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Nikon D3500

Nikon D3500 DSLR Camera User Manual

Model: D3500

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the user manual for your Nikon D3500 DSLR Camera. This guide provides essential information on setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your camera to help you capture stunning images and videos. The Nikon D3500 is a lightweight and user-friendly DSLR, perfect for both beginners and experienced photographers, featuring a 24.2-megapixel sensor and Full HD video capabilities.



Figure 1: Nikon D3500 DSLR Camera with the included 18-55mm VR lens.

SETUP

Follow these steps to prepare your Nikon D3500 for its first use.

1. Attaching the Lens

Your camera comes with an AF-P DX NIKKOR 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6G VR Lens. Ensure the camera is turned off before attaching or detaching any lens.

1. Remove the body cap from the camera and the rear lens cap from the lens.
2. Align the mounting mark on the lens (a white dot) with the mounting mark on the camera body.
3. Rotate the lens counter-clockwise until it clicks into place.



Figure 2: Nikon D3500 camera body and the AF-P DX NIKKOR 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6G VR Lens, ready for attachment.

2. Installing the Battery and Charging

The camera uses an EN-EL14a Rechargeable Li-ion Battery. Charge the battery fully before first use.

1. Open the battery chamber cover on the bottom of the camera.
2. Insert the battery with the contacts facing the correct direction, then close the cover.
3. To charge, insert the battery into the MH-24 Quick Charger and plug the charger into a power outlet. The charging lamp will blink while charging and turn off when complete.

3. Inserting a Memory Card

The D3500 supports SD/SDHC/SDXC (UHS-I) memory cards.

1. Open the memory card slot cover on the side of the camera.
2. Insert the memory card with the label facing the back of the camera until it clicks into place.
3. Close the memory card slot cover.

4. Attaching the Strap

Attach the AN-DC3 Strap to the camera's strap lugs for secure handling.

OPERATING THE CAMERA

Familiarize yourself with the camera's controls and basic functions.

1. Power On/Off and Mode Dial

The power switch is located around the shutter-release button. The mode dial allows you to select various shooting modes.



Figure 3: Top view of the Nikon D3500, highlighting the mode dial and power switch.

- **Auto Mode:** For simple point-and-shoot operation, the camera automatically optimizes settings.
- **Guide Mode:** Provides on-screen guidance for various shooting scenarios and settings, ideal for learning.
- **P (Programmed Auto):** Camera sets shutter speed and aperture for optimal exposure.
- **S (Shutter-Priority Auto):** You set the shutter speed, camera sets aperture.
- **A (Aperture-Priority Auto):** You set the aperture, camera sets shutter speed.
- **M (Manual):** You control both shutter speed and aperture.
- **EFFECTS:** Apply special effects to your photos.

2. Using the LCD Monitor and Controls

The 3-inch LCD monitor on the back of the camera displays settings, menus, and allows for Live View shooting and image review.



Figure 4: Rear view of the Nikon D3500, showing the LCD and control buttons.

- **Info Button:** Displays shooting information on the LCD.
- **Menu Button:** Accesses the camera's main menu for detailed settings.
- **Directional Pad (Multi-selector) and OK Button:** Used for navigating menus and confirming selections.
- **Playback Button:** Reviews captured images and videos.
- **Delete Button:** Deletes selected images.

3. Autofocus and Shooting

The D3500 features an 11-point autofocus system for sharp images.

- Press the shutter-release button halfway down to activate autofocus.
- Press the shutter-release button fully to take a picture.
- For continuous shooting, set the release mode dial to continuous (approx. 5 frames per second).

4. Using the Built-in Flash

The camera has a built-in pop-up flash for low-light situations.



Figure 5: Nikon D3500 with its built-in flash activated.

- In Auto mode, the flash may pop up automatically when needed.
- In other modes, you may need to manually raise the flash using the flash button (usually on the side of the lens mount).
- Flash modes include Auto, Red-Eye Reduction, Slow Sync, and Rear Curtain Sync.

5. Recording Videos

The D3500 can record Full HD 1080p videos.

- Switch to Live View mode (usually via a dedicated Lv button).
- Press the movie-record button to start and stop recording.
- Video resolution options include 1080p at 60/50/30/25/24 frames per second.

6. Connectivity with SnapBridge

The camera features Bluetooth connectivity for use with the Nikon SnapBridge app.

- Download the SnapBridge app to your smartphone or tablet.
- Pair your camera with the device via Bluetooth.
- Use the app to automatically transfer photos, remotely control the camera, and add location data.

MAINTENANCE

Proper care will extend the life and performance of your camera.

- **Cleaning the Camera Body:** Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the camera body. For stubborn dirt, use a cloth lightly dampened with water. Avoid harsh chemicals.
- **Cleaning the Lens:** Use a lens brush or blower to remove dust. For smudges, use a lens cleaning solution and a microfiber cloth. Never touch the lens surface with your fingers.
- **Battery Care:** Store batteries in a cool, dry place when not in use. Charge them regularly, even if not used, to maintain battery health.
- **Sensor Cleaning:** If you notice dust spots on your images, the image sensor may need cleaning. This is a delicate procedure; consider professional cleaning or consult the advanced manual for self-cleaning instructions.
- **Storage:** When storing the camera for extended periods, remove the battery and memory card. Store in a dry, well-ventilated area, ideally with desiccant packs to prevent mold and mildew.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Here are some common issues and their potential solutions.

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Camera does not turn on.	Ensure battery is fully charged and correctly inserted. Check if the battery contacts are clean.
Images are blurry.	Check if the lens is properly attached. Ensure autofocus is engaged and has locked onto the subject. Increase shutter speed in low light or use a tripod. Verify the lens VR (Vibration Reduction) is enabled if available and needed.
No image recorded to memory card.	Check if a memory card is inserted and has sufficient free space. Ensure the memory card is not write-protected. Try formatting the memory card (<i>Note: This will erase all data</i>).
Flash does not fire.	Ensure the flash is popped up. Check flash mode settings; some modes (e.g., Off) prevent flash firing. Flash may not fire if ambient light is sufficient.

For more detailed troubleshooting, please refer to the comprehensive manual available on the Nikon support website.

SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the Nikon D3500 DSLR Camera.

Model Name	CRTNKD35001588KRB
Brand	Nikon
Effective Still Resolution	24.2 MP
Photo Sensor Technology	CMOS
Photo Sensor Size	APS-C (23.6 x 15.7 mm)
Lens Type	AF-P DX 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6G VR Lens (Wide Angle Zoom)
ISO Range	100-25600
Continuous Shooting Speed	5 fps
Video Resolution	1080p Full HD
Screen Size	3 Inches (LCD)
Memory Card Slot	Single Slot: SD/SDHC/SDXC (UHS-I)
Connectivity	Bluetooth, HDMI
Weight	7.23 Ounces (Body only)
Included in Box	D3500 Camera Body, EN-EL14a Battery, MH-24 Charger, AN-DC3 Strap, BF-1B Body Cap, DK-25 Rubber Eyecup, AF-P DX NIKKOR 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6G VR Lens, LC-55A Front Lens Cap, Rear Lens Cap

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Nikon D3500 camera comes with a Limited Nikon 90-Day Refurbished Warranty. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For further assistance, technical support, or to download the full product manual, please visit the official Nikon support website. You can often find FAQs, driver downloads, and service center information there.

Online Resources:

- [Nikon D3500 Product Page \(Nikon USA\)](#)
- [Nikon SnapBridge Support](#)