

Quick Camera Guide: PD 150/170

Menu Settings (Pre-shoot set up):

The reason to set up your camera prior to a shoot is to A) give yourself flexibility and control in the shoot, and B) to make your life easier in post- namely avoiding timecode breaks.

To enter the camera menu, turn the camera on, press the **[Menu]** button on the side (located under the LCD), and press the wheel at the back of the camera to select the controls you want. Here are the basic suggested settings:

- TC SET: TC FORMAT: NDF, TC RUN: REC RUN, TC MAKE: REGEN
- MANUAL SET: AUTO-SHUTTER: OFF, PROGRESSIVE SCAN: OFF
- CAMERA SET: DIGITAL ZOOM: OFF, STEADYSHOT: ON
- LCD/VF SET: LCD B.L.: BRT NORMAL, GUIDEFRAME ON
- TAPE SET: REC MODE: (DEPENDS ON TAPE), AUDIO MODE: FS48,
- AUDIO SET: AGC OFF AND MAN GAIN: SEPARATE.
- ETC/OTHERS: RUN COLOR BAR FOR FIRST 30 SEC OF EVERY TAPE

Camera Controls:

With digital cameras the key to having a smooth shooting experience is balancing manual and automatic controls. In general, you want total control over your image, but sometimes using the automatic options are the quickest path to that end. Make sure the **[Auto Lock]** button on the back of the camera is off (in the middle setting).

- WHITE BALANCE: Press **[White Bal]** button on back of camera. Turn wheel until a "square in a valley" symbol appears. Fill the frame with a white object (preferably a blank piece of paper) in the area that you're shooting. Hold down the wheel until the symbol stops flashing and the white object you're shooting appears white.
- FOCUS: All controls located toward the front left of the camera as well as the foremost ring on the camera. Set **[FOCUS]** to **[MAN]**, zoom in close to the subject you want in focus, **[PUSH AUTO]** button. That distance will remain in focus. When subject moves, you can press the **[PUSH AUTO]** button while keeping the subject central in the frame, or try to manually adjust the focus ring.
- EXPOSURE: The **[IRIS]** control is located just behind the **[FOCUS]** controls. Press it and turn the wheel just in front of the button to control your aperture. For best results, zoom in to the subject you need exposed correctly. You can also have the camera decide for you by zooming in to the subject and de-selecting the **[IRIS]** button. Press again to lock and return to manual control.
- OTHER CONTROLS TO KNOW: GAIN, SHUTTER SPEED, ZEBRA, CUSTOM PRESET

Audio Controls:

The main thing to remember about audio is to make sure you have two channels of audio recording, and that you "stair step" (set one channel high, say -12dB and other other low, say -20dB) those channels so you can be prepared for both loud and soft audio situations. Audio controls can be accessed by the **[AUDIO LEVEL]** button at the rear of the camera, and on the microphone adapter on the handle.