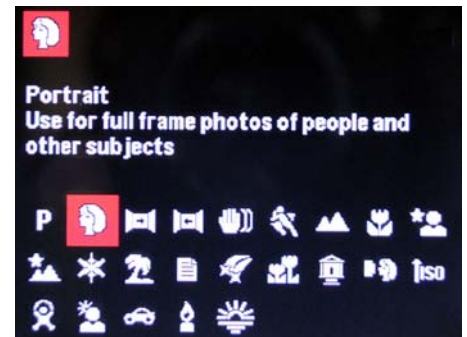


The Main Control

The Mode Dial (or menu)

The mode control is the main control for your camera. It is ***the most important control*** because what you choose for the mode tells the camera's computer how to take and process the picture.



Three kinds of mode, or main control dials. There are hundreds of cameras "out there," so the control on your camera will probably look different. The good news is that they all work the same way.

A digital mode menu instead of a mode dial must be accessed through the camera's Menu control. This one has 23 scenes.

What the modes do

Auto, iA: The camera controls *everything* it can: shutter speed, aperture, ISO, white balance, focus, and flash. Auto is the "shoot and hope for the best" mode.

P (Program): In Program mode the computer picks a balanced combination of shutter speed and aperture to make the exposure.

Best for creative control


Not all cameras have these:


A or Av (Aperture): You set the aperture to control the depth-of-field of how much is in focus, and the camera picks the shutter.


S or Tv (Shutter): You set the shutter speed to stop or blur motion, and the camera picks the aperture.


M (Manual): You pick both the aperture and shutter speed, and make sure the exposure is correct.


SCN (Scene) modes are pre-programmed to expose the particular scene. If you don't have A, S, or M, they are the next best.

 **Portrait:** Selects a large aperture to help blur out the background.

 **Landscape:** Selects a small aperture to make wide scenes with foreground and background objects sharp and in focus.

 **Sports:** Selects a fast shutter speed to stop fast moving action, including cars, pets, wildlife — anything moving fast.

 **Macro:** Adjusts the focus for super close up.

 **Night:** Sets a slow shutter speed for capturing lights at night. May or may not flash to light up people in the foreground.

And many more...