

CANON R5 SETUP GUIDE



by

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The R5 has a lot to offer, and in this guide, I'll walk you through the settings that have worked best for me after extensive real-world use.

Some settings have a clear best option, while others come down to personal preference. Sometimes different shooting situations will require adjustments, but I aim to give you as much of an insight as possible into the camera and how to get stunning results!

To simplify the setup process, I've included a **.CSD file** that you can install directly onto your camera via the **yellow menu #5 (Save/Load cam settings)**. This will also install all my custom modes.

However, before installing it, **I strongly recommend saving your own settings first, so you can restore them if needed. Uploading my setup file will overwrite your current settings**, including file names. While this is a fast way to get started, some settings may not transfer correctly and will need to be adjusted manually. After installing the file, double-check your settings with this guide to ensure everything is set up properly. The provided file will work with FW 2.2 and newer.

Let's set up your camera now! I'll see you again at the end of the guide.

Jan

CONTENTS

All items are **clickable**. Submenus are not listed and can be found by the main slides.
(...) = Only the menu item selected in the slide is named for, but all relevant items are discussed.

<i>Canon's new password feature</i>	6
PHOTO SETUP	7
Red photo menu	8
1/8: Shoot 1	9
2/8: Shoot 2	10
3/8: Shoot 3	11
4/8: Shoot 4	12
5/8: Shoot 5	12
6/8: Shoot 6	13
7/8: Shoot 7	14-15
8/8: Shoot 8	16
Pink photo menu	17
1/5: AF 1	18
2/5: AF 2	19
3/5: AF 3	19
4/5: AF 4	20-21
5/5: AF 5	21
Blue photo menu	22
1/5: Play 1	23
2/5: Play 2	23
3/5: Play 3	24
4/5: Play 4	25
5/5: Play 5	26

Purple photo menu

1/2:	Network 1	27
2/2:	Network 2	28

Yellow photo menu

1/6:	Set Up 1	30-31
2/6:	Set Up 2	32
3/6:	Set Up 3	33
4/6:	Set Up 4	33
5/6:	Set Up 5 (Custom Shooting mode)	34-36
5/6:	Set Up 6	37

Orange photo menu

1/5:	C.Fn1	39
2/5:	C.Fn2	39
3/5:	C.Fn3 (Custom Button Setup)	40-47
4/5:	C.Fn4	48
5/5:	C.Fn5	48

Dark green photo 'My menu'

1/1:	Add my menu tab	50
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VIDEO SETUP

Red video menu

1/8:	Shoot 1	51
2/8:	Shoot 2	52
3/8:	Shoot 3	53
4/8:	Shoot 4	54
5/8:	Shoot 5	55-56
6/8:	Shoot 6	57
7/8:	Shoot 7	57
8/8:	Shoot 8	58

Pink video menu	60
1/6: AF 1	61
2/6: AF 2	61
3/6: AF 3	62
4/6: AF 4	63
Blue video menu	64
Purple video menu	65
Yellow video menu	66
2/6: Set Up 2	67
5/6: Set Up 5 (Custom Shooting mode)	67-68
Orange video menu	69
Dark green video ‘My menu’	70
<hr/>	
You’ve made it – <i>Closing thoughts and an invitation to my masterclasses</i>	71
Find me here – <i>Let’s stay in touch</i>	72

CANON'S NEW PASSWORD FEATURE

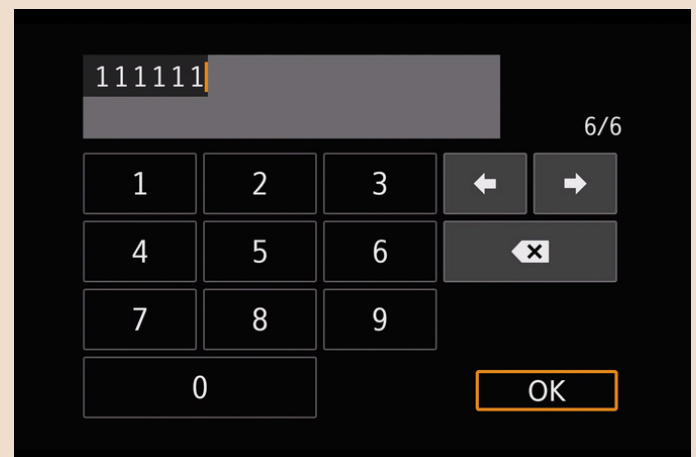
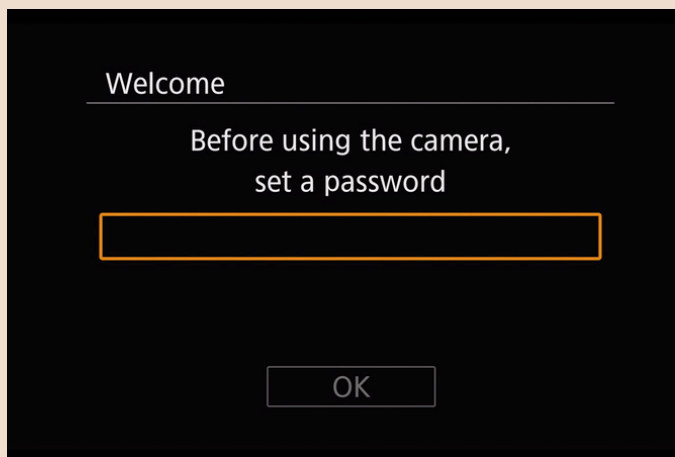
Starting July 2025, Canon added **password protection** for network settings, *however this change affects all users*. After updating to firmware version 1.6 (or newer), you will be asked to set a **6-digit password**.

Every time the camera restarts, it will prompt you to enter this password again. Don't worry, though, **this can be disabled**.

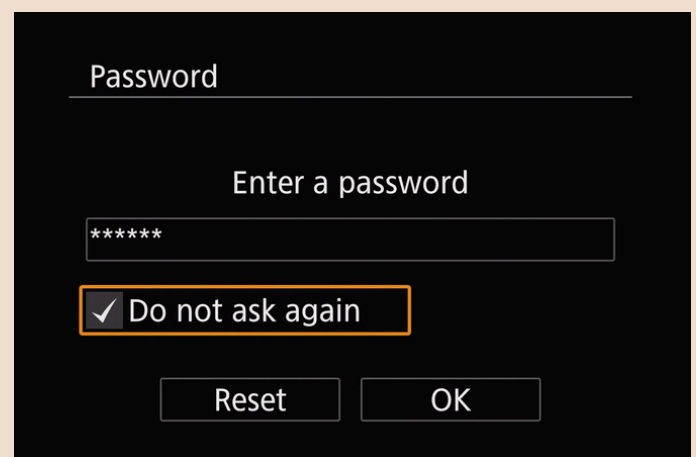
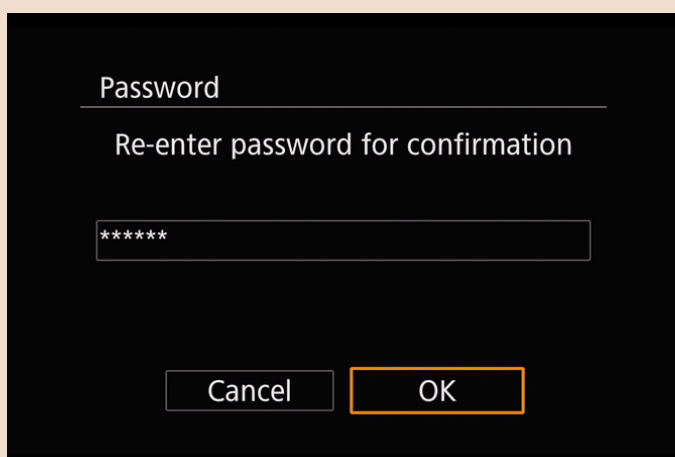
After restarting the camera you are prompted to type in the password and after doing that you can choose **“Do Not Ask Again”**, and after that the camera behaves like normal again from then on.

The password can be reset or overwritten by clicking reset and returning the camera to factory settings. So the password does not actually protect the camera from unauthorized use, only network details. Password settings can be found in **yellow menu #4**.

Below are the steps to follow after updating the firmware.



1. **Select password – Set** 6 digit combination and confirm, I used 111111



2. **Confirm password** – Camera will restart, but won't ask for password - turn it off

3. **On reboot** – Enter password and tick **‘Do not ask again’**, then click ok

PHOTO SETUP



RED PHOTO MENU

This menu controls all our *core shooting settings* –
like image quality, drive mode, white balance, metering,
and display settings. It's where we fine-tune how the
camera captures photos.

We will make a lot of changes in this menu.

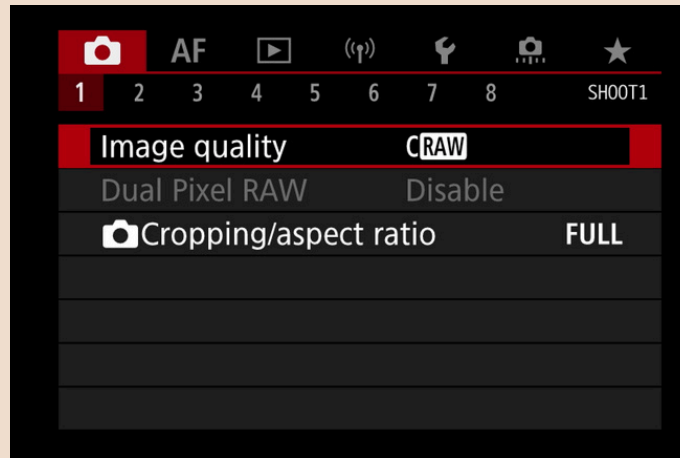


Image quality – Adjust RAW/JPEG settings

- CRAW for smaller file size and larger buffer
- RAW for max quality
- *In most situations I like to shoot **CRAW** because of the increased buffer size and minimal image quality loss. Shooting in full **RAW** I recommend when buffer size doesn't matter and we are dealing with difficult subjects that may require brightening when editing.*

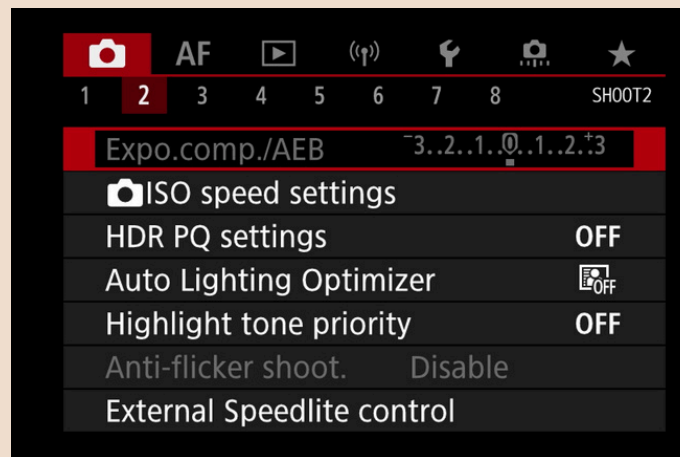
Dual Pixel RAW – Disable – Special mode allowing you to later make small changes in Canon's DPP software

Cropping/aspect ratio – FULL

- Here you can select 1.6 crop mode if wanted



R5 | EF 600 L IS III | F5 | ISO 12800 | 1/640



Expo. comp./AEB – Adjust exposure compensation and auto exposure bracketing settings

- Expo.comp for M (auto ISO), TV, AV, FV – Best to use dial on camera to adjust

ISO speed settings – Set ISO range for manual ISO, Auto ISO & set min. shutter speed

HDR PQ settings – HDR mode with PQ gamma

- Enable to shoot in HDR
- Works with RAW & Video

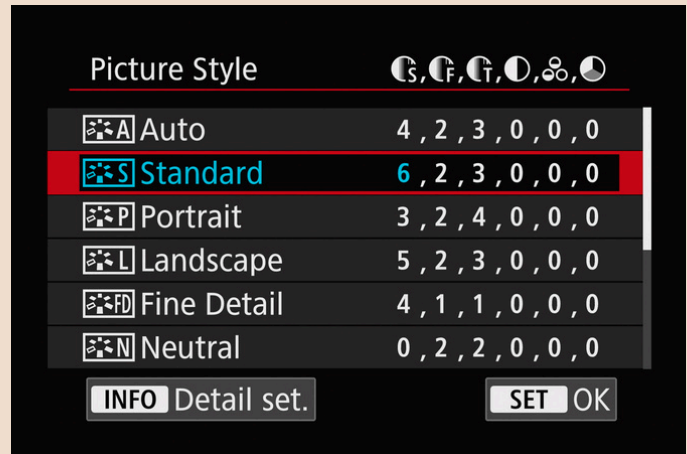
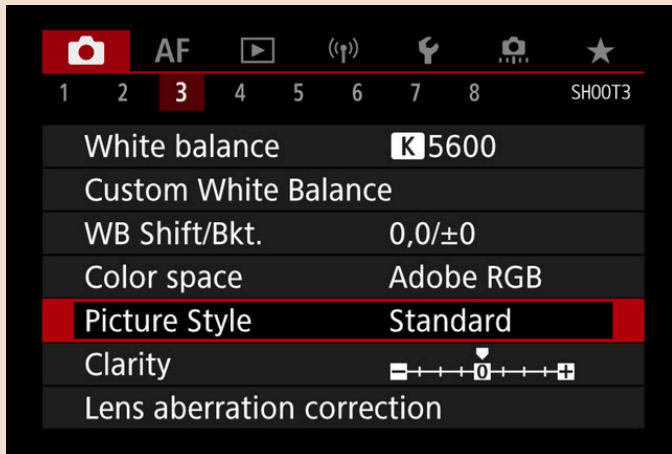
Auto Lighting Optimizer – OFF – JPEG only – Automatic brightness or shadow adjustments

Highlight tone priority – OFF – More detail in highlights, but more noise in dark areas

- Works on RAWs
- I usually leave it off, but it can help when dealing with bright highlights
- D2+ is recommended
 - Will only work with certain software like DPP or Adobe

Anti-flicker shoot. – OFF – Prevents exposure inconsistencies under flickering light (e.g., fluorescent)

External Speedlite control – Flash settings for Canon Speedlites



White balance – Select different WB options

- I set WB manually to K 5400 and adjust from 5200 (cooler) to 5600 (warmer)
- This gives more balanced RAW files – AWB etc. can get too cold/warm
- When shooting RAW, WB can be adjusted during the editing process

Custom White Balance – Assign a custom white balance based on a reference image

WB Shift/Bkt. – Adjust tint of the WB

Color space – Adobe RGB or sRGB – I use Adobe RGB, this can be adjusted later when shooting in RAW

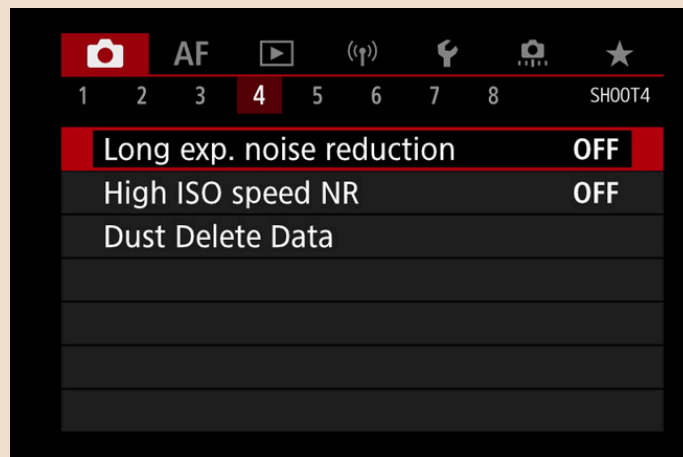
Picture Style – Select desired image look

- These settings affect the image look of JPEG/HEIF & the back of camera preview of RAW files
- I only shoot RAW, so I like to choose the **Standard** picture profile that gives me a good preview of colours and sharpness
 - Press *INFO* to access the sub menu, where you can adjust the settings for each colour profile
- I change the sharpness of the Standard profile to 6. This lets me judge the sharpness of the RAW file when zooming in the best.

Clarity – 0 – default – I don't add or remove clarity

Lens aberration correction – Enable/disable corrections for distortion, chromatic aberration, etc. – I usually leave these OFF

4/8: Shoot 4



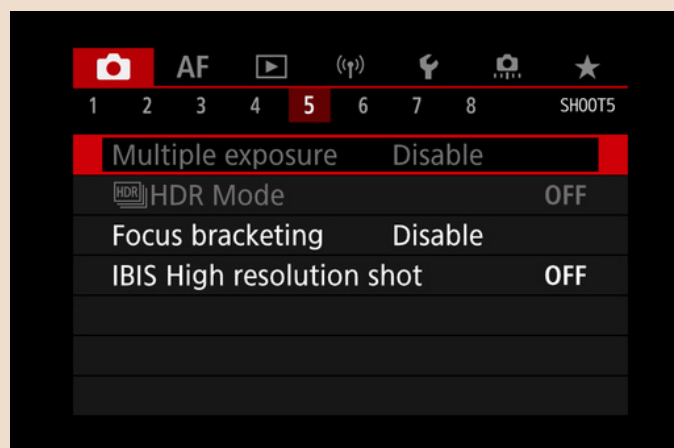
Lens aberration correction – Enable/disable corrections for distortion, chromatic aberration, etc. – I usually leave these **OFF**

Long exp. noise reduction – **OFF** – Applies additional processing to reduce noise in long exposure images, particularly in dark areas

High ISO speed NR – **OFF** – JPEG only – Reduces image noise when shooting at high ISO settings, at the potential cost of some fine detail

Above NR & corrections can slow down the camera

5/8: Shoot 5



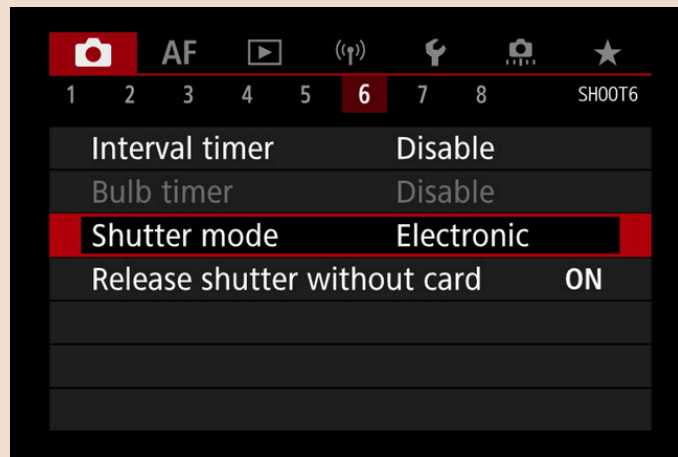
Multiple exposure – Disable - Combine multiple shots into one image

HDR Mode – Off – Camera captures multiple images and merges them into one to increase dynamic range – JPEG only

Focus bracketing – Disable – Capture multiple images with different focus points for stacking

IBIS High resolution shot – OFF – uses IBIS to move sensor and creates large MP file - JPEG only - needs stable camera and subject

6/8: Shoot 6



Interval timer – Disable – Set automated shooting at set intervals for time lapse

Bulb timer – Disable – Controls long exposures without holding down the shutter manually

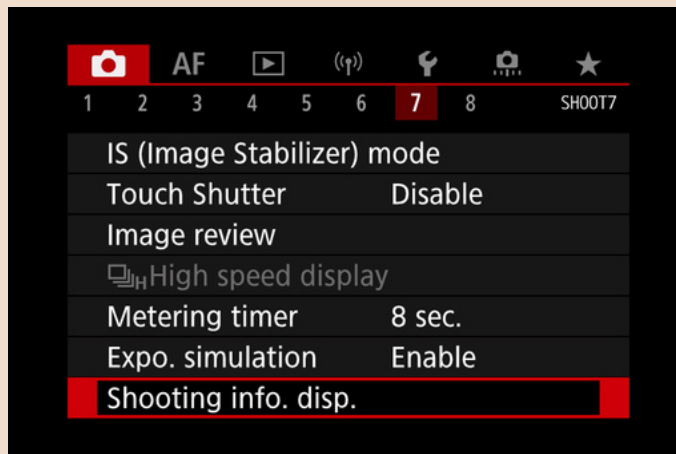
Shutter mode – Mechanical, Electronic 1st-curtain - Electronic Shutter (ES)

- I usually recommend to use the ES for extra speed (20fps), the other two modes are limited to 12 fps
- Using ES will increase rolling shutter effect in some situations
 - I almost exclusively use the ES on the R5 with great success
- Flash can only be used with MS and EFCS

Release shutter without card – OFF – turn off to not be caught out without a card inside the camera, this will prevent it from taking pictures



R5 | RF 100-500 L IS | F7.1 | ISO 16000 | 1/320



IS (Image Stabilizer) mode – Set on lens

Touch Shutter - Disable - Take image by pressing rear LCD

Image review – Select time and place for automatic image review

- I turn both options OFF. You can review images by pressing the play button on the back of the camera when needed.

High speed display – For smoother display – Greyed out if Electronic Shutter is active

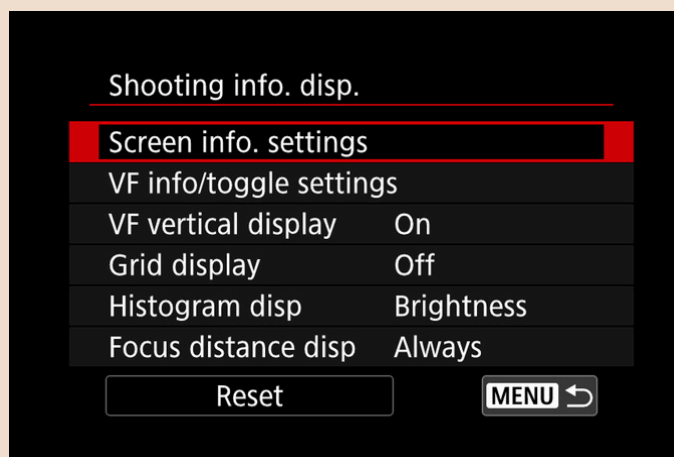
Expo. simulation – Adjusts the EVF/LCD to match exposure settings

Metering timer (8 sec.) – Sets how long the camera meters before resetting

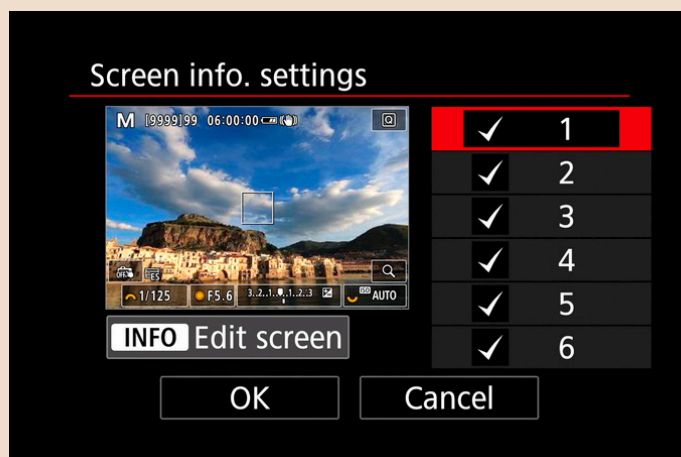
Shooting info. disp. – Choose what appears on LCD screen & EVF

- Press INFO on back of camera to toggle through display options

→ **submenu: Shooting info. disp.**



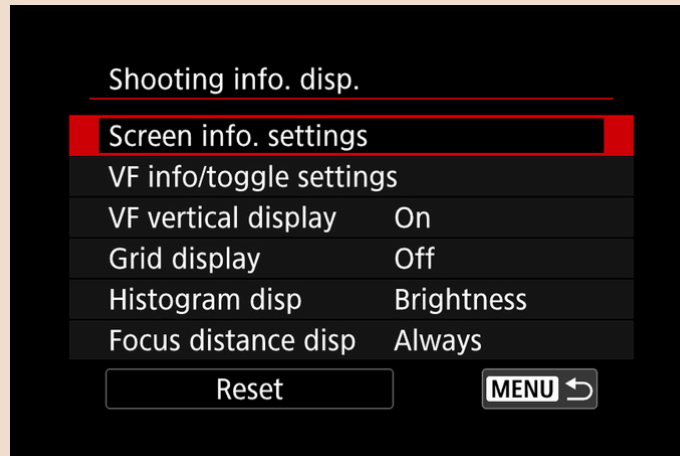
→ **submenu: Screen info. settings**



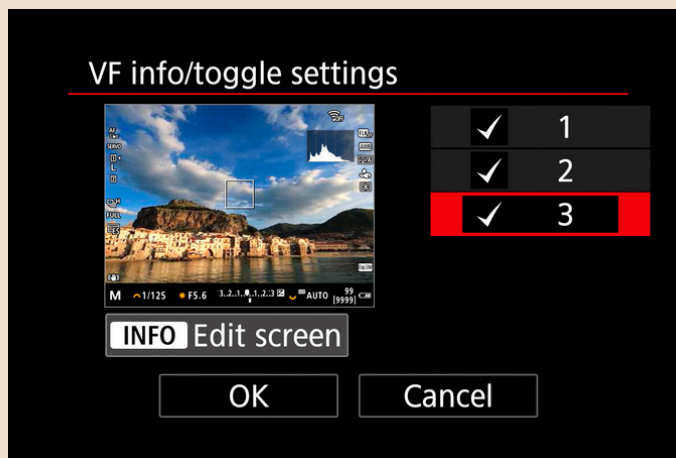
Screen info. settings – Tick/Untick wanted/unwanted options

- Press *INFO* to adjust which items are displayed in each option
- To keep it simple, you could untick most options and just add whatever you want to just one or two options

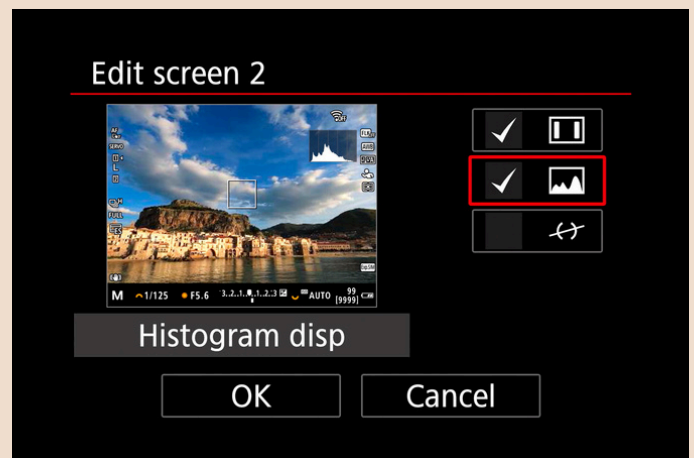
→ submenu: Shooting info. disp. Cont'd



→ submenu: VF info/toggle settings



→ submenu: Edit screen 2



VF info/toggle settings – Set what will be displayed in the viewfinder

- Press *INFO* to select which items are displayed in each option
- Tick/Untick wanted/unwanted options
- I usually leave just 1-2 options ticked and add elements to each option (i.e. histogram), so there are not so many options to toggle through

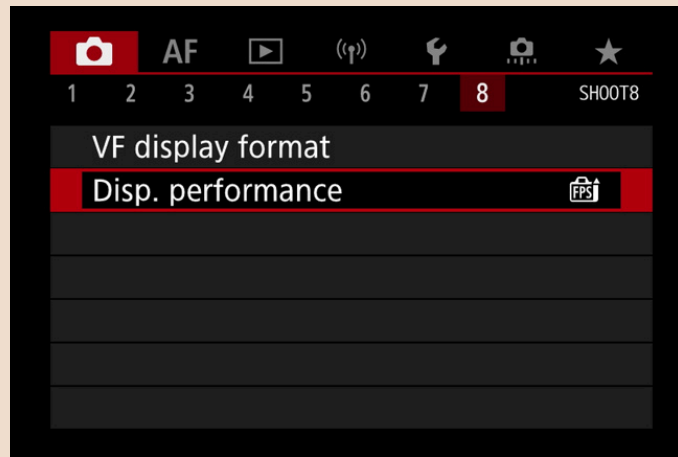
VF vertical display – **ON** – Auto-rotate VF info for vertical shots

Grid display – **OFF** – Choose Grid overlay to help with composition

Histogram disp – **Brightness** – **Set to Small** – Shows histogram in EVF

Focus distance display – Shows lens details in EVF

8/8: Shoot 8



VF display format – (default) Changes aspect/layout of viewfinder info display
Disp. performance – *Smooth* – Increases refresh rate for smoother motion

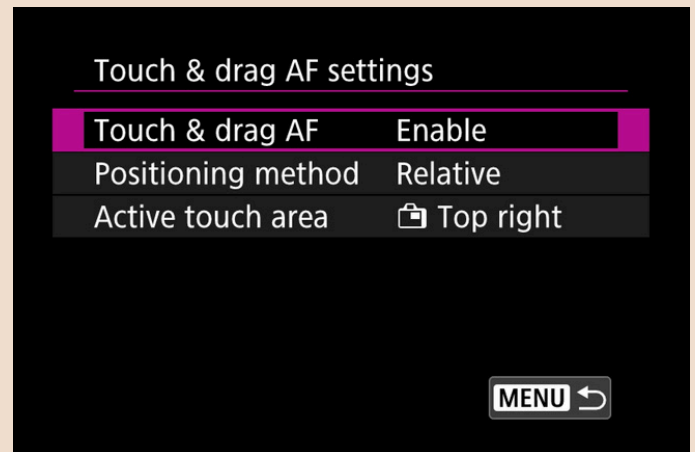
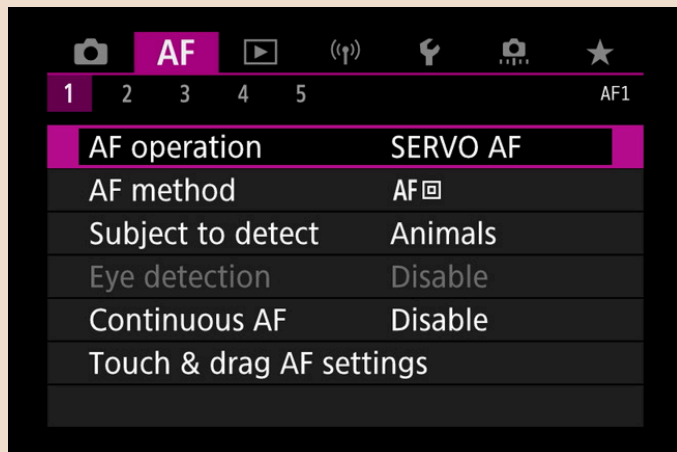


R5 | RF 600 L IS | F5.6 | ISO 12800 | 1/400

PINK PHOTO MENU

This menu handles everything related to *focusing*. It's where you set how the camera detects and follows your subject.

We will make important changes here and finish setting up the AF in the green custom button menu.



AF Operation: SERVO – Continuous focus for moving subjects

- *I always shoot in servo and just let the back button go if I want to focus on a specific point and have focus stay there*

AF Method – Choose AF areas best suited to the shooting situation

On the R5, I like to use triple back button autofocus. We will set this up across a few different menus.

- *My base autofocus is **Spot**. It allows us to move the focus point wherever we want and focus without any tracking interfering. This is the ideal base AF mode, offering full control and making pre-focusing easy.*
 - **Selecting this greys out Eye detection which is fine**
- *We will set up **Animal Eye tracking AF** later. It will be assigned to the AF-ON button in the **orange menu**, not here and will overwrite this menu*

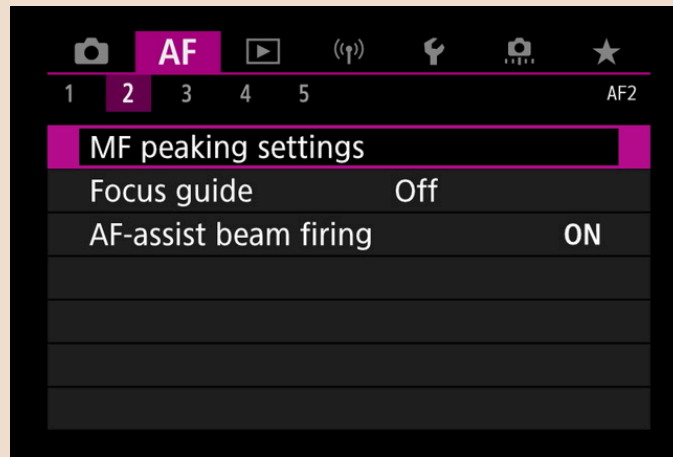
Subject to detect – None – Select subjects to detect, not needed here

Eye detection – greyed out with Spot AF selected, not needed for here

Continuous AF – Disable – Camera continuously attempts to focus, even when the focus button is not pressed (not recommended for photos)

Touch & Drag AF settings – OFF – Select areas on LCD to move AF points – Turn On if alternative to joystick is needed (moves the focus points when moving fingers over selected area)

2/5: AF 2



MF peaking – OFF – Highlights in focus areas

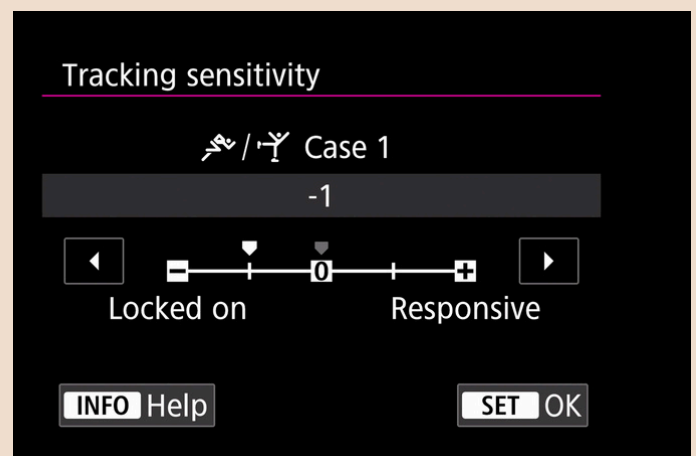
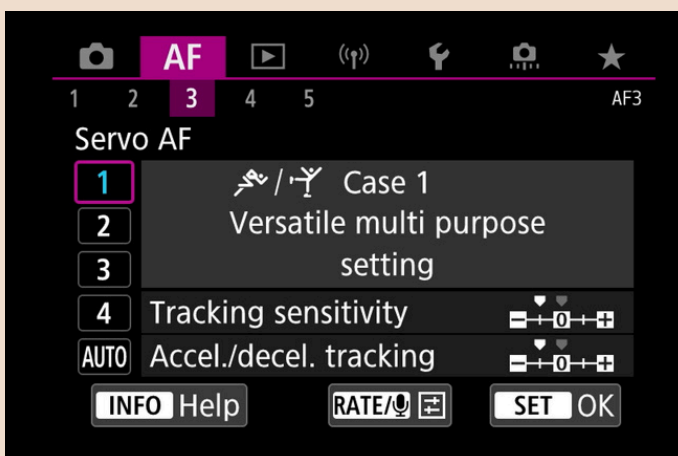
- Turn on for precise manual focus

Focus guide – OFF – Visual focus aid: Shows direction and confirmation of focus when enabled in MF mode

AF-Assist Beam Firing – OFF – Stops infrared flashes being fired to assist focus

3/5: AF 3 →

→ **submenu: Tracking sensitivity**

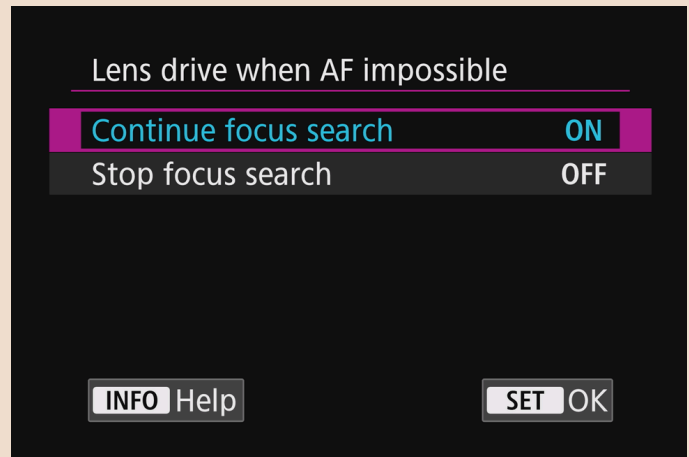
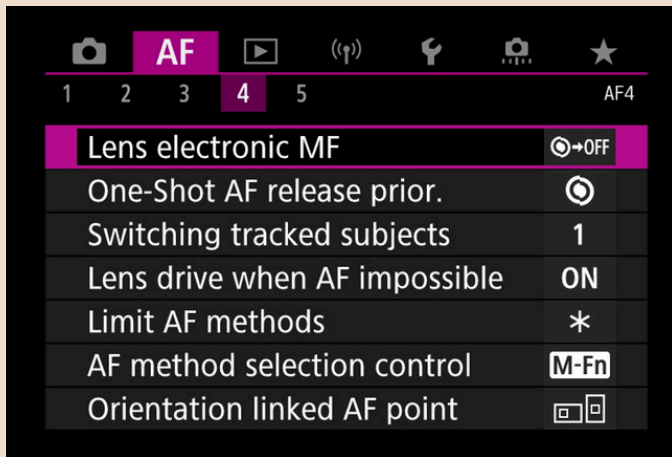


Servo AF characteristic – Select tracking behaviour

On the R5 I had great success with the settings that I also use on the R3.

- Tracking sensitivity: **-1**
- Accel./decel. tracking: **-1**

Alternatively I'd suggest to use AUTO. On the setting above the R5 displayed great stickiness and tracking ability.



Lens electronic MF – ON – Enable (actual size) – Allows manual focus tweaks while in AF: Great for fine-tuning focus

One-Shot AF Release Prior. – Set shutter behaviour

Switching tracked subjects – 1 – Select camera's response to new subjects entering the frame. Typically we want to select 1 or 0 here

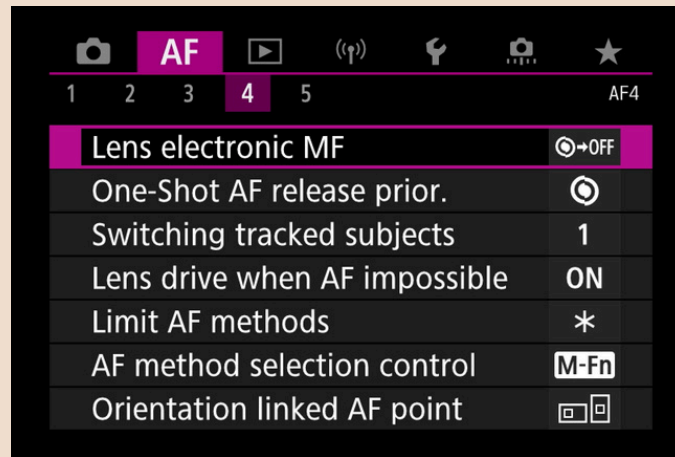
Lens Drive When AF Impossible – ON – Determines if the camera keeps searching for focus across the range or stops searching when focus is lost

- **Continue focus search (ON)** – Lens keeps hunting if focus fails
- **Stop focus search (OFF)** – Lens stops searching when focus is lost
- *In theory, OFF would be the better choice, because it will stop the camera from jumping on to the background, but the problem is that you cannot easily focus into the distance or close up anymore. If a bird suddenly lands close to you and you have focused into the distance or the other way around, the camera won't focus unless you manually bring focus closer to the subject first.*
- *That's why I leave it ON, even though it lets the AF sometimes slip onto the BG. However, I feel like I miss too many shots when I can't quickly focus between different distances.*

Limit AF methods – Select which AF modes appear when cycling

AF method selection control – Select button to cycle through AF areas

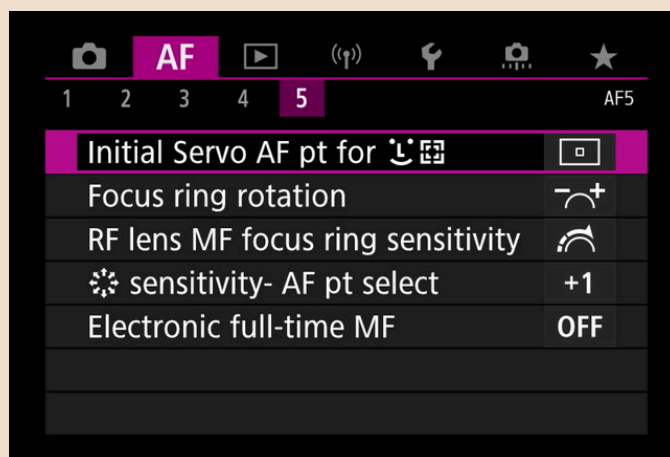
4/5: AF 4 Cont'd.



Orientation linked AF point – Select AF point/zone behaviour when changing orientation

- I use Separate AF pts: PT Only
- Assigns separate AF points for horizontal and vertical shooting.
 - *This helps to quickly switch between vertical and horizontal shooting and maintains the selected AF point for each orientation.*

5/5: AF 5



Electronic full-time MF – On – Allows for manual focus when needed

Focus ring rotation – (default) – Choose focus ring direction

RF lens MF focus ring sensitivity – (default) – Adjust responsiveness of MF ring

Multi controller sensitivity – AF pt select: +1 – Speed when moving AF points via controller (joystick) – I like it to move faster

Electronic full-time MF – On – Allows for manual focus when needed

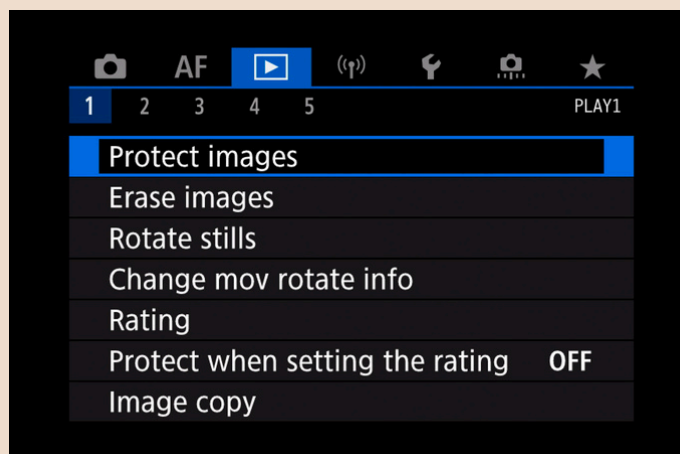
BLUE PHOTO MENU

This menu manages *playback settings* like image review time, playback options, and how photos or videos are shown on the screen. It's all about how you view and manage your captured content.

We don't make many changes here.

1/5: Play 1

All left as default



Protect images – Prevent selected files from being accidentally erased

Erase images – Delete chosen photos or videos from the memory card

Rotate stills – Manually rotate images for correct orientation in playback

Change mov rotate info – Adjust playback rotation metadata for movies

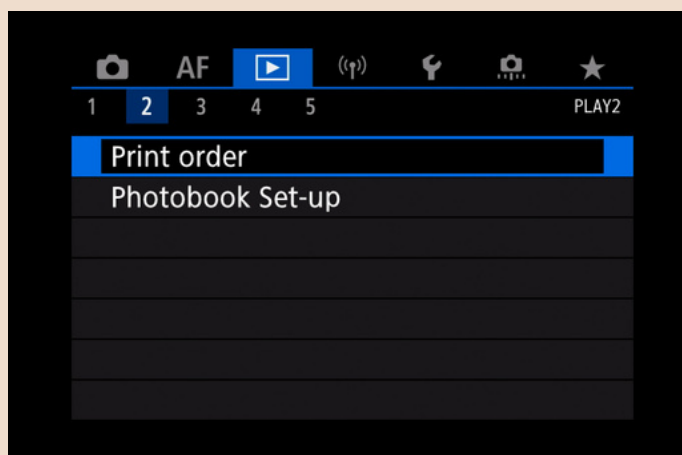
Rating – Tag images with star ratings for easy sorting or culling

Protect when setting the rating – Rate and protect at the same time

Image copy – Copy photos/videos from one card slot to another

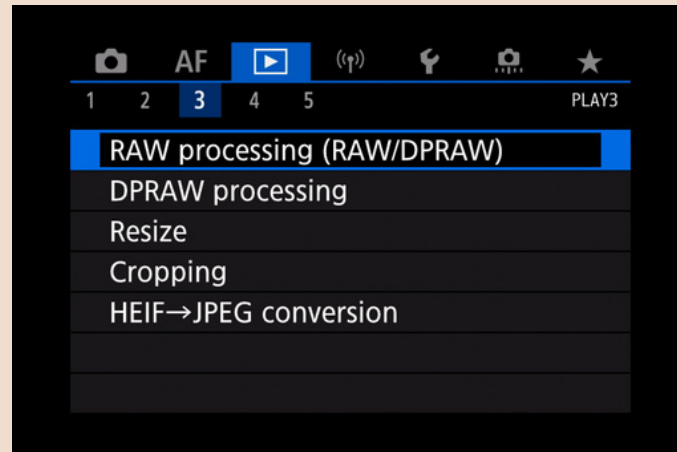
2/5: Play 2

All left as default



Print order – Select images and settings for direct printing

Photobook Set-up – Select specific images for a photobook. This folder can be imported to EOS Utility



RAW processing (RAW/DPRaw) – Develop RAW files directly in-camera.

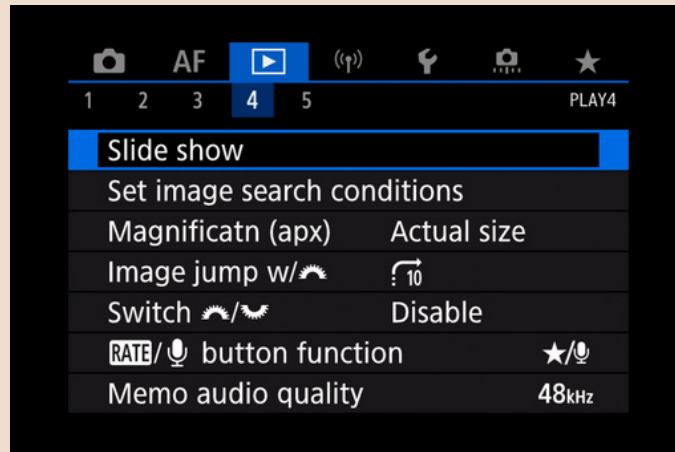
DPRaw processing – Use Dual Pixel RAW features for micro adjustments like focus shift.

Resize – Create smaller copies of JPEG/HEIF images: Original remains unchanged

Cropping – Trim image composition and save a new file from the cropped area

HEIF→JPEG conversion – Convert high-efficiency HEIF images into standard JPEG format





Slideshow – Play back your photos as slideshow

Set image search conditions – Set criteria to find images on card

Magnification – **Set zoom level for playback**

- Set to **Actual size** (from selected pt) (zooms to 100%)

Image jump w/ Main Dial –

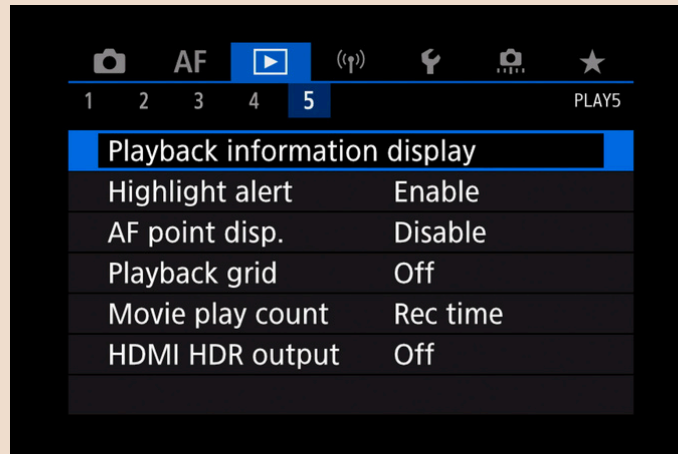
- *I like to change it to 10 image jumps when I turn the dial in review mode*

Img jump w/ RATE + mic – Jump to first image of scene

Memo audio quality – default



R5 | RF 600 L IS | 1.4X TC | F5.6 | ISO 12800 | 1/400



Playback information display – Choose what info is shown during image review (e.g., histogram, shooting data)

Highlight alert – **Enable** – **Very helpful** – Blinks overexposed highlights to warn of clipping

AF point disp. – **Disable** – Shows AF point overlay in review images

Playback grid – **Off** – Turns off compositional grid overlay during playback

Movie play count – **Rec time** – Shows recording time instead of time code during video playback

HDMI HDR output – **Off** – Allow camera to send HDR video to external recorder

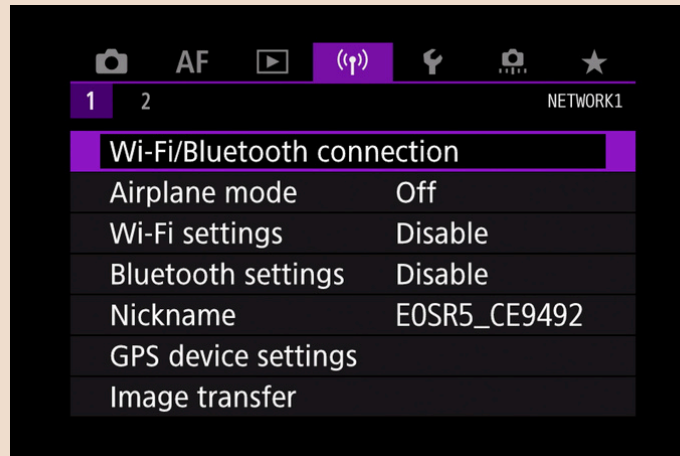


R5 | RF 600 L IS | 1.4X TC | F5.6 | ISO 1600 | 1/2000

PURPLE PHOTO MENU

This menu covers *communication settings* – including Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and other connectivity options. It's where you set up how your camera connects to smartphones, computers, or cloud services.

I don't make any changes here, except that I like to connect my phone to use the Canon Camera Connect app for remote shooting.



Wi-Fi/Bluetooth connection – Establish a connection with a device

Airplane mode – Off

- I turn it ON when I am not connecting my phone. Leaving Wi-Fi on may slow down certain functions.

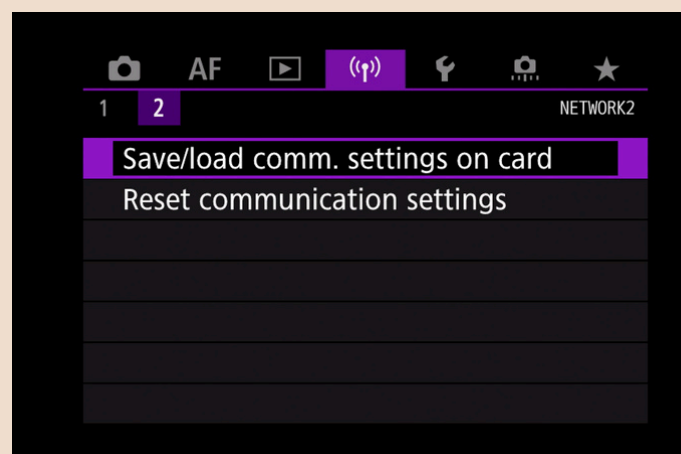
Wi-Fi Settings – Disable – Manage Wi-Fi connections

Bluetooth settings – Disable – Turns on Bluetooth for pairing with smart devices or remote controls

Nickname – Identifier shown when connecting via Wi-Fi/Bluetooth

GPS device settings – Configure GPS features when using compatible GPS accessories or smartphone link

Image transfer – Send images to other devices or ftp servers



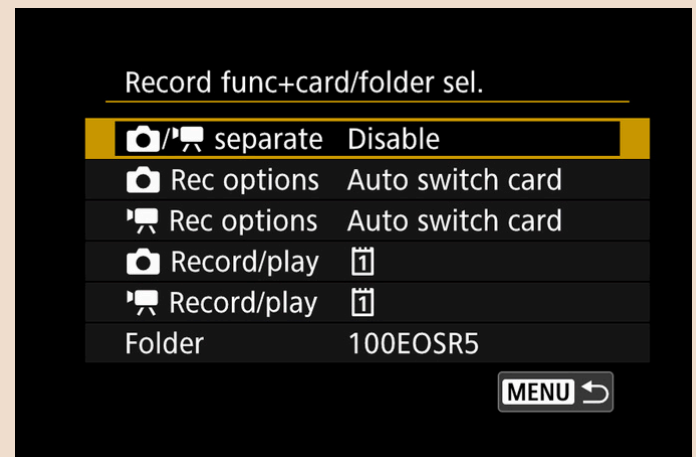
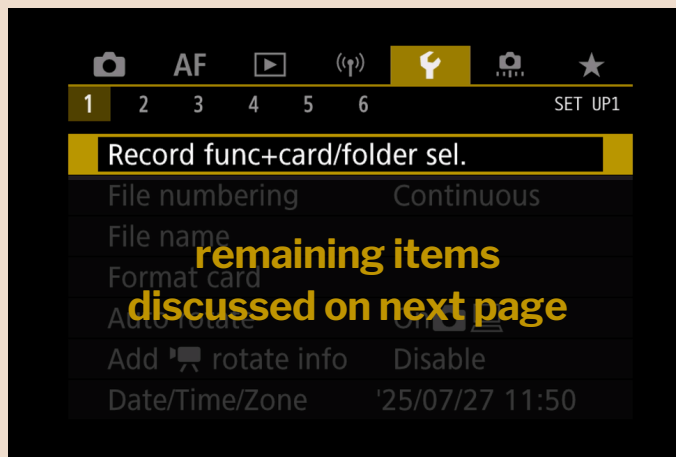
Save/load comm. settings on card – Backup or restore communication settings to/from memory card

Reset communication settings – Revert to default settings

YELLOW PHOTO MENU

This menu handles *setup and system settings* – such as video standard, card settings, screen brightness, and shutter sound. It's where you configure the general operation of your camera.

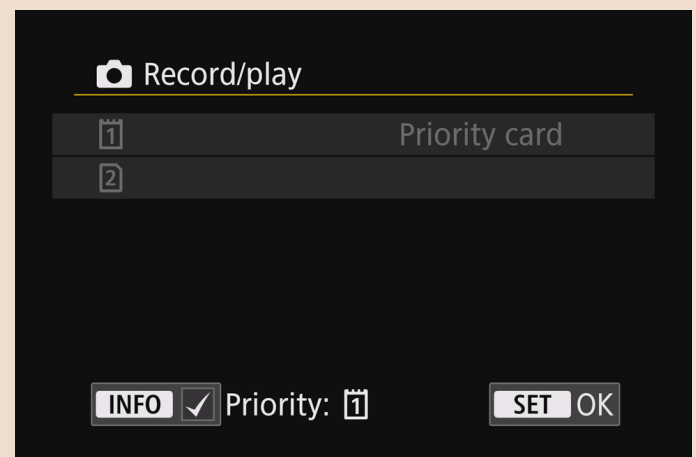
We will make minor changes here.



→ submenu: Rec options photo



→ submenu: Record/play photo

**Record func+card/folder sel.** – Set which card & folder to record to

- You can either write to one card first and then the other or write to both cards simultaneously (instant back-up). You can also choose to write videos to one card and stills to the other.
- *I usually write to one card and use the second as overflow (Auto switch card). If needed, write to both cards for instant back up*

Rec. func+card/ folder sel. submenu

Still/Video separate – Disable – Write photos & videos to the same card

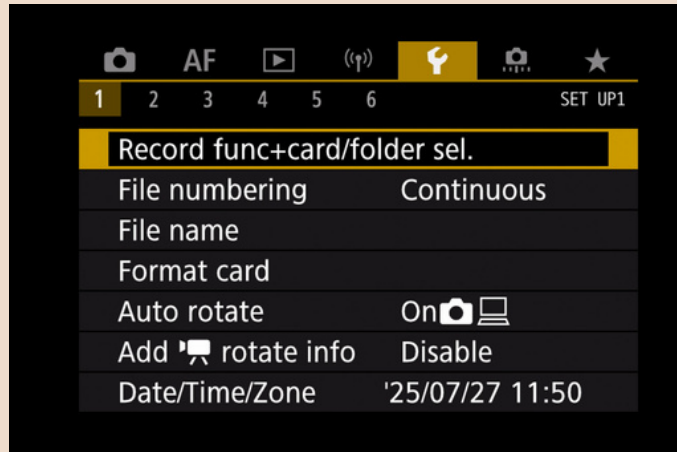
Still Rec options – Auto switch card – Automatically switches to the second card when the first fills up

Video Rec options – Auto switch card – Automatically switches to the second card when the first fills up

Still Record/play – Card 1 – Sets card 1 for still photo recording and playback

Video Record/play – Card 1 – Sets card 1 for video recording and playback

Press *INFO* in the **Record/play submenu** to give priority to card 1 – it will be used first



File numbering – Continuous – Maintains sequential numbering across card changes

File name – Customize the 4-character prefix for image file names

Format card – Erases all data on the selected card: Prepares it for use

- To keep cards fresh, it's recommended to regularly tick “Low Level Format”
- Always format cards in camera before use

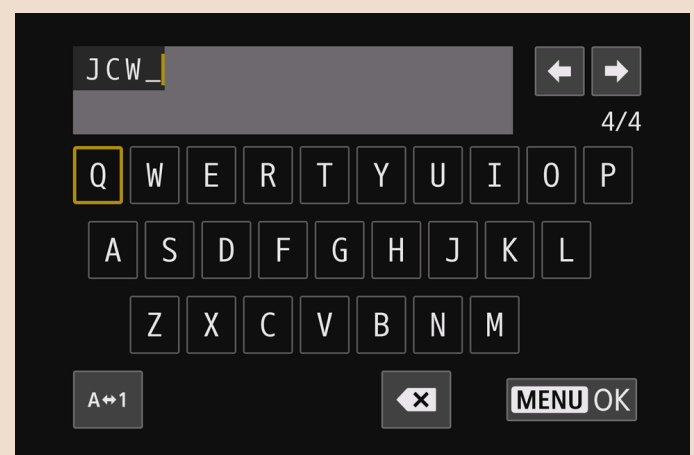
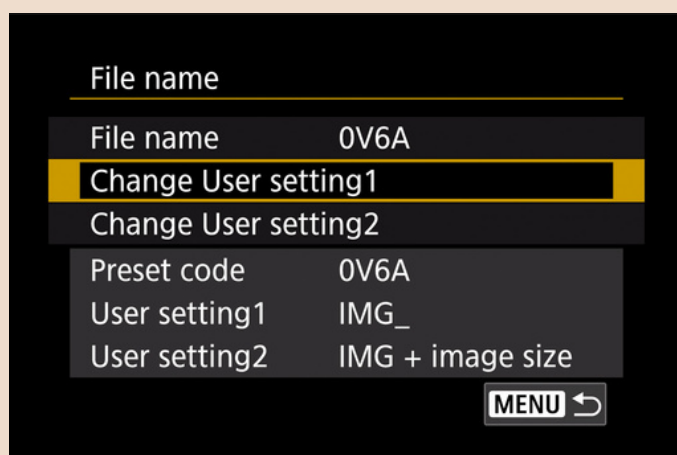
Auto rotate – On (camera + computer) – Images auto-rotate for display on both camera and computer

Add rotate info – Disable – No rotation metadata added to movie files

Date/Time/Zone – Set current date, time, and time zone

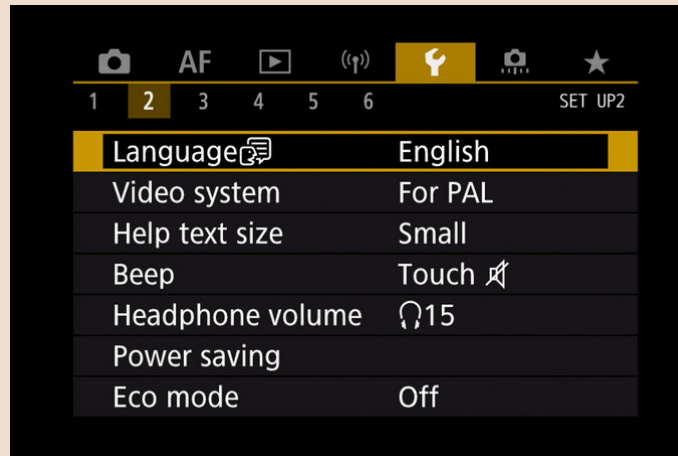
→ **submenu: File name** → **Stills**

→ **submenu: File name**



Change User Setting – Adjust to rename files for stills

- If shooting AdobeRGB, the first letter will be replaced with an underscore



Language – Choose language for camera menus

Video System – Match region's video standard (PAL for EU/Asia, NTSC for US)

- ***This affects the video frame rates available***
 - ***(PAL: 25,50,100 fps) (NTSC: 24,30,60,120fps)***
- For wildlife NTSC or PAL doesn't matter as much, but for shooting inside choosing correctly PAL/NTSC can stop flickering in video files

Help text size (Small) – Adjust size of on-screen help text

Beep – Disable (R5 does not have shutter sound for Elec. Shutter)

Headphone volume – default

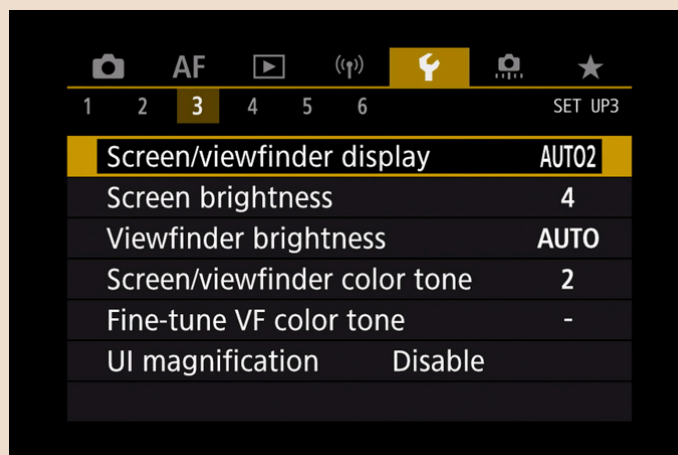
Power saving – Set when camera shuts off or goes to sleep

- I usually leave the defaults to save battery, but it can make sense to extend the times of shooting from a hide for instance, so the camera doesn't turn off all the time

Eco mode – Conserve battery



3/6: Set Up 3



Screen/viewfinder display – Auto2 – Auto switches between EVF and screen

Screen brightness – Set to max to see on a bright day

Viewfinder brightness – Set EVF brightness: *I leave it on auto most of the time*

Screen/viewfinder color tone – **default** – Adjust color tone of LCD/EVF

Fine-tune VF color tone – **default** – Precise adjustment of viewfinder color

UI magnification – **Disable** – Enlarge interface text/icons for accessibility

4/6: Set Up 4 All left as default



HDMI resolution – Set output resolution for HDMI connection (Auto, 1080p, etc.)

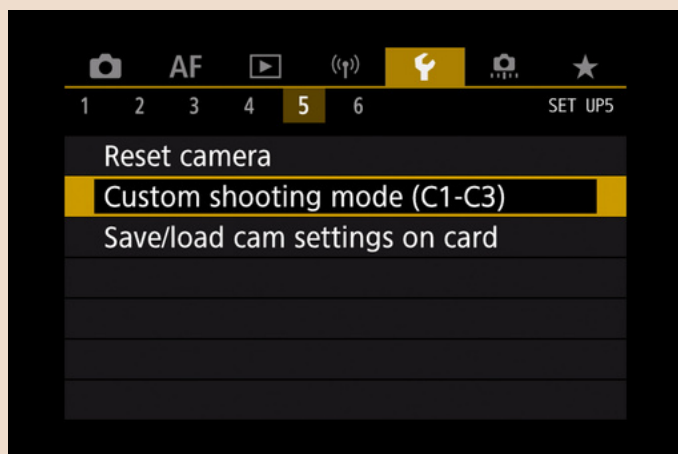
Touch control – Standard – Enables normal touchscreen operation

Multi function lock – Disable specific camera controls

Shutter at shutdown – Closes shutter when powering off – protects sensor

Sensor cleaning – Configure or manually start sensor cleaning

Manage password – Enable/Disable & adjust password

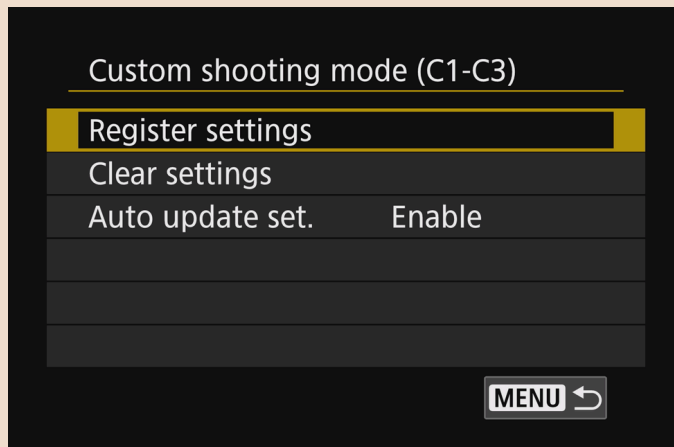


Reset camera – Restores all settings to factory defaults

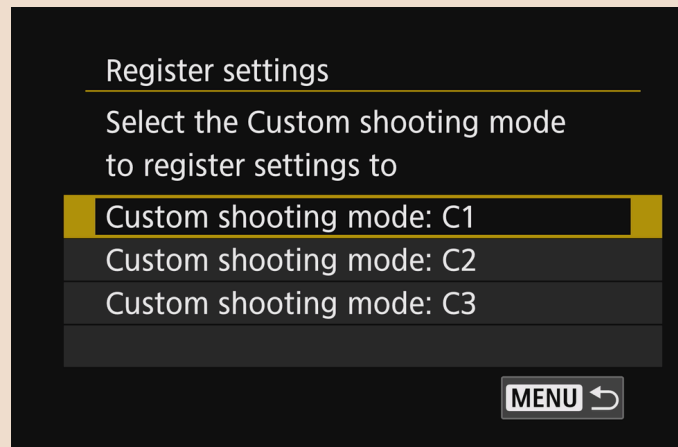
Custom shooting mode (C1–C3) – Here you can register custom shooting modes to recall when selecting C1,2,3 on the camera's mode dial

- *This can be very helpful when you want to quickly switch between different shooting modes and styles, i.e. you can set one mode for people and one mode for animals*

→ **submenu: Custom shooting mode**

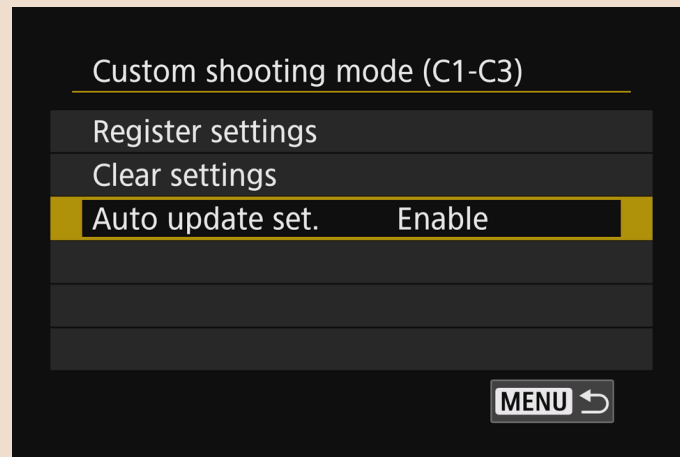


→ **submenu: Register settings**



Register settings – Save current camera setup as a custom mode

- *To register settings to a custom mode, select all settings you want to save as a custom shooting mode, AF mode, subject to detect, custom buttons, ISO, shutter speed, shooting mode etc.*
- *Once you have it all dialed in go to: **Custom shooting mode** > **Register Settings** and then select C1,2 or 3. This will save all your settings to that custom shooting mode and can be recalled by setting the mode dial to that custom mode.*
- *Press MENU to get back*

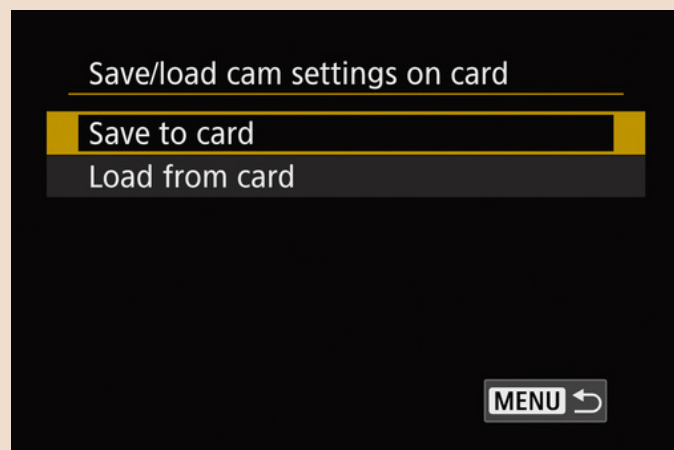
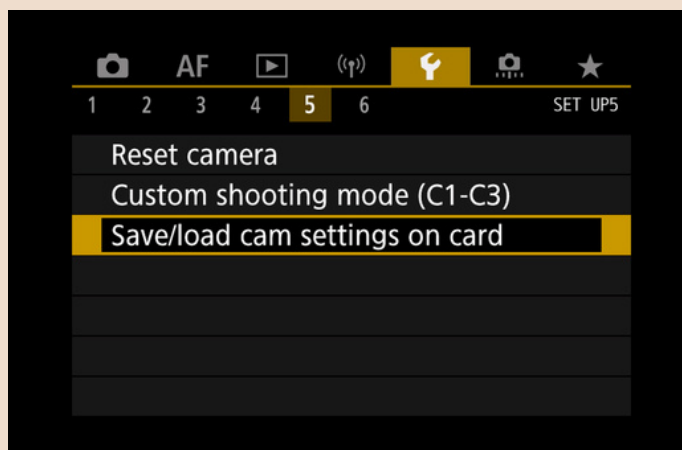


Clear settings – Reset saved custom mode to default

Auto update set. (Enable/Disable) – *Important*

- If enabled, any changes made while using a custom mode will be saved automatically to that custom mode
- This can be helpful if you use custom modes in changing environments
- If you prefer to always have the identical settings as your custom mode, disable it





This is the menu where you can install the camera set up file that comes with this guide. (Needs FW 2.2 or newer)

(Save/Load cam settings on card)

WARNING!

Before installing the new camera set up file, go to *Save/load settings* and make a copy of your current settings first, so you can put them back onto your camera in case you do not like my settings!

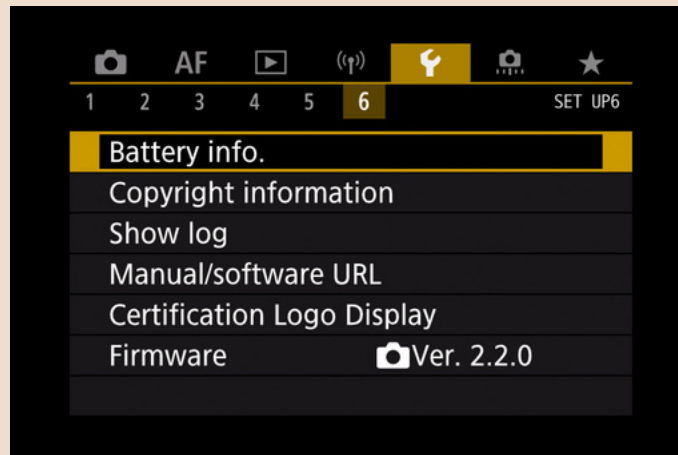
Save to card – Save current camera settings to a new camera settings file

- To save your current settings navigate to '**Save/Load cam settings on card**' and then select '**Save to card**'. This will create a **.CSD file** on your memory card you can save onto your computer as a back up.

Load from card – Load settings from a camera settings file

- **To install my camera set up file**, save the .CSD file onto an *empty memory card*
- *Make sure there are no other cards inside the camera*
- Then navigate to '**Save/Load cam settings on card**' and select '**Load from card**'
- That will install **most** of my settings onto your R5.
- In some cases not all settings are copied over and you can either try it again or manually check with this guide to make sure everything is set up correctly
 - Sometimes the custom modes and video settings may not be transferred properly or are turned off (*Custom picture in Custom modes for instance*). *Re-adjust them manually.*

6/6: Set Up 6



Battery info. – View charge level, shutter count, and recharge performance

Copyright information – Add photographer and copyright metadata

Show log – Shows password activity

Manual/software URL – Access Canon's support site

Certification Logo Display – Displays region-specific certification logos

Firmware – View or update camera firmware version

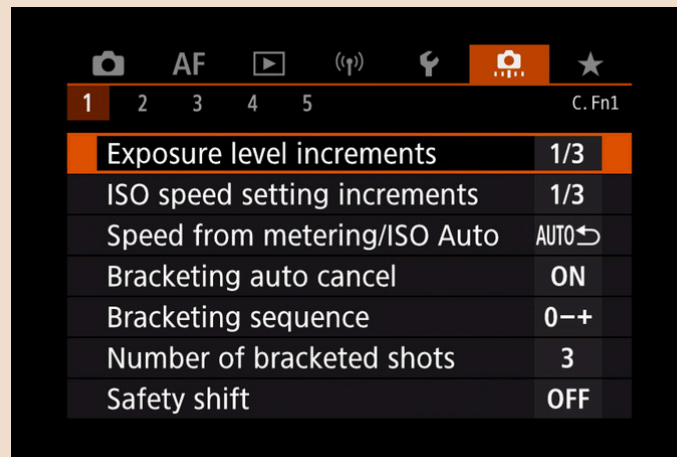


R5 | EF 600 L IS II | 2X TC | F11 | ISO 1600 | 1/800

ORANGE PHOTO MENU

This menu deals with *camera operations and customization of controls* – like shooting modes, shooting speed, button functions, control dials and various other settings. It's where you tailor the camera to fit your personal shooting style.

We will make many important adjustments here.



Exposure level increments – Sets EV adjustment steps for exposure

ISO speed setting increments – Sets ISO change steps (1/3 or 1 stop)

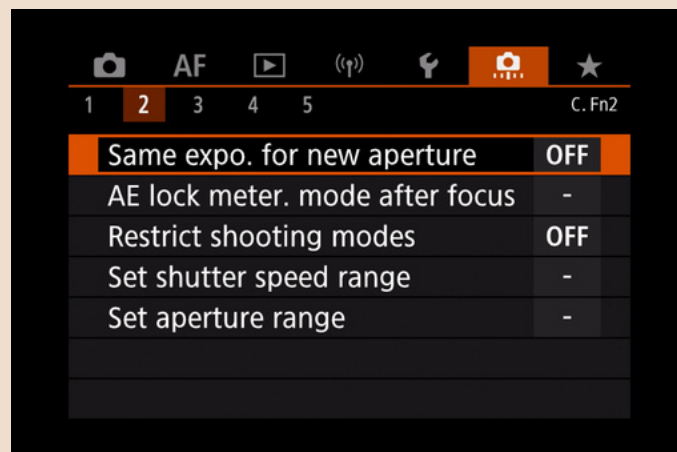
Speed from metering/ISO Auto – Determines if auto ISO adjusts shutter/aperture in M mode

Bracketing auto cancel – Disables bracketing after power-off or mode change

Bracketing sequence – Defines order of bracketed exposures

Number of bracketed shots – Number of images during bracketing

Safety shift – Prevents exposure errors by auto-adjusting shutter or aperture if limits are exceeded



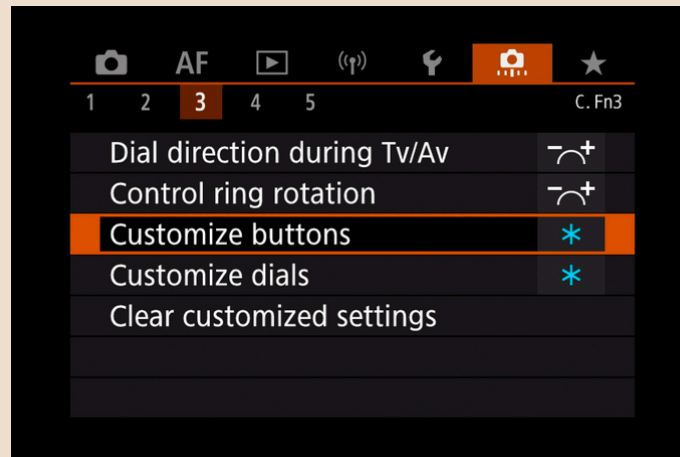
Same expo. for new aperture – Maintains exposure when changing lenses with different maximum apertures

AE lock meter. mode after focus – Option to hold exposure after autofocus

Restrict shooting modes – Limit unused modes for easier selection

Set shutter speed range – Customize minimum and maximum allowable shutter speeds

Set aperture range – Customize allowed aperture range for lens



I leave the first two as default

- These let you adjust the direction of the wheel and control rings

Customize buttons

- Here we will assign our buttons for back button focus and assign specific settings to certain buttons.
- **We will set this up on the next page**

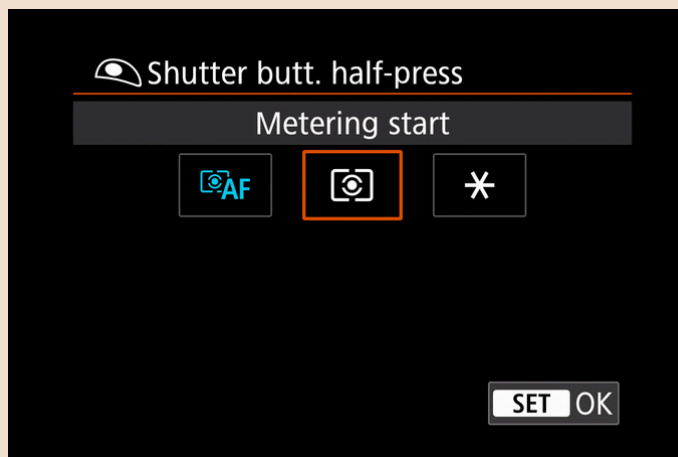
Customize dials – Set dial/control ring functions

- *I like the shutter speed on the rear dial in manual mode, but most people prefer the defaults*

Clear customized settings – Reset settings



R5 | RF 600 L IS | 1.4X | TC F8 | ISO 1600 | 1/800



Let's go through the photo custom controls on the left side, one by one. I usually leave the video options unchanged since I rely mainly on automatic tracking we will set up in the video section

Shutter button half-press – Metering start

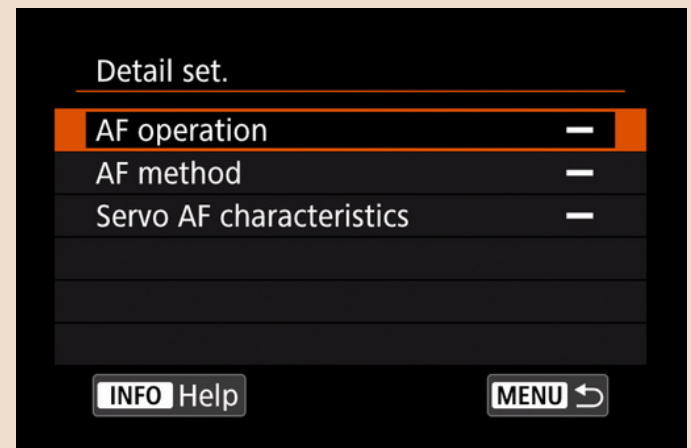
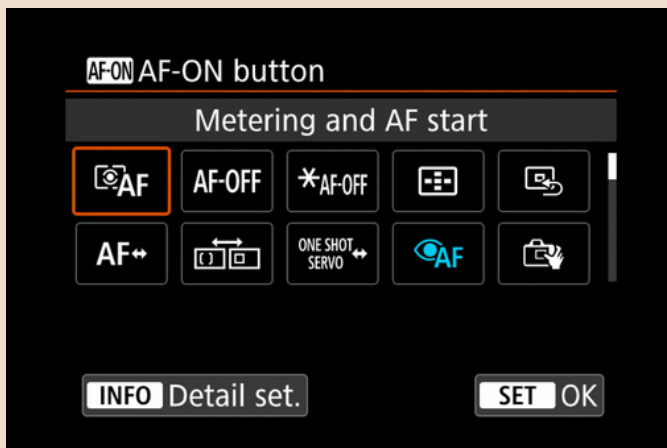
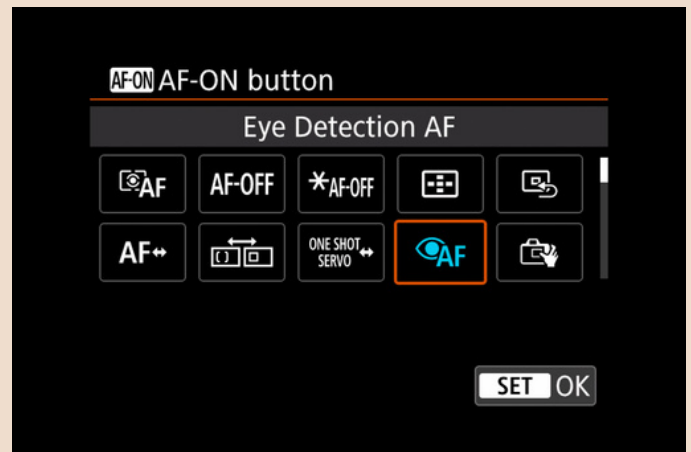
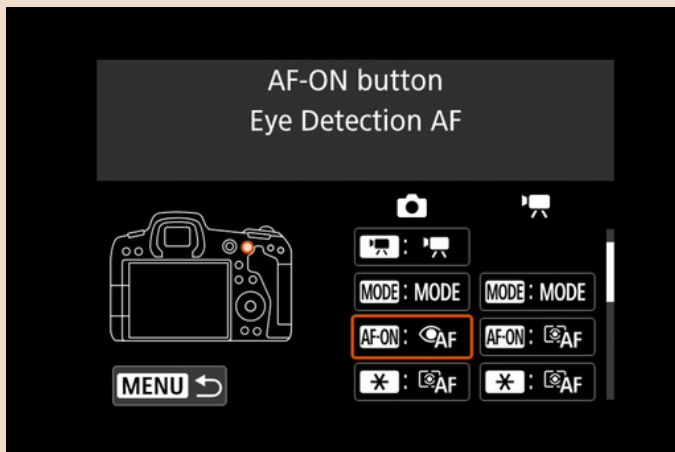
- We want to set up back button autofocus, therefore I am disabling the focusing function from the shutter button and set it to **Metering start** only
- If you prefer to also focus with the shutter button, you can leave it active
 - *I like to have full control over the focus and like to separate it from image taking, so that the camera does not re-focus just before I take an image*

Movie Shooting Button – Movie Recording (default)

- If pressed in photo mode, the R5 will automatically record with the settings saved in video custom shooting mode 3

Mode – Change Shooting and custom modes





AF-ON button

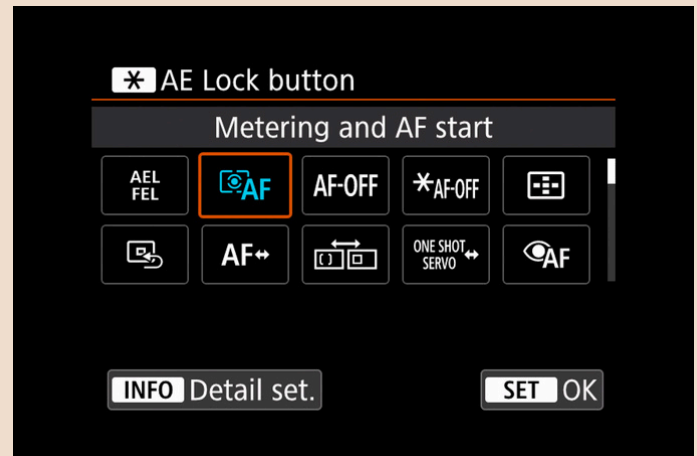
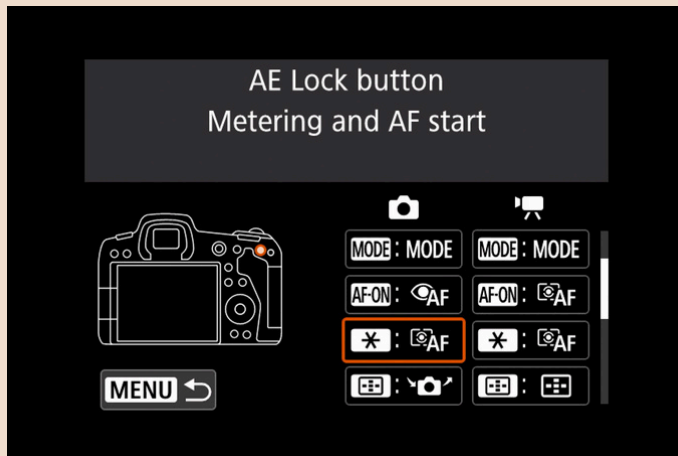
- We will assign eye tracking AF to the AF-On button. This can be done in two different ways

Option 1

- The easiest way is to navigate to **Eye Detection AF**, this will enable eye tracking while the AF-On button is held down. The subject detection will default to Auto. *This is what I use and works great.*

Option 2 – Not recommended

- The other option is to select **Metering and AF start** and press **INFO** to access the sub settings menu to select settings we want the camera to execute when pressing AF-ON.
- However on the R5 the options are limited, so this option offers little benefit. Most settings used are the ones from the main menu
- The only use case for this I see here is if you wanted to use servo tracking as default and change to one shot when pressing this button



Let's keep going with the rest of the buttons, *a few more changes to make.*

Setting up double back button autofocus

So far, we have disabled shutter button focusing and assigned animal eye tracking to the AF-ON button, but we have not yet assigned a button to do the focusing in our base AF mode (Spot) we set up in the **pink menu**. *This task I assign to the * button (AE lock).*

AE-Lock button (* button) – Metering and AF start for base AF mode

- Select **Metering and AF start** & press set to confirm
 - The R5 will focus and meter with the settings set up in the pink menu, which is how I use it. (Spot AF as base)
 - You can assign sub settings to this button as well if you press **INFO**, but it is not needed or recommended here

Now we have successfully set up **double back button AF**. The *button will perform precise Spot AF without any tracking and the AF-ON button will perform **animal eye tracking & metering start** when pressed. Press menu to return.





Optional: Action/ High Image Quality Button

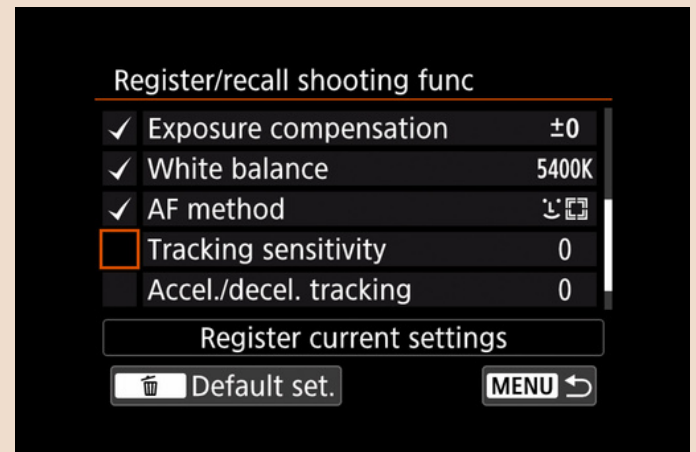
Next, I like to set up another button, which I call either ***action or high image quality button***, depending on which settings you choose.

- The idea is that we can press this button to quickly either get a **high shutter speed with high ISO for action** or a **slow shutter speed with low ISO for maximum image quality**
- On the R5, I usually dial in settings for fast action. This means: When I want to take a portrait, I get noisy files, because I have a high shutter speed and high ISO dialed in.
 - *That's why I assign the 'AF point button' to be my high image quality button*
- **Whenever I press that button, the camera will jump to a slow shutter speed and auto iso**, allowing me to take nice portraits at lower ISOs. When I let go, it reverts back to the main settings.

Let's set it up!

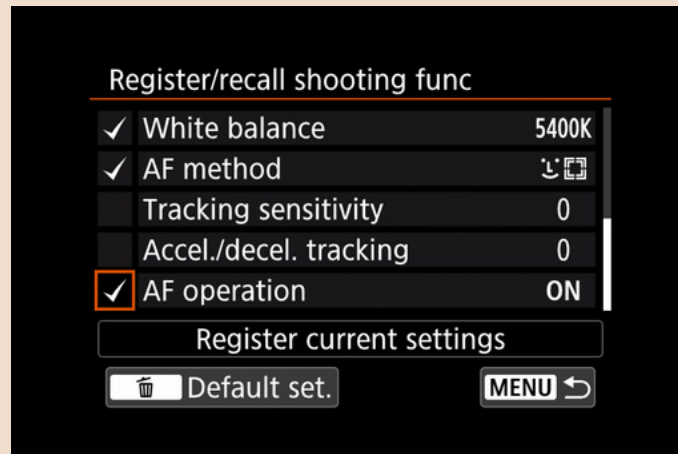
AF point button – Action or High IQ settings (Your choice)

- Navigate to **'Register/recall shooting func'**
 - Press *INFO* to enter sub settings menu
 - *See next page for details*



All adjustments you make in this menu and activate (✓) will overwrite your current camera settings while the button is pressed. Unticked settings will default to the ones in the main menu.

- ✓ **Shooting mode – Manual** - Lock in shutter speed and aperture
 - ✓ **Shutter speed**
 - 1/320 - 1/500 for high image quality mode
 - 1/2000 to 1/4000 for action mode
 - ✓ **Aperture** – Adjust depending on the lens
 - I like to set it to around f/5.6
 - If the aperture set here is larger than your lens can do, it will default to the max aperture on your lens, 6.3 for instance
 - ✓ **ISO speed – Auto ISO**
 - This will guarantee us good exposure without having to make any changes
 - ✓ **Metering mode -**
 - Evaluative – For balanced result
 - ✓ **Exposure compensation** – Depends on the shooting situation
 - I leave it at 0 or set it to $-\frac{1}{3}$ for generally decent exposure
 - ✓ **White balance** – Choose AWB or manual
 - I set it to 5400K for balanced results
 - ✓ **AF method – Eye-tracking AF**
 - Let's camera find and track subject all over the EVF
- Tracking sensitivity – 0** (not used) (defaults to pink menu settings)
- Accel./decel. tracking – 0** (not used) (defaults to pink menu settings)

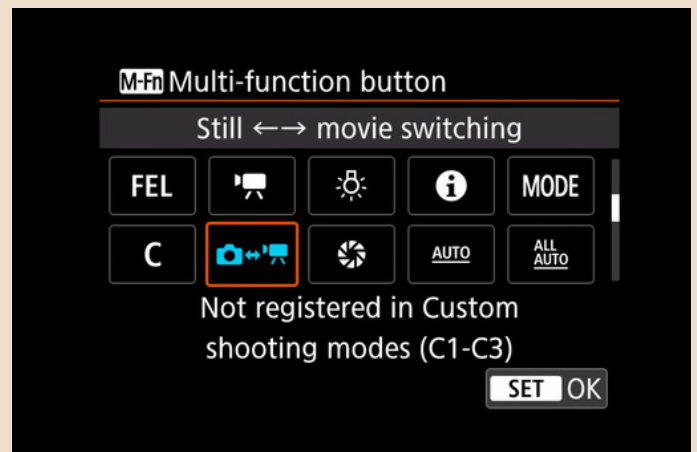
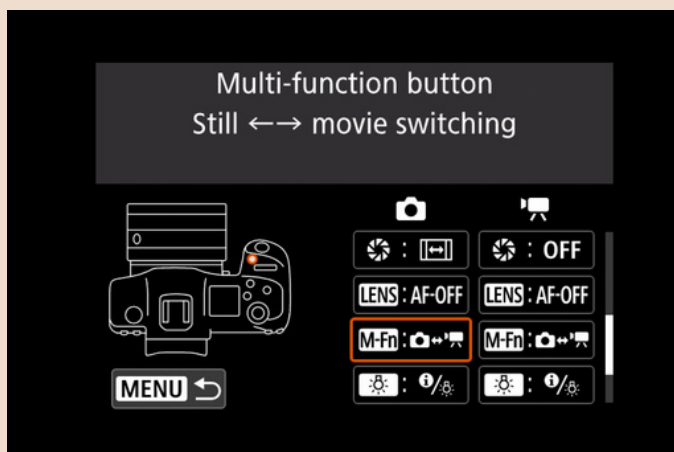


✓ **AF operation – ON – Starts AF**

DONE!

Press *MENU* to confirm and return to main custom button menu.

Now we have **triple back button AF** activated: **One emergency button, the * button to control our base AF** and the **AF-ON button for eye tracking**.



Let's go through the remaining custom controls on the left side.

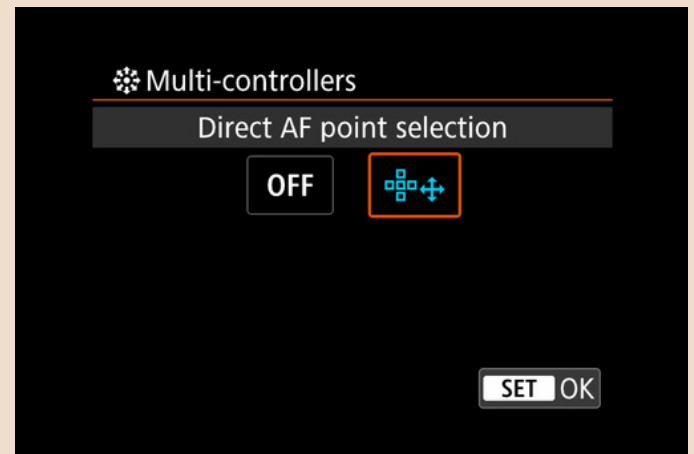
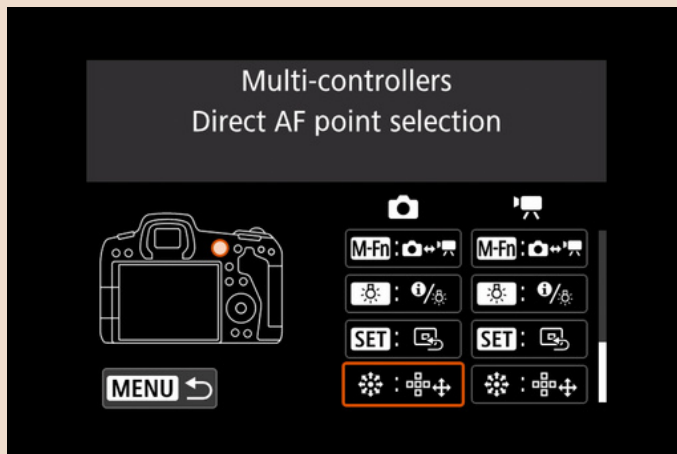
DOF Preview Button – Start/Stop Whole-area Tracking

L-FN button – AF OFF (default) – Select what happens when using the lens function button

M-Fn – Switch from photo to video and back – **very helpful**

- The R5 has no dedicated video switch so this is the best option

Light button – Illuminate buttons (default)



Set button – Set AF point to center

Multi-controllers – Select what happens when using the joystick

- I set it to '**Direct AF point selection**'

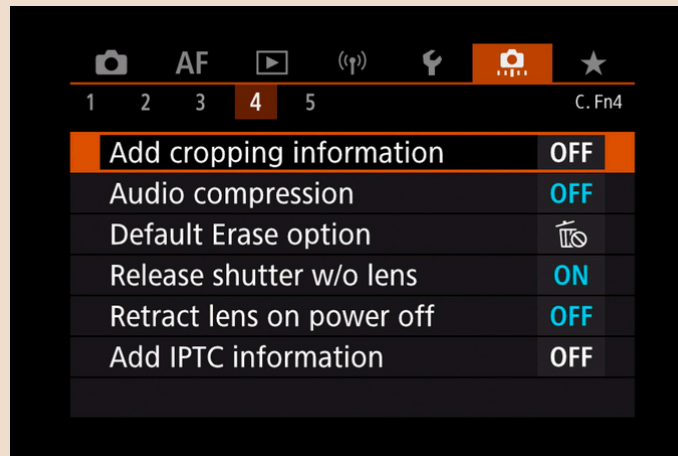
I left the video side mainly untouched since I don't use a lot of the buttons there.

Now we have finally set up all custom buttons!



R5 | RF 600 L IS | 1.4X TC | F5.6 | ISO 6400 | 1/400

4/5: C.Fn4



Add cropping information – OFF – Metadata for crop display in compatible software

Audio Compression – OFF - Better quality audio than compressed

Default Erase option – Sets the default behaviour when erasing images

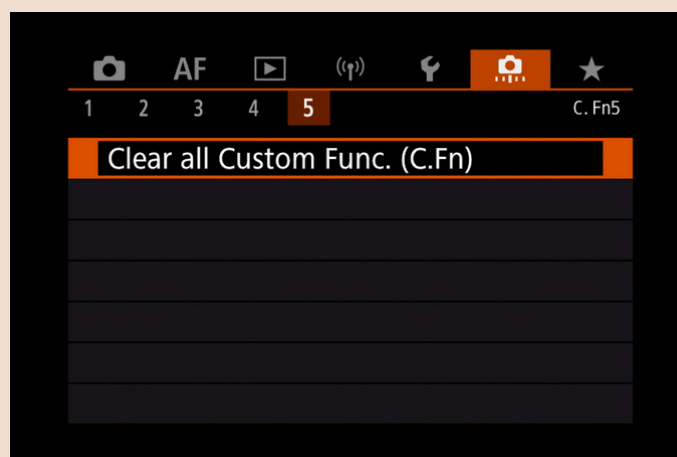
Release shutter w/o lens – ON – Allows shutter release with no lens attached

Retract lens on power off – OFF – **Important**

- If this is set to ON the camera will lose focus every time it goes into standby mode or gets turned off
- This mode is there to protect lenses that protrude out like the RF 35/1.8, but is useless for long lenses

Add IPTC information – OFF – Lets you embed IPTC metadata like author and copyright into image files

5/5: C.Fn5



Clear all Custom Functions (C.Fn) – Erase all custom functions

DARK GREEN PHOTO 'MY MENU'

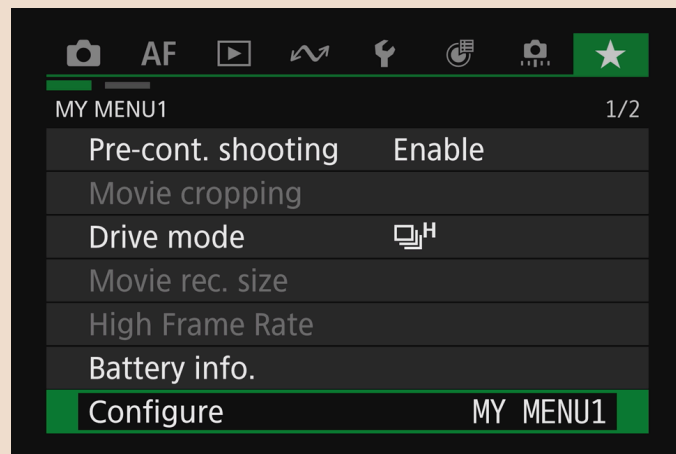
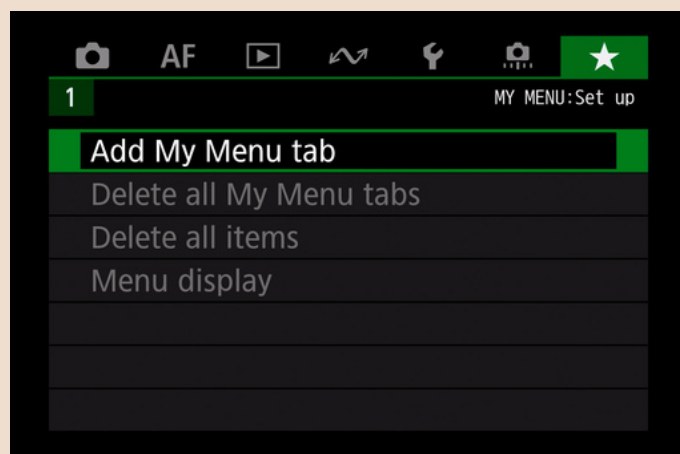
This menu lets you create a *personalized menu page* with your most-used settings and functions. It's designed to give you quick access to the features you use most, all in one place.

This menu is the same for photo and video.

1/1: My Menu management

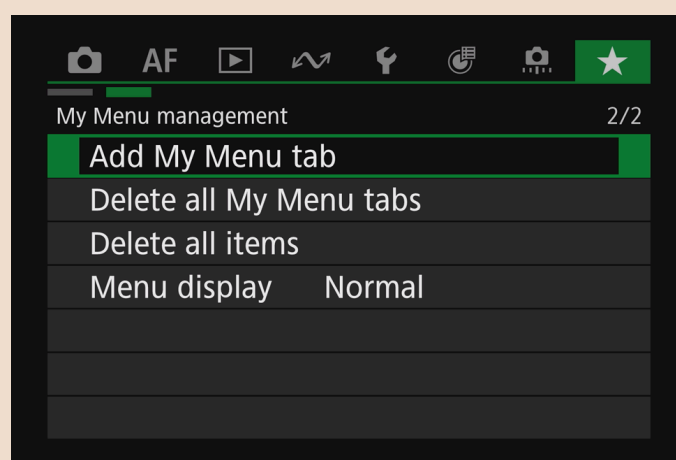
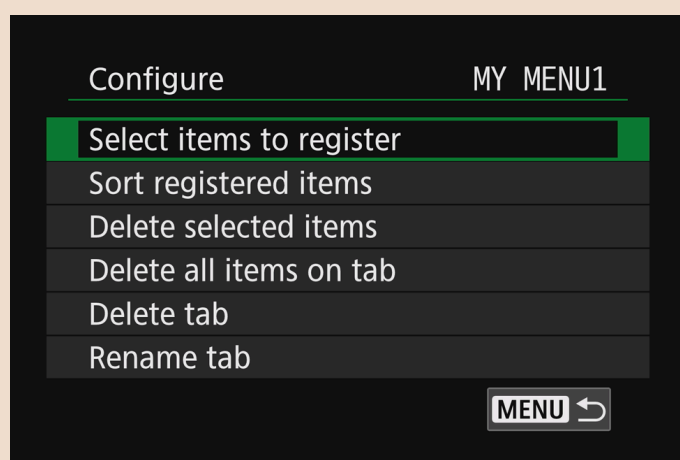
Sample 'My Menu' tab

This is what the page looks like when my menu isn't set up



→ submenu: Configure MY MENU1

→ submenu: Configure My Menu



My Menu – Create a custom menu for your most used settings

- This gives you quick access to menu items, without having to search through the whole menu

Add My Menu tab – Create a new My Menu page to add items .

Configure – Add items or make adjustments to My Menu tab

Select items to register – Register menu items to your My Menu page

- For instance, AF settings or video modes you want to quickly access

You can only add 6 menu items to one page, after that you have to create a second My Menu tab.

Go to '**Menu Display**' (4th image) to set the camera to always show the My Menu page first when pressing the menu button on the camera.

- Normal for standard menu display.
- I assigned the DOF Preview button to display the menu for quick access

VIDEO SETUP



To access the video menu, change the R5 to video mode via main dial or our custom button.

RED VIDEO MENU

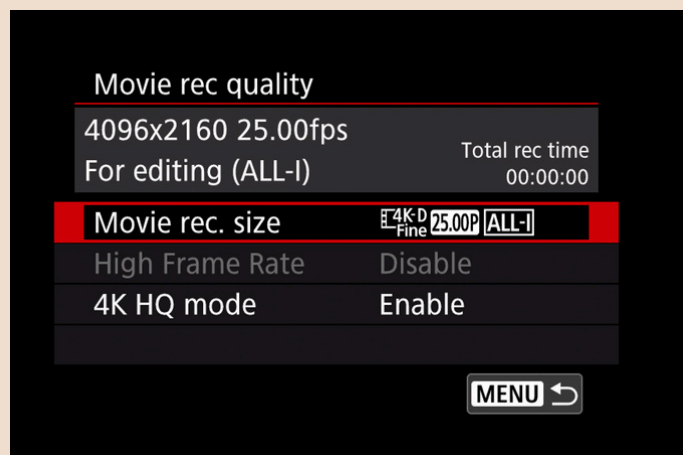
This menu controls your *video recording settings* –
such as resolution, frame rate, compression format,
and audio settings. It's where you set up how your
camera captures video.

***To access the video menu, change the R5 to video
mode via main dial or our custom button.***

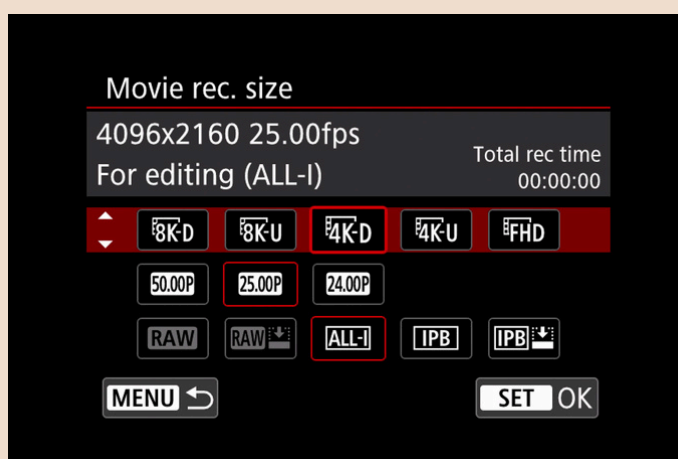
Not all items in the video menu are for video only.

**There's a lot of overlap with the photo menu we have
already set up: These items will remain the same.**

In the video part of this guide I will focus only on the
settings that are different and needed for video. I will skip
tabs or sections if they are identical to the photo menu.



→ submenu: Movie rec. size



Movie rec. quality – Set resolution, quality, frame rate & compression

- Selecting PAL or NTSC in the **yellow menu #2** will determine what frame rates are displayed here

Movie cropping – **Disable** – Enable to shoot in with 1.6x crop, works also in 4k

Sound recording – **Auto** – Auto audio capture during movie recording – adjust if needed

Movie rec. size – Select resolution and compression

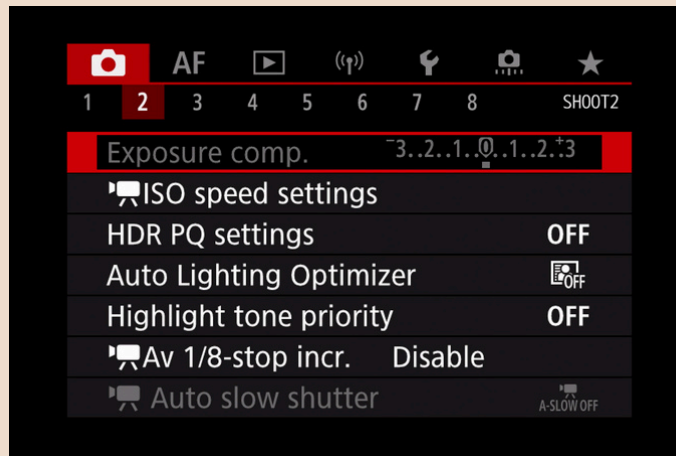
- On the R5 I like to shoot in 4k 50/60p or 4k 25/30p
- Select Standard ALL-I compression for better quality video files (larger)
- Navigate up/down, left/right to select desired options

High Frame Rate – Enable to record in slow motion in 100/120 fps

- Will block any other frame rates

4K HQ mode – Enable for higher quality oversampled video files

- R5 will overheat faster
- Only available in a certain frame rates (up to 30p)



Exposure comp. – Adjust brightness for movie exposure manually

ISO speed settings – Set manual or auto ISO range for video recording

HDR shooting (PQ) settings – Off – HDR mode with PQ gamma, captures wider dynamic range

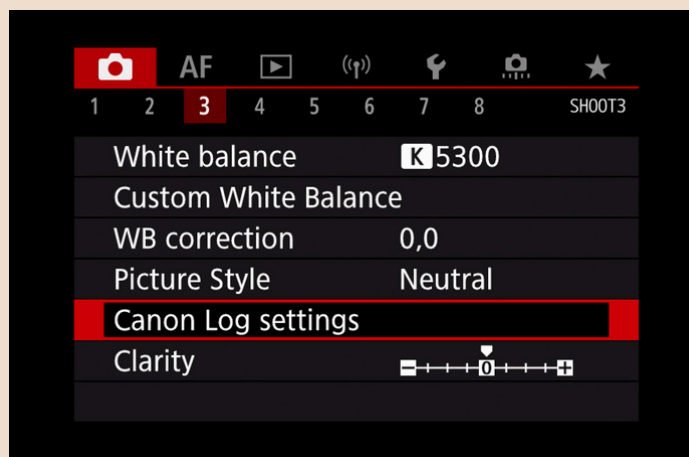
Auto Lighting Optimizer – Off – Automatic brightness or shadow adjustments

Highlight tone priority – Off – More detail in highlights, but more noise in dark areas - does not work in LOG format

Av 1/8-stop incr. – Disable – Keeps aperture changes in standard 1/3-stop steps

Auto slow shutter – Disabled – Camera won't drop shutter speed to brighten low light scenes





White balance – 5300K – I set a manual WB between 5100 and 5800 based on the scene I am shooting

Custom WB – Assign a custom white balance based on a reference image

WB correction – 0,0 – No tint or color bias correction applied

In this menu we pick either a **standard recording style** or **LOG format** (Canon Log Settings) for our videos.

- LOG files have maximum dynamic range (minimal contrast), but require more extensive editing
- For most casual users, leaving custom picture off and selecting a picture style is likely sufficient and will make editing much easier or sometimes unnecessary

OPTION 1 – NO LOG

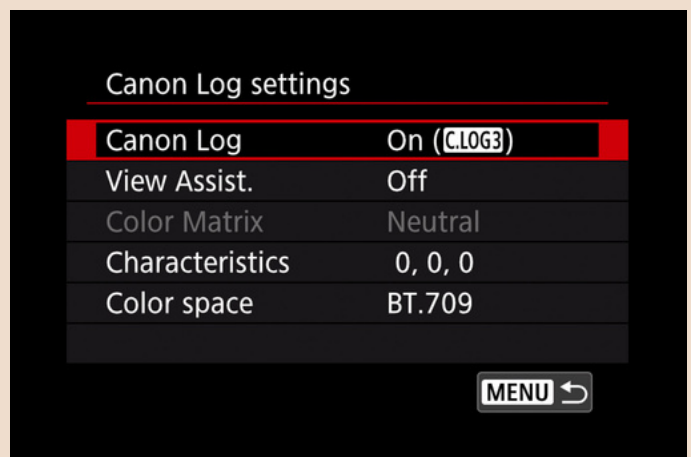
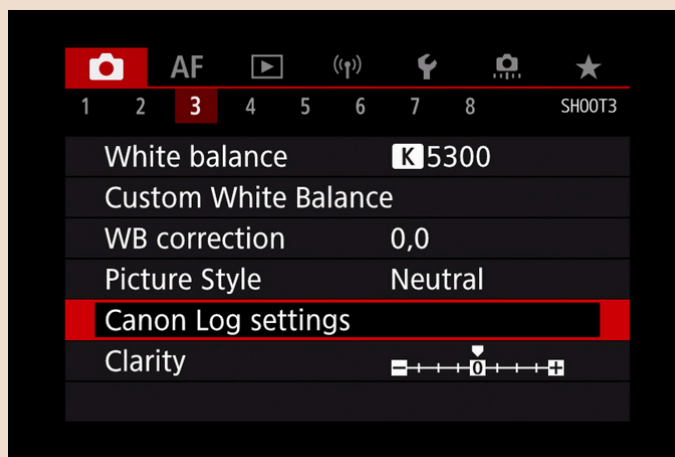
Canon Log settings – Off – Uses standard Picture Style instead of a custom profile

Picture Style – *Image look of video files*

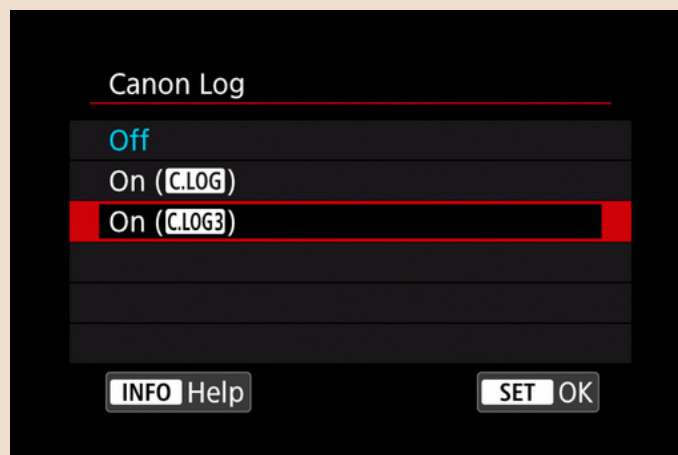
- Choose **standard** or **neutral** for a softer video look
- Don't apply too much sharpening, as files may look oversharpened
- *I would not recommend to use my photo picture style settings for filming*

Clarity – 0 – Adjust mid-tone contrast

Shooting creative filters – Off – greyed out – apply filters



→ submenu: Canon Log

**OPTION 2 – LOG****Canon Log settings– ON**

- **Activating LOG may grey out other menu items**
- **Canon Log– ON (Activates LOG format)**

Canon Log – ON (Activates LOG format) - Select C.LOG3

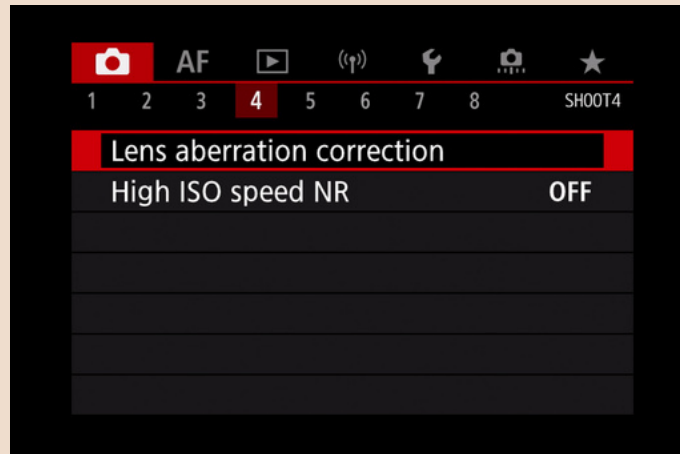
Rest left as default



R5 | CLOG3 | not graded |

You can see the need for editing with these files, but it gives max. dynamic range

4/8: Shoot 4



Lens aberration correction – Enable/disable corrections for distortion, chromatic aberration, etc.

High ISO speed NR – **OFF** – Noise reduction in high ISO settings

5/8: Shoot 5

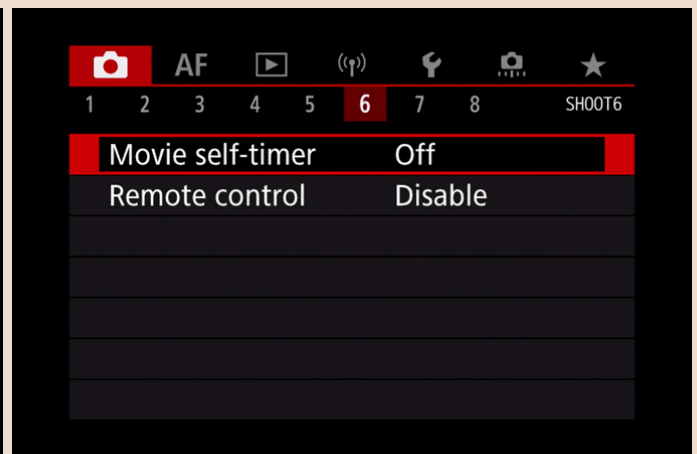


HDR Movie Recording - **OFF**

Time-lapse movie –

Automatically captures frames at set intervals and creates a finished 4K or Full HD video in-camera.

6/8: Shoot 6

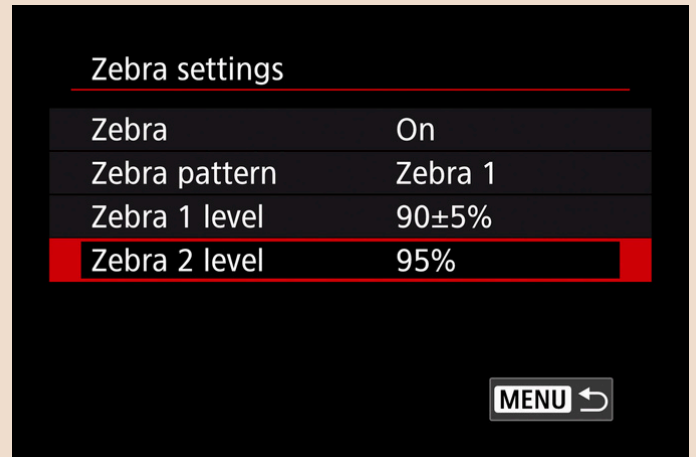
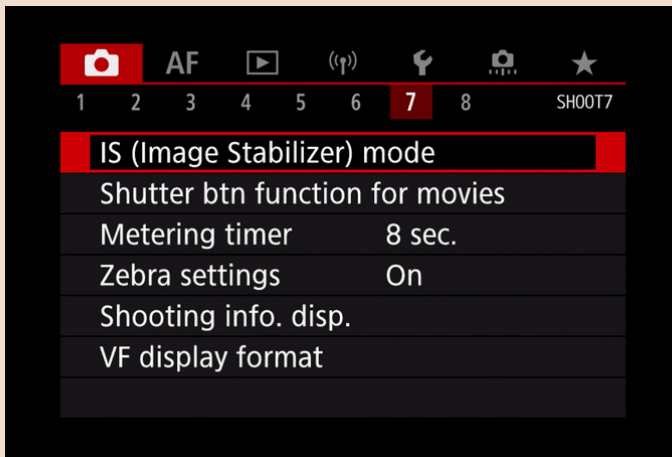


Movie self-timer – **Off** – Delays start of video recording

Remote Control –

Enable/Disable recording with remote





IS (Image Stabilizer) mode – Adjusts stabilization strength and method

- Digital IS – *OFF* – Digital IS is digital image stabilisation and *not to be confused with the IS in the lens.*

Shutter btn function for movies – Define what the shutter button does in movie mode – I like to set it to start/stop recording video

Metering timer – 8 sec. – Sets how long the camera meters before resetting

Zebra settings – On – Highlights overexposed areas with stripes for exposure monitoring – see details on second slide

- I like to use zebras for video to identify too bright areas

Shooting info. disp. – Customize display of shooting information on screen (similar to photo)

VF display format – Changes aspect/layout of viewfinder info display

Zebra – On – Enables zebra stripe overlays for exposure assistance

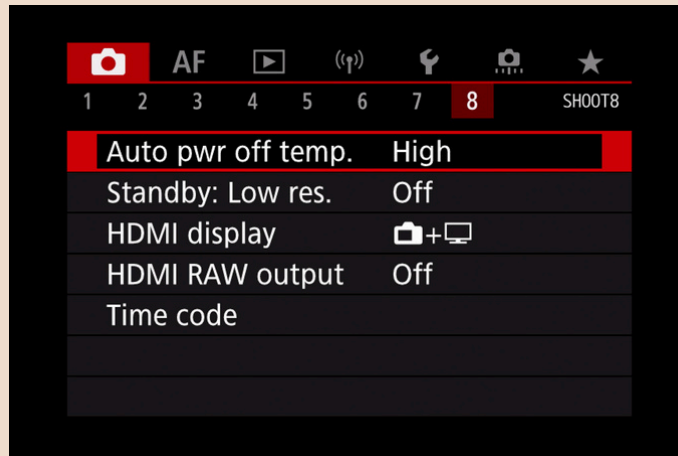
Zebra pattern – Zebra 1 – Uses Zebra 1 pattern (can switch to Zebra 2 or both)

Zebra 1 level – 90±5% – Displays stripes for exposure around 90% brightness

Zebra 2 level – 100% – Highlights areas at peak brightness (100% exposure)

- *If you set the zebras too aggressively they will show up all the time and become irritating*





Auto pwr off temp. – High – Delays overheating shutdown for longer recording

- *Helps to record longer in hotter environments*

Standby: Low res. – Off – Keeps full resolution preview when idle – important when using external screen

HDMI display – Output image to camera + external monitor simultaneously

HDMI RAW output – Off – RAW over HDMI (for external RAW recorders)

Time code – Enables SMPTE-compliant timecode for syncing multi-cam shoots

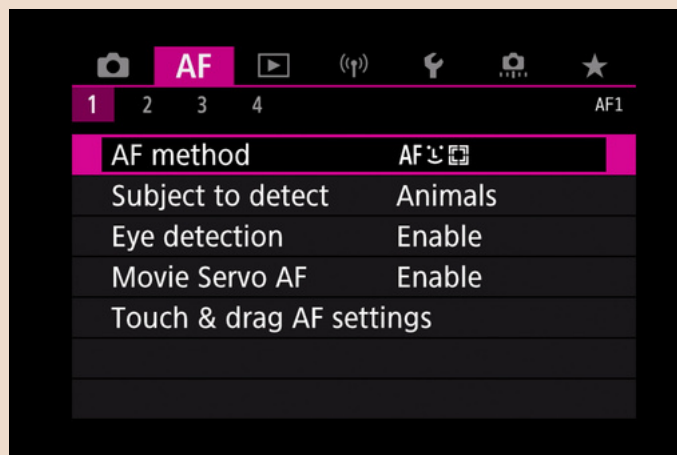


Zebra Display

PINK VIDEO MENU

This menu handles everything related to *focusing*. It's where you set how the camera detects and follows your subject when filming.

We will make a few changes here.



AF method – Face/eye detection + tracking - tracks subject all over EVF

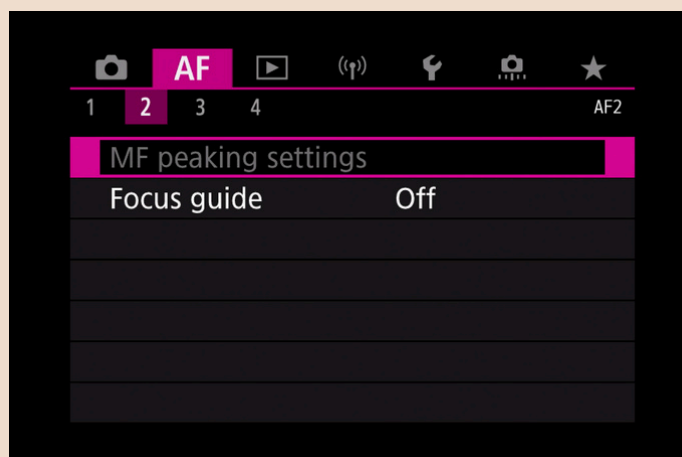
Subject to detect – Animals

Eye detection – Enable

Movie Servo AF – Enable – Continuous autofocus during movie recording; keeps subjects in focus as they move – **camera never stops focusing**

Touch & Drag AF settings - OFF - Select areas on LCD to move AF point

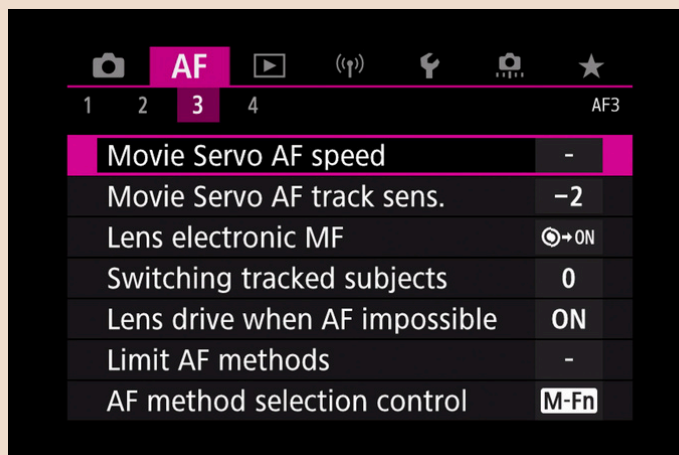
2/4: AF 2



MF peaking settings – Greyed-out, because zebras are on – Highlights on focus edges in manual focus mode (enter to adjust level and color)

- Helpful when using full MF and I would turn it on and zebras off

Focus guide (Off) – Shows visual guide during manual focus; useful for precise focus when using full manual mode – works great in combination with the MF peaking



Movie Servo AF speed – 0 – Standard focus transition speed; adjust for faster or slower tracking

Movie Servo AF track sens. : -2 – Balanced tracking; less likely to shift focus unless subject moves clearly

- Change for more/less aggressive setting

Lens electronic MF (ON) – Enables electronic manual focus override – so you can always manually adjust focus, even when AF is running (important)

Switching tracked subjects – 0 – Sets how easily the camera switches between tracked subjects

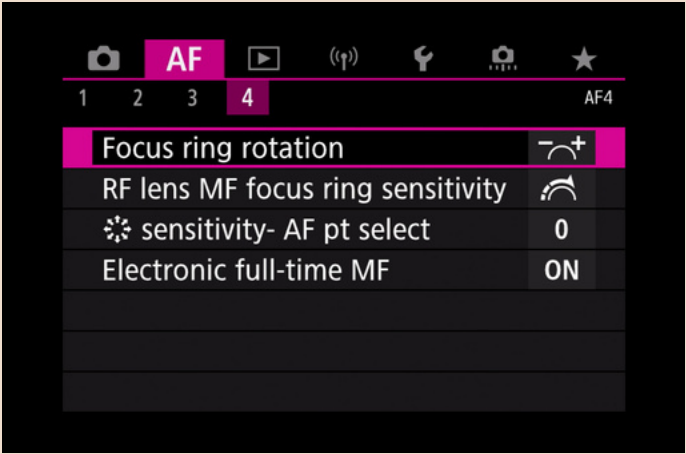
Lens drive when AF impossible – OFF – Prevents focus hunting and camera getting stuck on BG, but requires pre-focussing for larger distance changes

Limit AF areas – Select which AF area modes are available in the menu for quicker switching – disable not used ones

AF method selection control – Cycle through AF methods – not used – M-Fn assigned elsewhere



R5 | RF 200-800 | 1.4X TC | F5.6 | ISO 12800 | 1/400



- Focus ring rotation** – (default) – Choose focus ring direction
- RF lens MF focus ring sensitivity** – (default) – Adjust responsiveness of MF ring
- Multi controller sensitivity – AF pt select: +1** – Speed when moving AF points via controller (joystick)
- Electronic full-time MF** – Electronic Full-time MF (Video) – Lets you manually adjust focus with the lens ring even when using autofocus during video recording.



R5 | RF 600 L IS | 1.4X TC | F7.1 | ISO 3200 | 1/640

BLUE VIDEO MENU

No changes have been made to the blue menu in video mode compared to what we've done already in photo mode.

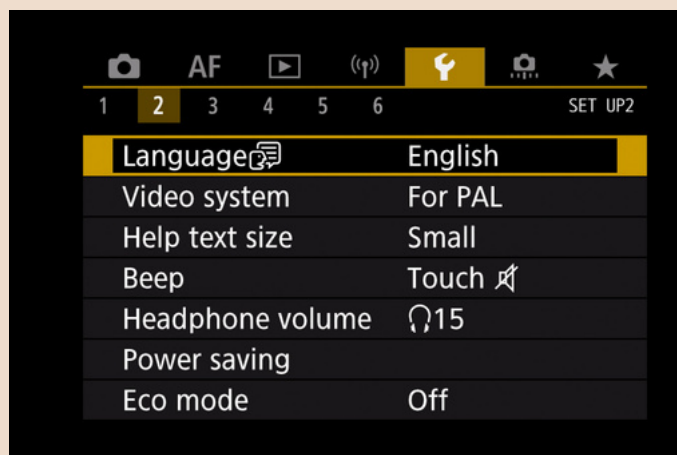
PURPLE VIDEO MENU

No changes have been made to the purple menu in video mode compared to what we've done already in photo mode.

YELLOW VIDEO MENU

No changes have been made to the yellow menu in video mode compared to what we've done already in photo mode. Just remember, here you can assign NTSC/PAL video standard to select frame rate in the red menu.

2/6: Set Up 2

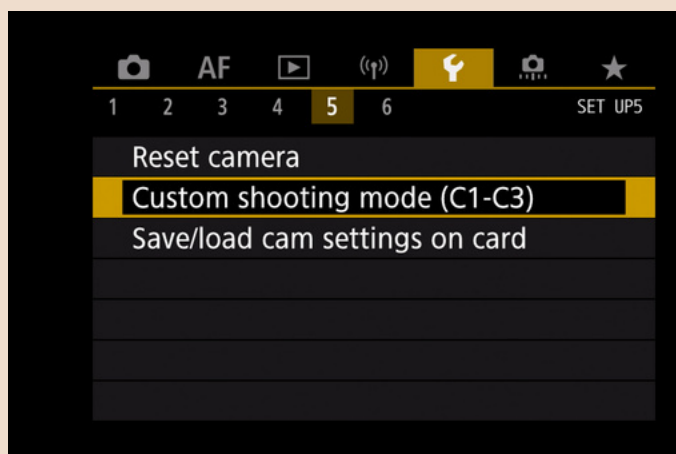


In the second tab, just remember that the system frequency is important. This will determine your available video frame rates.

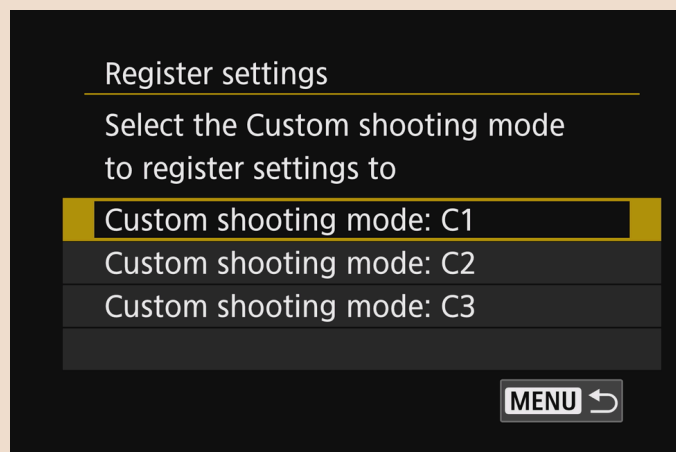
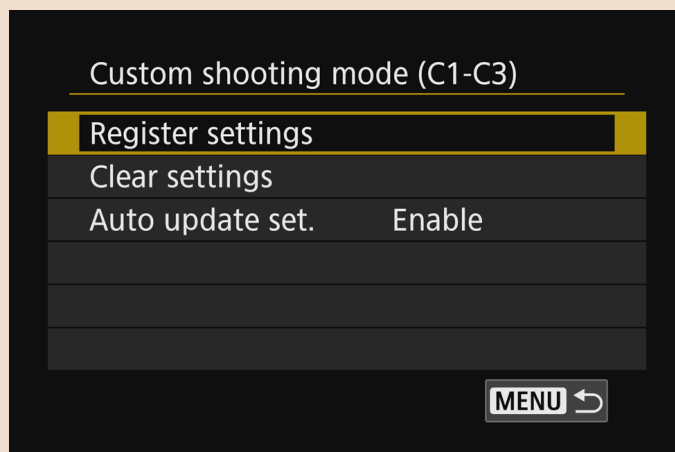
System frequency – Match region's video standard (PAL for EU/Asia, NTSC for US)

- ***This affects the video frame rates available (PAL: 25,50,100 fps, NTSC: 24,30,60,120fps)***
- For wildlife it does not matter, but when filming inside, choosing the right location PAL/NTSC can stop flickering in video files

5/6: Set Up 5



For video, this 5th yellow menu is important. *This is where we save our custom functions.* We can save 3 different frame rates and settings, so we can easily switch between video formats, without having to go into the red video menu. We just turn the dial on top instead.



Register settings – Save current camera setup to a custom mode

- **Select all settings you want to save** to a particular custom mode, AF mode, subject to detect, custom buttons, ISO, shutter speed, shooting mode, frame rate, etc.
- Once you have them dialed in, go to: **Custom shooting mode > Register settings** and then select **C1, 2 or 3**. This will save all your settings to that custom shooting mode and can be recalled by setting the mode dial to that custom mode.
- Press *MENU* to get back
- Make sure to set the shutter speed to double the frame rate

For instance you could save 4k 50/60p as C-Fn1 and 4k 25/30p as C-Fn3 and slow motion to C-Fn2.

C-Fn1 - 4kD – 60/50p – ALL-I or 8k 25/30p (huge files & fast overheating)

C-Fn2 - 4kD – High frame rate 100p – ALL-I

C-Fn3 - 4kD fine – 30p – ALL-I

Auto update set. (Enable/Disable) – Important

- If enabled, any changes made while using a custom mode will be saved automatically to that custom mode
 - This can be helpful, if you use custom modes in changing environments
- If you prefer to always have the identical settings as your custom mode, *disable it*

ORANGE VIDEO MENU

No changes have been made to the orange menu in video mode compared to what we've done already in photo mode.

DARK GREEN

VIDEO

‘MY MENU’

‘My Menu’ is identical for photo and video.

You've made it!



I hope my guide has helped you find the best settings for your R5. Now it's time to take it outside and take some amazing photos!

And: *Capturing great RAW files is just the beginning – **editing makes them truly stand out.***

Feeling stuck or overwhelmed just thinking about editing? Not sure where to start or how to finish? *I can help you.*

I created my **Lightroom** and **Photoshop Masterclasses** to guide you through the entire editing process and teach you my **fast & efficient workflow** – step by step and in easy-to-follow chapters.

You will be able to confidently transform even your most difficult to edit RAW files with ease and get stunning results every single time.

Let's turn editing from a chore into your favourite part!

		<p><u>Next-Gen Photoshop Class</u></p> <p><u>Lightroom Class</u></p> <p>or</p> <p><u>Or roam the rest of my shop for more photography courses!</u></p>
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Find me here



I would love to hear your thoughts – please feel welcome to reach out, if you have further questions, feedback or want to share your ideas for future editions. I'm here to help you along the way and can't wait to hear about your photography progress, if you would like to share.

In the meantime, if you haven't already, you can head on over to YouTube and watch my R5 Mark II and other setup videos as an additional resource or find me on my other platforms. You can always say hi.

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That is all for now! See you online or in the field!
Sending you all much love.



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