



# NIKON **Z50 II** SETUP GUIDE

*by*

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# Welcome!



The Nikon Z50II 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 **.BIN file** that you can install directly onto your Z50II via the **orange Setup Menu (Save/load menu settings)**.

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. After installing the file, double-check your settings with this guide to ensure everything is set up properly.

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

*Jan*

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(...) = Only the menu item selected in the slide is named for, but all relevant items are discussed.

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**CAMERA  
SETUP**



# DARK GREEN

## PHOTO SHOOTING

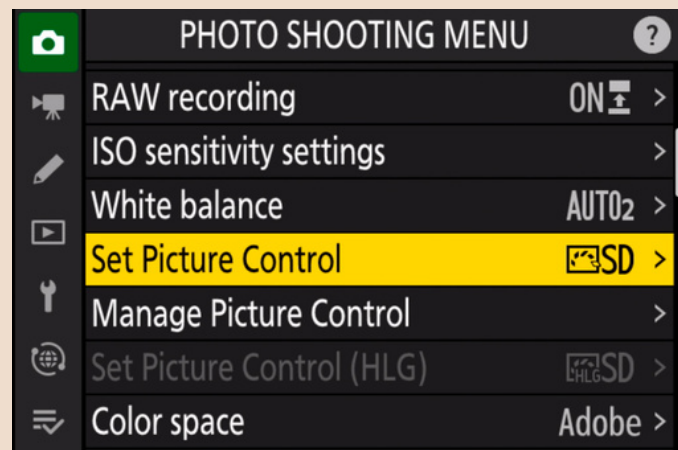
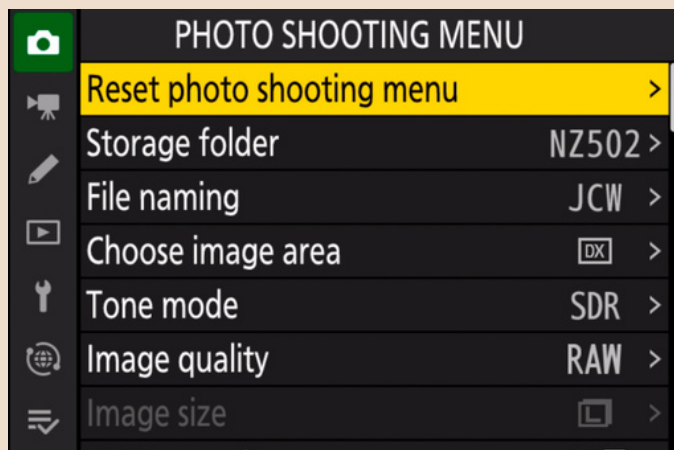
# MENU

**This menu controls all our *core shooting settings* –**  
like image quality, drive mode, white balance, metering,  
and certain basic AF settings.

**We will make a lot of changes in this menu.**



## Photo Shooting Menu



**Reset photo shooting menu** – Factory reset menu settings

**Storage folder** – Select or create folder for image storage

**File naming** – Customize 3-letter prefix for file names (e.g., Z8\_, JCW)

**Choose image area** – *DX* (crop mode) – max possible

**Tone mode** – *SDR* – SDR or HLG – affects tonal range

**Image quality** – *RAW* – Select RAW, JPEG, HEIF

**Image size** – Set JPEG/HEIF dimensions

**RAW recording** – Pick compression type (Lossless for best quality)

- *High Efficiency or High Efficiency\* for more smaller files*
- *For most High Efficiency will be easier to work with*

**ISO sensitivity settings** – Set ISO, Auto ISO range & set min. shutter speed

**White balance** – *AUTO2* -Select different WB options

- *I set it to AUTO2 & keep warm lighting colours*

**Set Picture Control** – *SD* – Select desired image look – Standard or Neutral

- *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*

**Manage Picture Control** – Create, rename, delete, or load custom Picture Controls

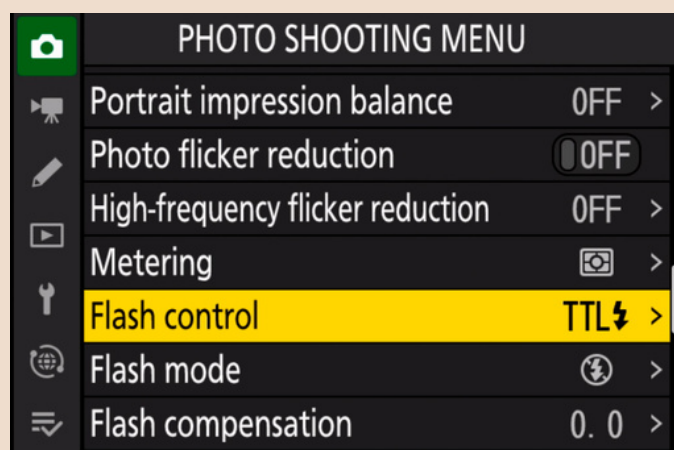
**Set Picture Control (HLG)** – Choose Picture Control for HLG (High Dynamic Range) shooting

**Color space** – Adobe RGB or sRGB

- *I use Adobe RGB, this can be adjusted later when shooting in RAW*



## Photo Shooting Menu. Cont'd



**Active D-Lighting** – OFF – Boosts shadow/highlight detail – works only with Nikon's software

**Long exposure NR** – Reduces noise in long exposures – ON for JPEG, OFF for RAW

**High ISO NR** – OFF – Applies NR to JPEGs/HEIFs – OFF or LOW recommended for more detail

**Vignette control** – OFF – Reduces dark corners in JPEG/HEIF

**Diffraction compensation** – OFF – Compensates for sharpness loss at high f-numbers

**Auto distortion control** – OFF – Corrects lens distortion in-camera (JPEG/HEIF only)

**Skin softening** – OFF – Smooths skin in portraits (JPEG/HEIF only)

**Portrait impression balance** – OFF – Adjust skin tone and brightness in portraits

**Photo flicker reduction** – OFF – Reduces flicker effects under artificial light

**High-frequency flicker reduction** – OFF – Reduces LED/panel flicker

**Metering** – Matrix Metering – Choose Metering mode (Matrix, Spot, etc.)

**Flash control** – Set built-in or external flash options

**Flash mode** – Choose front curtain, rear, slow sync, etc.

**Flash compensation** – Adjust flash output power



## Photo Shooting Menu. Cont'd

PHOTO SHOOTING MENU	
Flash mode	>
Flash compensation	0.0 >
Release mode	Continuous H >
Focus mode	AF-C >
AF-area mode	[11] >
AF/MF subject detection options	>
MF subject detection area	OFF >

## submenu - Release mode

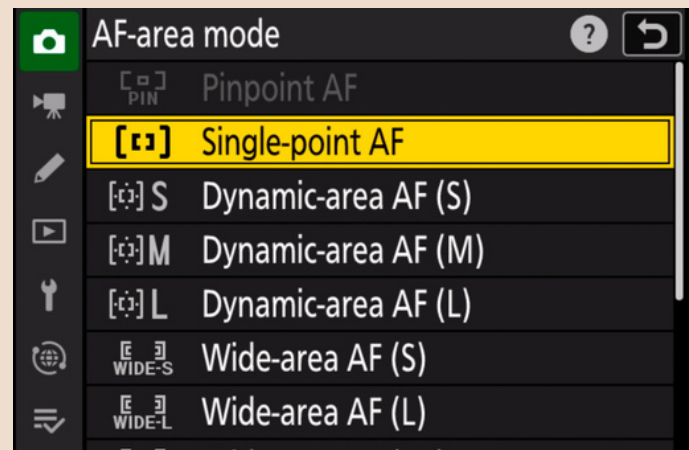
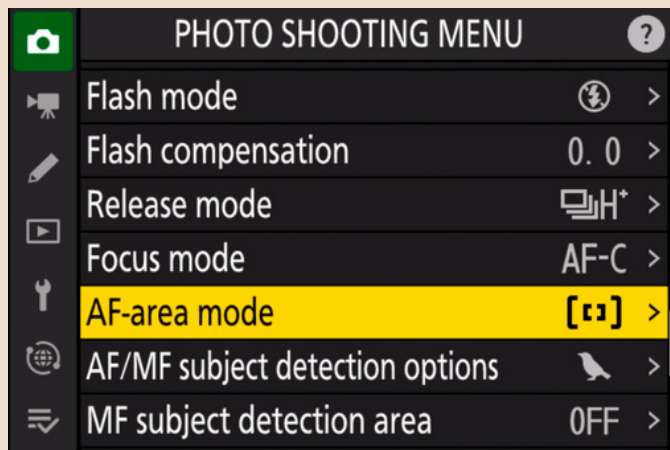
Release mode	
Single frame	
Continuous L	
Continuous H	
Continuous H (extended)	
C15	
C30	
Self-timer	

### Release mode – Choose frames per second

- The Z50II shoots at up to 11 fps with the Mechanical and Electronic 1<sup>st</sup> Curtain Shutter and up to 30 fps with the Electronic Shutter (Silent mode), but that's JPEG only
- The rolling shutter on the Z5II is quite bad, so I'd recommend not using the Electronic Shutter
- *It makes the most sense to use Continuous H mode & Mechanical Shutter, for fastest frame rates and best quality files. It's also the best way to get the highest fps.*

### Focus mode – AF-C – Continuous AF for moving subjects





**AF-area mode** – Choose AF points or zones best suited to the shooting situation

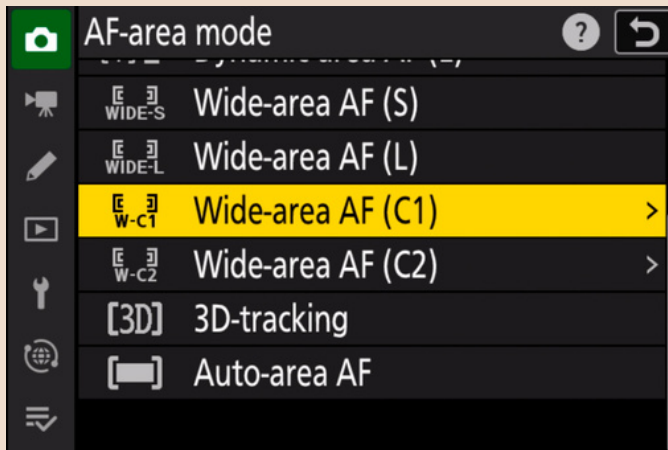
On the Z50II, I like to use double back button autofocus. We will set this up across a few different menus.

- My base autofocus is **Single-point AF**. 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.
- We will set up Animal Eye tracking AF later. It will be assigned to the AF-ON button in the custom settings menu, not here and will overwrite this menu.

**AF/MF subject detection options** – *Birds* – Choose **subject to detect**  
**MF subject detection area** – *OFF* – Subject detection in manual focus







In the AF-area mode submenu we can select many other AF options if needed. But for us Single-point AF as base is what we want.

In this submenu we also **customize the Wide-area AF (C1 & C2)**

- We will assign one of these to a custom button later on, so let's give it the right shape.
- For birds in flight this mode is often the best.
- To **customize the wide area, select Wide-area AF C1 or C2** and click right on the D-pad on the back of the camera
  - In the sub menu use the D-pad to reshape the red AF area
  - For birds in flight I like it quite wide and narrow



## Photo Shooting Menu. Cont'd

	PHOTO SHOOTING MENU	
AF/MF subject detection options		>
MF subject detection area	OFF	>
Vibration reduction	ON	>
Auto bracketing	OFF	>
Multiple exposure	OFF	>
HDR overlay	OFF	>
Interval timer shooting	OFF	>

	PHOTO SHOOTING MENU	
Vibration reduction	ON	>
Auto bracketing	OFF	>
Multiple exposure	OFF	>
HDR overlay	OFF	>
Interval timer shooting	OFF	>
Time-lapse video	OFF	>
Focus shift shooting	OFF	>

### Vibration reduction – On (Standard)

- Sport mode brings unwanted shake, unless camera is moved quickly

**Auto bracketing** – (default) – Set exposure, flash, or WB bracketing options

**Multiple exposure** – OFF – Combines multiple shots into one image

**HDR overlay** – OFF – Merges exposures for high dynamic range (JPEG only)

**Interval timer shooting** – Take photos at set intervals – great for timelapses

**Time-lapse video** – Records a finished timelapse movie in-camera

**Focus shift shooting** – Captures a focus stack for later merging





# LIGHT GREEN

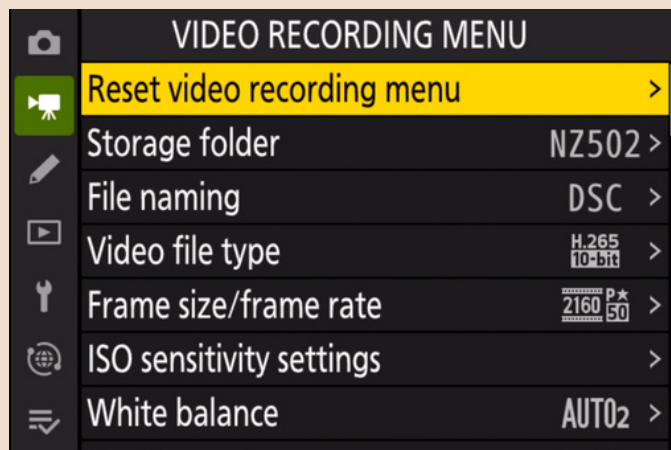
## VIDEO RECORDING

# MENU

**This menu handles everything related to *video*.** It's where we set frame rate, codecs & video AF settings.

**We will make important changes here.**

## Video Recording Menu



**Reset video recording menu** – Factory reset menu settings

**Storage folder** – Choose or create folder for video files

**File naming** – Set 3-letter prefix for video filenames e.g. JCW

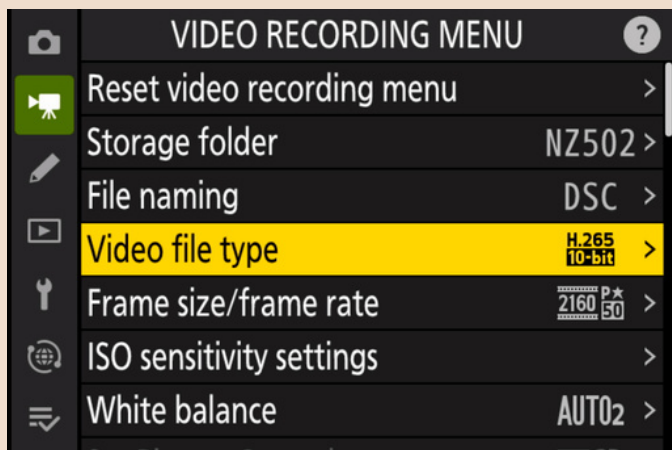


N-LOG file | not graded |

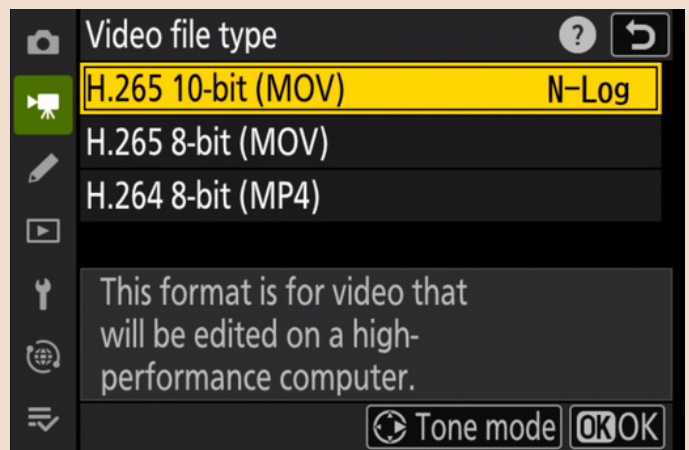
*You can see the need for editing with these files, but it gives max. dynamic range*



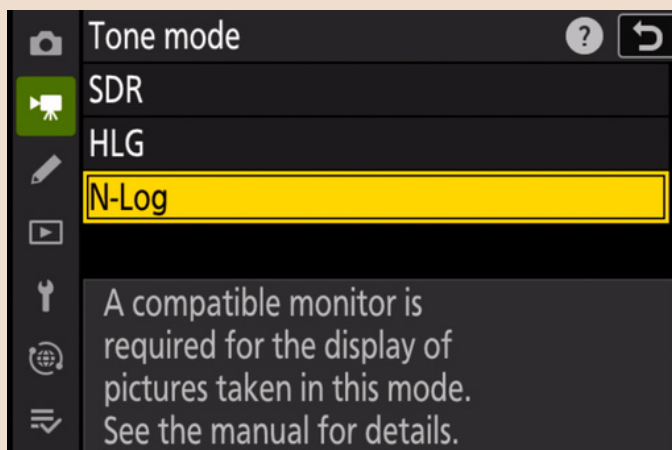
## Video Recording Menu Cont'd



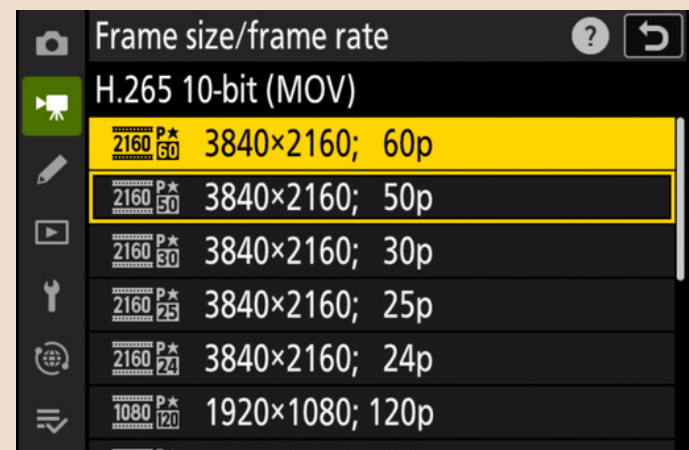
## submenu - Video file type



## submenu - Tone mode



## submenu - Frame size/rate



**Video file type** – Choose codec (H.265, H.264) and bit depth

- RAW gives great editing flexibility, but huge files
- Select H.265 10bit or 8 bit for smaller files
- Select H.264 for larger files and better compatability/easier editing
- *Slow Motion (100/120fps) only available in FHD*

Press **right** to select Tone Mode: **SDR (Standard) or Log format**

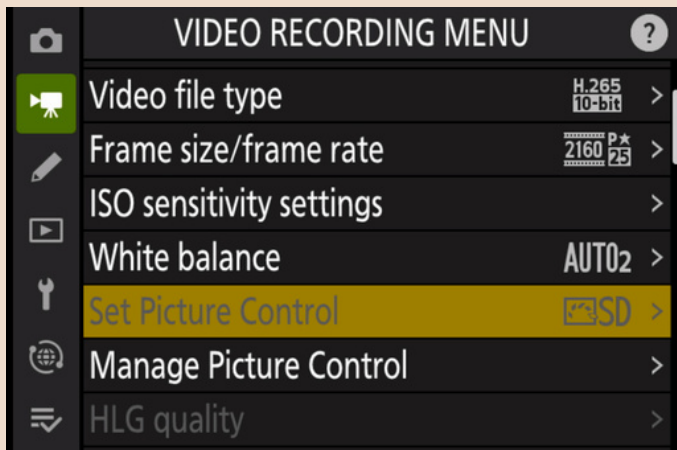
- *Log format has low contrast and max dynamic range, but requires editing*
  - *Personally I always film in log*

**Frame size/frame rate** – Set resolution and FPS

- *For animals I prefer to shoot in 4k 50/60p (1.5 crop on Z50II)*
- *Crop can make framing difficult when shooting photo and video*
- *When filming myself I prefer 25/30p for more natural movement*

*For easy changes, you could assign different frame rates and codecs to different custom modes, rather than always going back to this menu*

## Video Recording Menu Cont'd



**ISO sensitivity settings** – Set base ISO, Auto ISO range, and max ISO

**White balance** – *AUTO2* – Matches WB to current photo settings

**Set Picture Control** – *NL (Neutral)* or *SD (Standard)* – Select video profile for non Log recording – aim is to keep it quite natural

**HLG quality** – Set image quality when recording in HLG mode

*Some of these can be turned on to suits individual video needs*

**Active D-Lighting** – *OFF* – Boosts shadow/highlight balance for non log video

**High ISO NR** – *OFF* – Reduces video noise at high ISOs

**Vignette control** – *OFF* – Corrects dark corners















**Diffraction compensation** – *OFF* – Maintains sharpness at high f-numbers

**Auto distortion control** – *OFF* – Corrects lens distortion in-camera





## Video Recording Menu Cont'd

VIDEO RECORDING MENU			VIDEO RECORDING MENU		
	Auto distortion control	OFF		AF-area mode	[ ] >
	Skin softening	OFF >		AF/MF subject detection options	[bird] >
	Portrait impression balance	OFF >		Product review mode	[people] OFF >
	Video flicker reduction	AUTO >		MF subject detection area	OFF >
	High-frequency flicker reduction	OFF >		Video self-timer	OFF >
	Metering	[camera] >		Vibration reduction	[hand] ON >
	Focus mode	AF-F >		Electronic VR	OFF

**Skin softening** – OFF – Smooths skin in video (applies to faces)

**Portrait impression balance** – OFF – Adjust skin tone/brightness in video

**Video flicker reduction** – AUTO – Reduces flicker under artificial light

**High-frequency flicker reduction** – OFF – Reduces flicker from LED/panel lights

**Metering** – **Matrix** – Choose exposure metering method (Matrix, Spot, etc.)

**Focus mode** – AF-F – Full-time AF for continuous video focus

**AF-area mode** – Auto-area AF – Camera tracks subject all over the viewfinder - works great in video mode!

**AF/MF subject detection options** – Choose subject: Bird

**Product review mode** – Temporarily disables face/eye detection and prioritizes focus on nearby objects (ideal for product presentations)

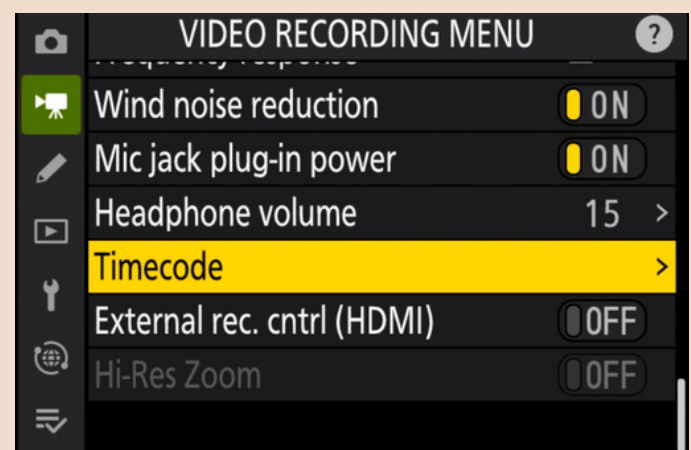
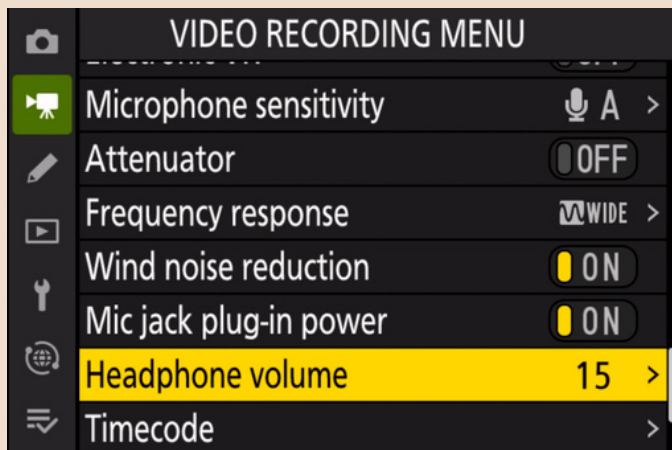
**MF subject detection area** – OFF – Subject detection in manual focus

**Video self-timer** – Delays start of recording after pressing record

**Vibration reduction** – ON – Standard – Sport too shaky in most cases

**Electronic VR** – OFF – Adds digital stabilisation; crops image slightly

## Video Recording Menu Cont'd



**Microphone sensitivity** – *AUTO* – Adjust input level or set manually

**Attenuator** – *OFF* – Reduces mic input level for loud environments

**Frequency response** – *WIDE* – Full-range audio capture; *VOICE* for dialogue

**Wind noise reduction** – *ON* – Reduces low-frequency wind rumble

**Mic jack plug-in power** – *ON* – Powers external mics that need it

**Headphone volume** – Set headphone output level for monitoring

**Timecode** – Enable and configure timecode for sync/editing workflows

**External rec. control (HDMI)** – *OFF* – Start/stop recording via HDMI (for external recorders)

**Hi-Res Zoom** – *OFF* – Allows smooth digital zoom in-camera with no resolution loss



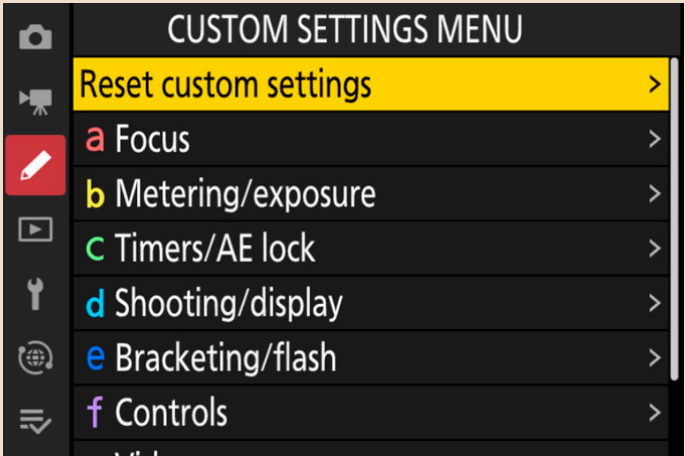
# RED CUSTOM SETTINGS MENU

**This menu controls how the camera behaves** — from autofocus and custom buttons to critical settings and video tweaks, it's all done here.

**We will make many changes here. Including our back and front button AF setup.**



Custom Settings Menu

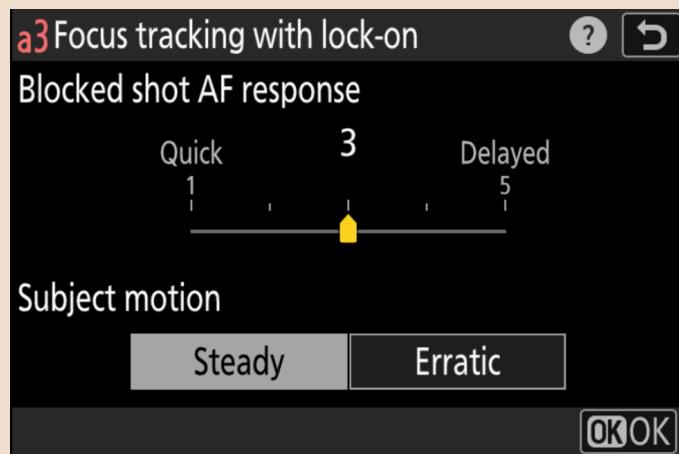
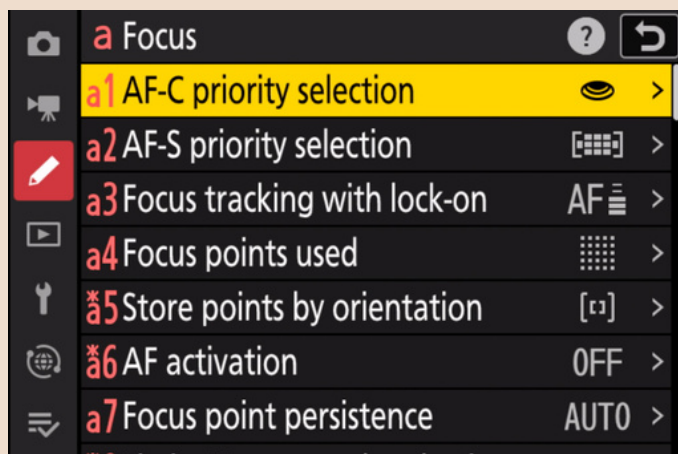


Reset photo shooting menu – Factory reset menu settings

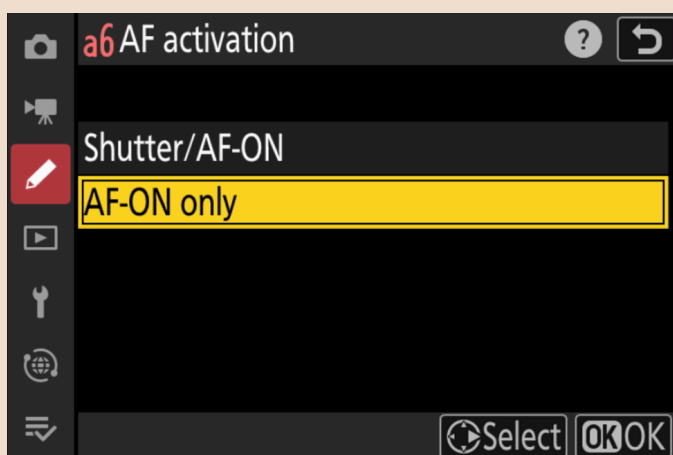


## Focus Menu

## submenu: Focus tracking w/ lock-on



## submenu: AF activation



**AF-C priority selection** – *Release* – Prioritizes shutter over focus in continuous AF

- *Easier when shooting burst, otherwise camera may not fire, which can make you miss shots when tracking*

**AF-S priority selection** – *Focus* – Z50 II only fires when subject is in focus

**Focus tracking with lock-on** – *3* – Controls how quickly AF shifts to new subjects

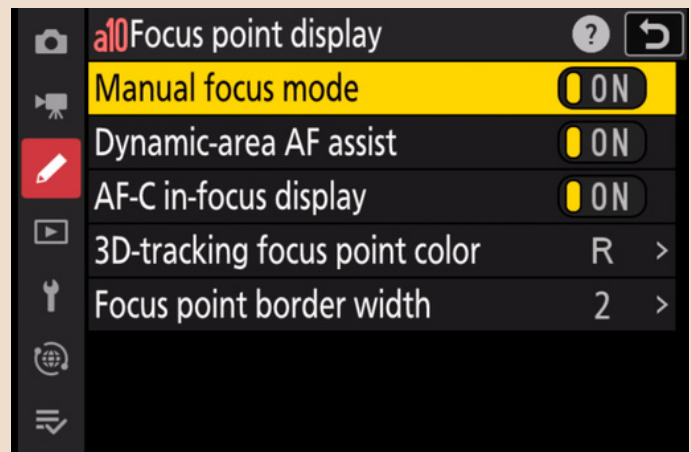
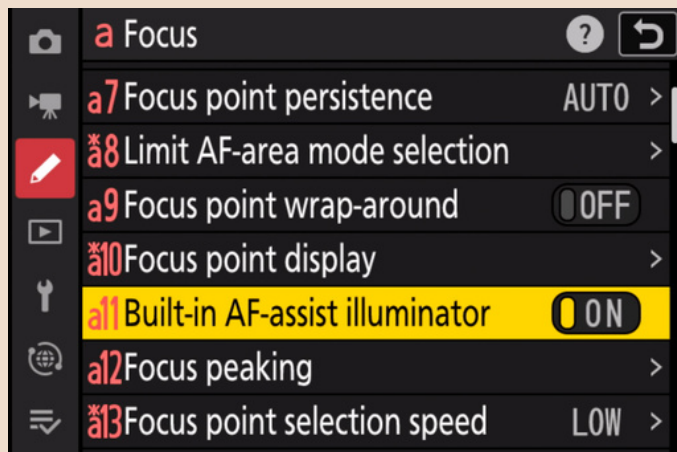
- Subject motion - *Steady*

**Focus points used** – *All* – Enables full range of selectable AF points

**Store points by orientation** – *Point only* – Saves AF point separately for horizontal/vertical

**AF activation** – *AF-On only* – **Important** – To set up back button AF, we are deactivating shutter button AF here

**Focus point persistence** – *AUTO* – Controls how long AF points stay visible/tracked



**Limit AF-area mode selection** – Choose which AF-area modes are available to cycle through - *limit for quicker selection*

**Focus point wrap-around** – OFF – AF point does not loop around edges

**Focus point display** – Customize focus points display

- *I like to set it to red and border width 2*

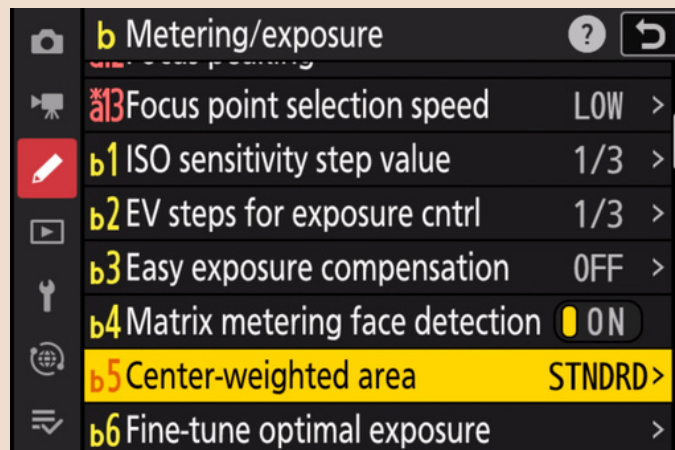
**Built-in AF-assist illuminator** – ON – Built-in light to help focus in low light

**Focus peaking** – Highlights edges in focus during MF – *If ON I select blue*

**Focus point selection speed** – LOW – Adjust how fast AF point moves







**ISO sensitivity step value – 1/3** – Sets ISO adjustment increments

**EV steps for exposure control – 1/3** – Sets exposure compensation increments

**Easy exposure compensation – OFF** – Enables exposure comp. via dials without holding a button - *can be a good option in more automatic modes*

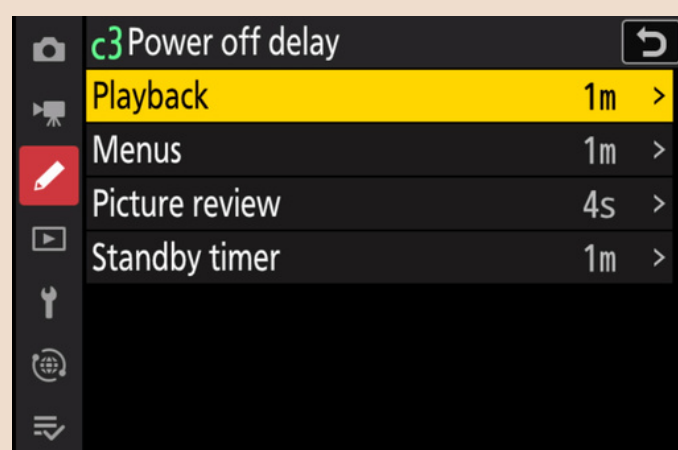
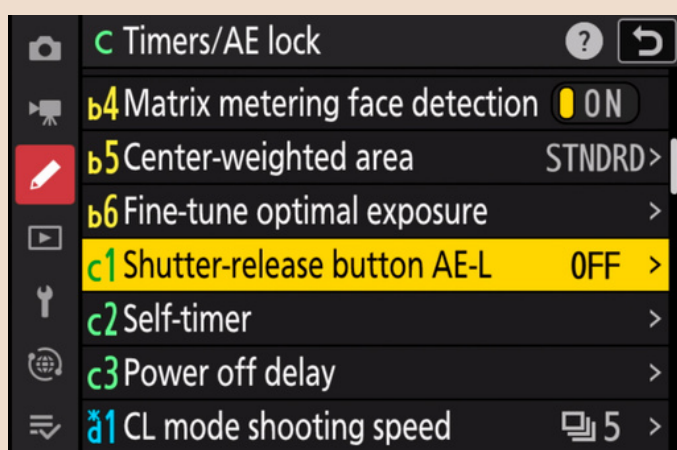
**Matrix metering face detection – ON** – *Prioritizes faces when calculating exposure in matrix metering mode.*

**Center-weighted area – STNDRD** – *Sets size of metered area in center-weighted mode*

**Fine-tune optimal exposure** – Adjust metering bias if your images are consistently over/underexposed

## Timers/AE Lock Menu

## submenu: Power off delay

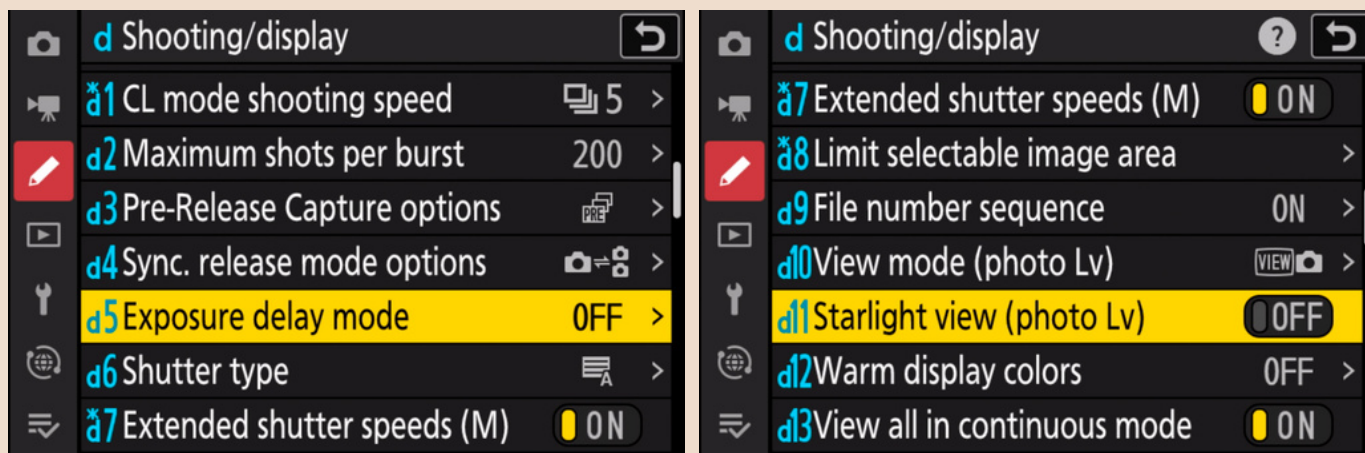


**Shutter-release button AE-L – OFF** – Locks exposure when shutter is half-pressed

**Self-timer** – Set delay, number of shots, and interval between them

**Power off delay** – Choose how long camera stays active before sleeping

## Shooting/display Menu



**CL mode shooting speed** – Set FPS for continuous low modes – *I set high to the max – I don't use low*

**Maximum shots per burst** – Limit how many frames are taken per burst

**Pre-Release Capture options** – Enables capture before the shutter is fully pressed - JPEG only – *OFF*

**Sync. release mode options** – Set how multiple cameras sync when using remote release

**Exposure delay mode** – *OFF* – Adds delay after mirror-up to reduce vibration

**Shutter type** - Mechanical, 1<sup>st</sup> Curtain Electronic (EFCS) or Auto

- Either one is fine, EFCS has less shutter shock

**Extended shutter speeds (M)** – *ON* – Allows longer exposures (beyond 30s) in Manual mode

**Limit selectable image area** – Restrict which crop modes can be chosen

**File number sequence** – *ON* – Keeps file numbering continuous across cards and sessions

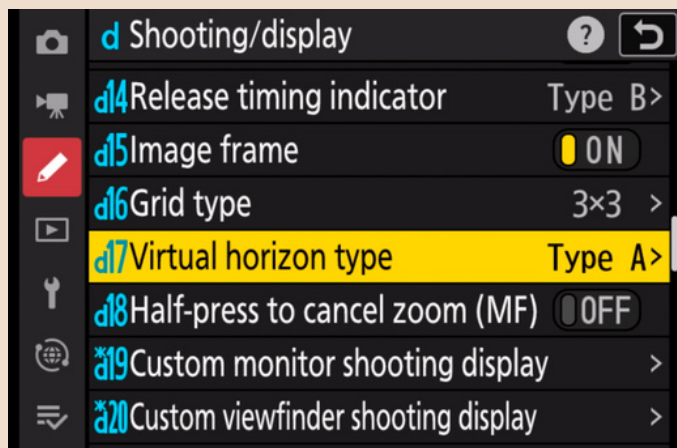
**View mode (photo Lv)** – Choose how photos display during Live View

**Starlight view (photo Lv)** – *OFF* – Brightens display in very dark conditions

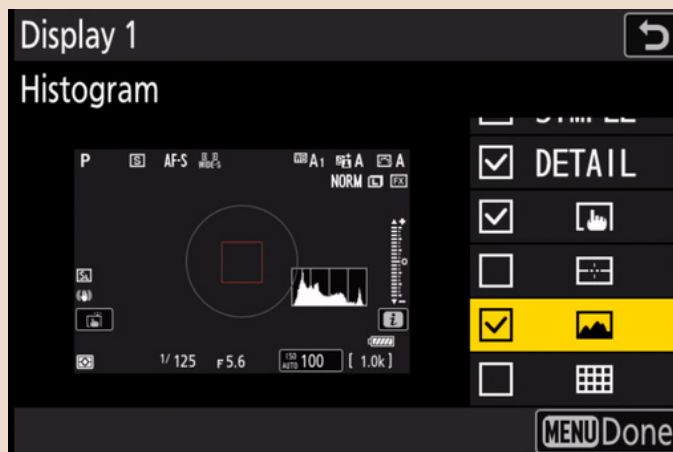
**Warm display colours** – *OFF* – Adds warmth to screen colours for low-light use

**View all in continuous mode** – **Important** – Removes black out from EVF, but adds slide show effect of images taken, rather than showing live EVF

- *I prefer that over the blackout*



## → submenu: Display 1



**Release timing indicator** – Shows visual cue when shutter is released

**Image frame** – ON – Adds a thin border around the live image for framing

**Grid type** – 3x3 – Choose grid overlay to assist with composition

- *I don't usually use a grid*

**Virtual horizon type** – Type A – Selects visual style of electronic level

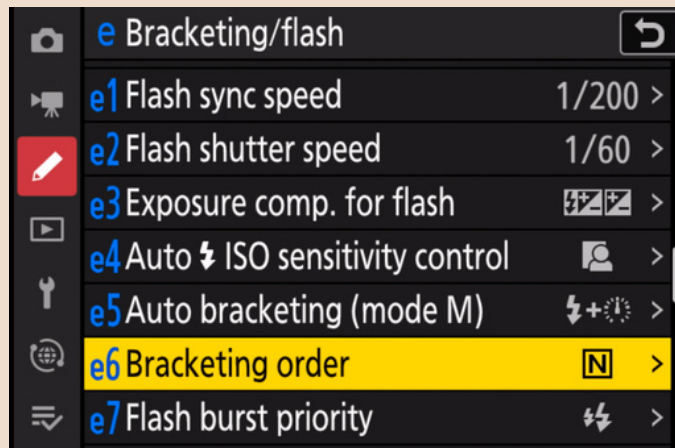
**Half-press to cancel zoom (MF)** – OFF – Quickly exit zoom mode when in manual focus (MF) by simply pressing the shutter-release button halfway

**Custom monitor shooting display** – Customize info and overlays shown on the rear screen

- Enter submenu to adjust which items are displayed in each option
- press right on D-pad to further fine tune options
- To keep it simple, you could untick most options and just add whatever you want to just one or two options

**Custom viewfinder shooting display** – Customize info and overlays shown in the EVF





**Flash sync speed – 1/200** – Sets max shutter speed for flash sync (can allow slower or Auto FP)

**Flash shutter speed – 1/60** – Minimum shutter speed when using flash in Auto modes

**Exposure comp. for flash** – Choose whether flash is affected by exposure compensation

**Auto ISO sensitivity control** – Enable/disable Auto ISO when using flash

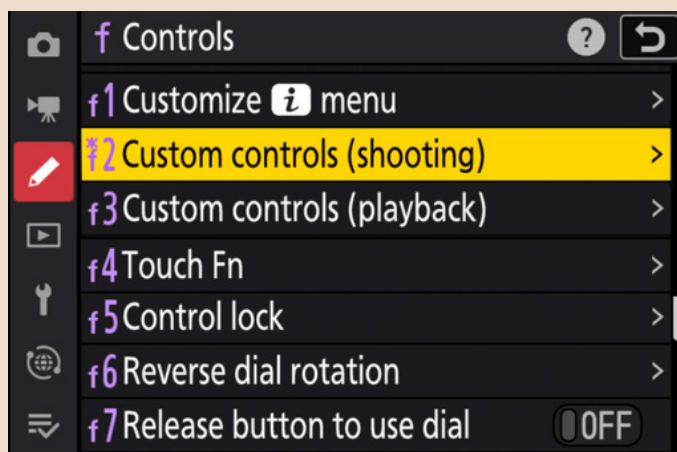
**Auto bracketing (mode M)** – Choose what bracketing affects in Manual mode (e.g., flash only, exposure)

**Bracketing order – N** – Sets order shots are taken in bracketing

**Flash burst priority – ON/OFF** – Prioritizes flash recycling speed during rapid firing to maintain consistent flash output



## Controls Menu



## submenu: Custom controls



**Customize i menu** – Personalize shortcuts in the quick menu

**Custom controls (shooting)** – Here we will assign our buttons for back button focus and assign specific settings to certain buttons. Some of these settings are 2-3 submenus deep (next pages)

**Custom controls (playback)** – Assign functions to buttons/dials

**Touch Fn** – Customize the LCD to touch, to perform different functions like moving AF points

**Control lock** – *not used* – Lock controls to prevent accidental changes

**Reverse dial rotation** – Flip direction of main command dial

**Release button to use dial** – OFF

- Option 1 – Hold down button while making changes (default)
- Option 2 – If enabled, press button, make changes and press again

On the Z50II, different AF modes behave differently depending on the shooting situation. This can make setup a bit tricky, which is why **it's helpful to assign various AF modes to custom buttons.**

Sometimes it helps to start focusing with a mode like Wide-area or Auto-area AF, then switch to 3D tracking for more precise subject following, especially for perched birds. I often find using 3D tracking right away makes it much harder to lock onto a subject quickly.

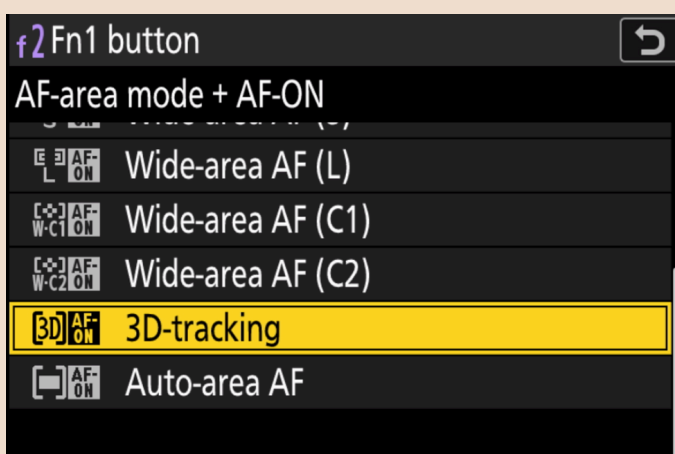
**We have already set Single-point AF as our base mode.** It lets us easily move the focus point around and is great for pre-focusing.

In addition, **I like to assign Auto-area AF to the AE-L/AF-L button.** It's a reliable, all-around option. Then I use two more buttons: **one for 3D tracking**, which works well for perched birds, and another for **Wide-area AF**, which is ideal for birds in flight. So we end up with **double back and double front button AF.**

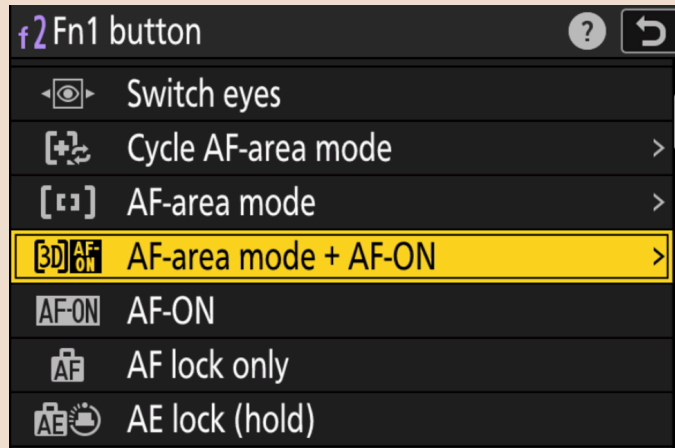
## submenu: Custom controls Cont'd



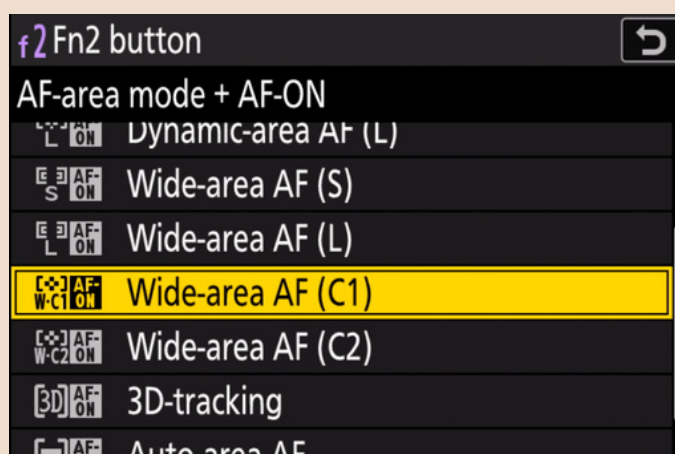
### → submenu: Fn1 - AF-area mode + AF-ON



## → submenu: Fn1 button (Identical to Fn2)



### → submenu: Fn2 - AF-area mode + AF-ON



## Let's set up our custom buttons for stills 1 by 1.

To assign different AF modes to the buttons we have to select them, then go into the sub menu and navigate to the AF options and then select **AF-area mode + AF-ON**.

- Click right on the D-pad, to access the next submenu to select the desired AF mode.

### **Fn1** – AF-area mode + AF-ON + 3D-tracking

- So whenever we press the top and hold the top front button, the Z50II will perform precise 3D-tracking

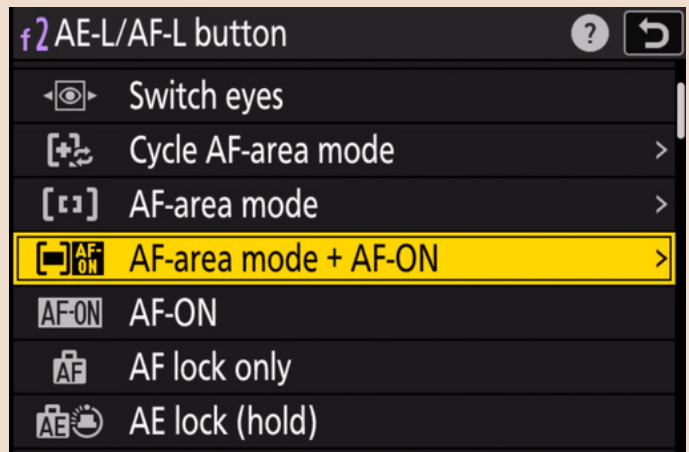
### **Fn2** – AF-area mode + AF-ON + Wide-area AF (C1)

- Perform same procedure as above and select wide-area AF
- When we press and hold down the second front button, camera will perform AF with our custom Wide-area (small and narrow)
- You can set the Wide-area size in the dark green Photo Shooting Menu (AF area mode)



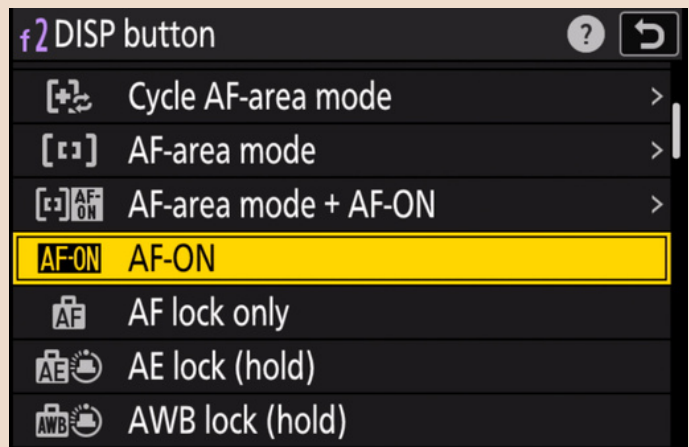
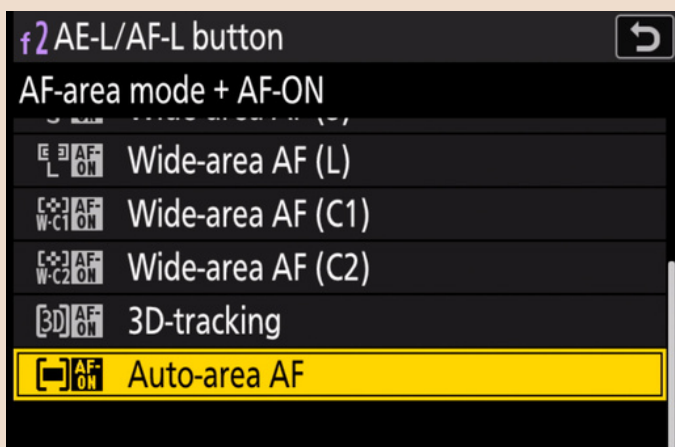
## submenu: Custom controls Cont'd

## → submenu: AF-ON button



## → submenu: AF-ON - AF-area mode + AF-ON

## → submenu: DISP button



**Fn button for vertical shooting** (battery grip only) – default

**AE-L/AF-L: AF-area mode + AF-ON + Auto-area AF**

- Enables subject/eye tracking all over the EVF
- Subject to detect etc. is set in the dark green Photo shooting Menu

**DISP – AF-ON**

- The display button will now perform focusing in our base Single-point AF mode we set up in the first dark green Photo Shooting Menu
- If you assign something to the display button, you cannot cycle through the display options anymore, this needs to be assigned to a new button or you can select your favourite EVF/LCD layout before assigning this button and then that will stay.

**OK – RESET** (default) - Re-centers AF point when pressing

**Playback** - Display photos/videos captured

**Release mode/protect button** – default

**Video record button** – default

**ISO** – ISO

**Exposure Compensation button** – Exp comp. (default)



**Picture Control button** – default

**Command Dials** – default

**L-Fn** – default

**L-Fn2** – AF-ON (default)

**Lens Fn ring (counterclockwise)** – Recall focus position (default)

**Lens Fn ring (clockwise)** – Recall focus position (default)

**Lens memory set button (M-SET)** – Save focus position (default)

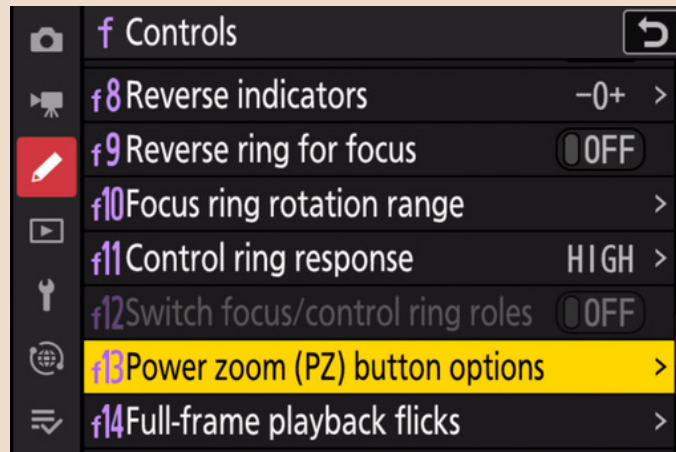
**Lens control ring** – OFF (default)

As you can see I have not assigned all of these buttons, so with daily use you may come across some other functions you would like to assign to some of these buttons. I think we have assigned the most important ones

**DONE!**

Press MENU to confirm and return to main custom controls menu.

**Now we have all our buttons for the AF set up. DISP for our base single-point AF mode, AE-L/AF-L to do Auto-area AF tracking all over the EVF, Fn1 for 3D-tracking and Fn2 for Wide-area (C1).**



**Reverse indicators** – Invert exposure and focus indicators if desired

**Reverse ring for focus** – Reverses the direction of manual focus ring rotation

**Focus ring rotation range** – Choose how far the ring turns to shift focus

**Control ring response** – *Choose how fast the control ring responds (HIGH is more responsive)*

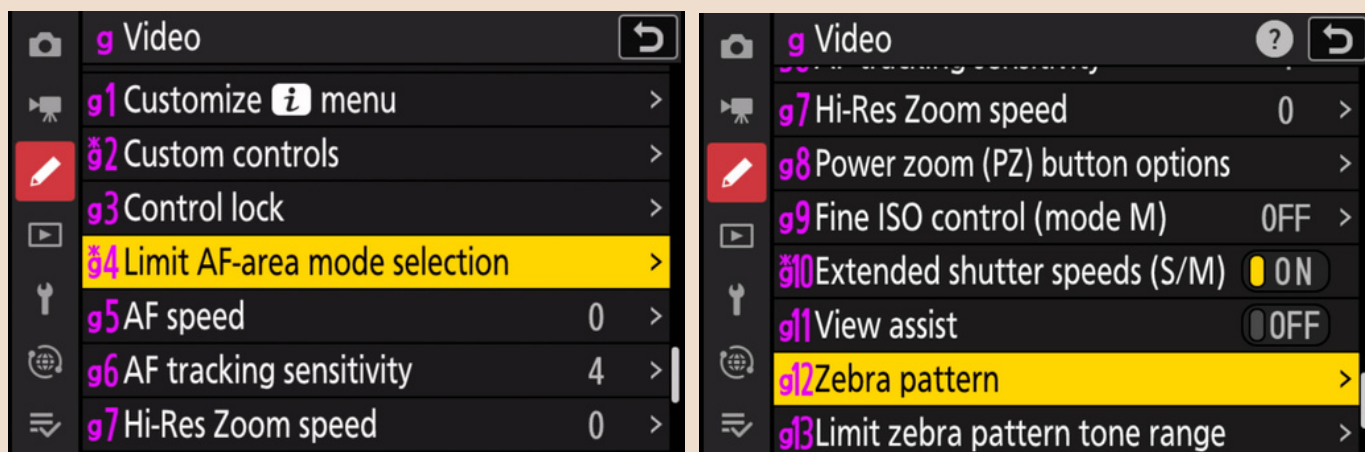
**Switch focus/control ring roles** – Swap function of focus and control rings (on lenses with both)

**Power zoom (PZ) button options** – Assign power zoom controls to specific buttons or rings

**Full-frame playback flicks** – Enable flick gestures to scroll through full-frame images during playback







**Customize i menu** – Set up the video quick menu

**Custom controls** – Assign custom button for video

- I leave most buttons as default for video, because we set up fully automatic tracking AF
- I assign the shutter button & DISP button to start/stop recording

**Control lock** – Lock certain buttons or dials to avoid accidental changes

**Limit AF-area mode selection** – Hide AF-area modes you don't need

**AF speed** – 0 – Set how fast the autofocus shifts during video (lower values = smoother transitions) - Adjust to taste

**AF tracking sensitivity** – 4 – Adjust how quickly the focus re-acquires a new subject if the original moves (lower = more stable tracking)

- Depending on your shooting scene, this may need adjusting

**Hi-Res Zoom speed** – Set zoom speed when using Hi-Res Zoom (lower = slower and smoother) - Allows digital zoom without loss of resolution

**Power zoom (PZ) button options** – Assign a button or control to activate power zoom

**Fine ISO control (mode M)** – Allows for finer manual ISO adjustments

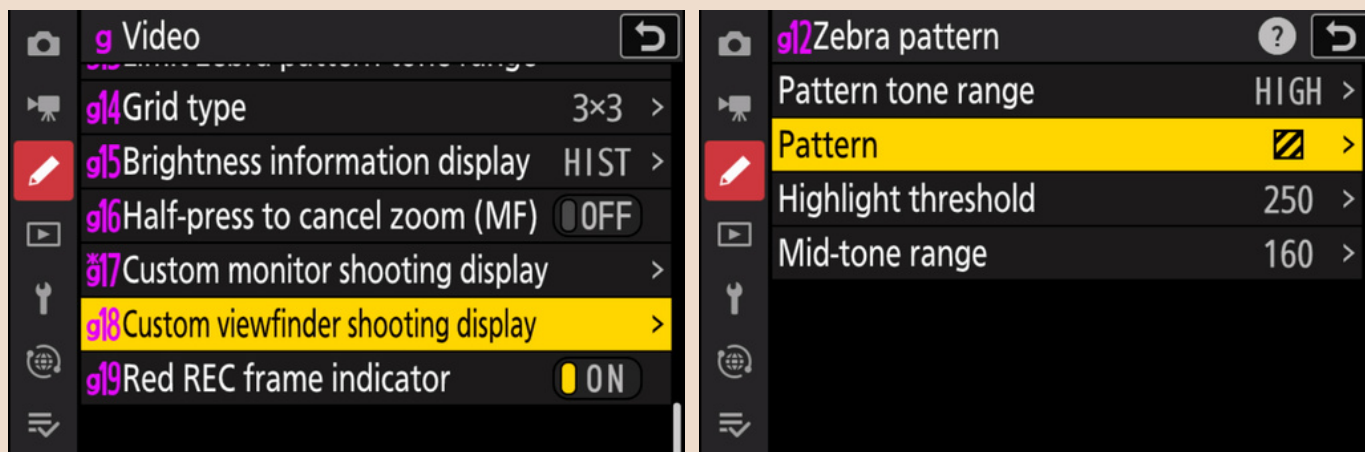
**Extended shutter speeds (mode M)** – Enables slower-than-standard shutter speeds in manual video mode.

**View assist** – Simulates standard contrast and brightness when shooting in Log or HLG profiles.

**Zebra pattern** – Visually shows over- and/or underexposed areas

- Set to taste - helps to avoid blown out areas, which cannot be recovered (slide on next page)

**Limit zebra pattern tone range** – Restrict zebra display to a specific brightness range



**Grid type** – Choose on-screen grid overlay i.e. 3x3 grid

**Brightness information display** – Set display style (e.g., histogram) to monitor exposure while recording – *I like to use the Histogram*

**Half-press to cancel zoom (MF)** – OFF – Quickly exit zoom mode when in manual focus (MF) by simply pressing the shutter button halfway

**Custom monitor shooting display** – Customize what's shown on the rear LCD during video shooting - *similar to photo setup we did at the start*

**Custom viewfinder shooting display** – Customize what's shown in the EVF during video shooting – *similar to photo setup we did at the start*

**Red REC frame indicator** – ON – Adds a red border around the screen during video recording to confirm that recording is active.



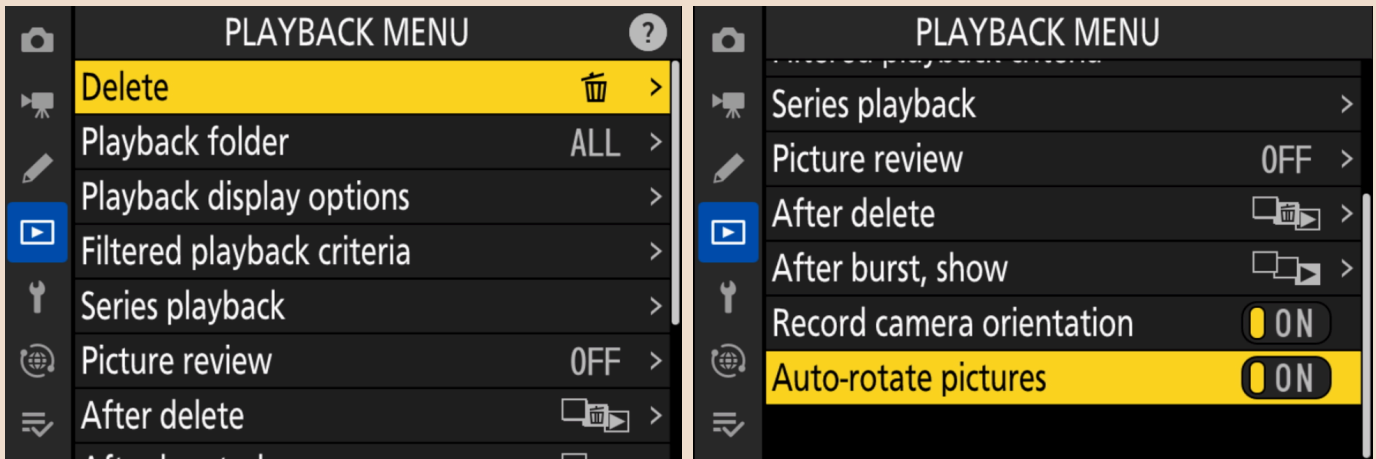
Zebra pattern

# BLUE PLAYBACK 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.**





**Delete** – Remove images from memory card

**Playback folder** – Select which folders are shown in playback

**Playback display options** – Choose what info is displayed during playback – AF point etc.

**Filtered playback criteria** – Filter playback by rating, file type, etc.

**Series playback** – View images from bursts or brackets as a group

**Picture review** – *OFF* – Automatically display image after shooting

- Highly distracting and not needed

**After delete** – Choose which image is shown after deleting one

**After burst, show** – Set what's displayed after a burst (first image, last, etc.)

**Record camera orientation** – *ON* – Save orientation info in image metadata

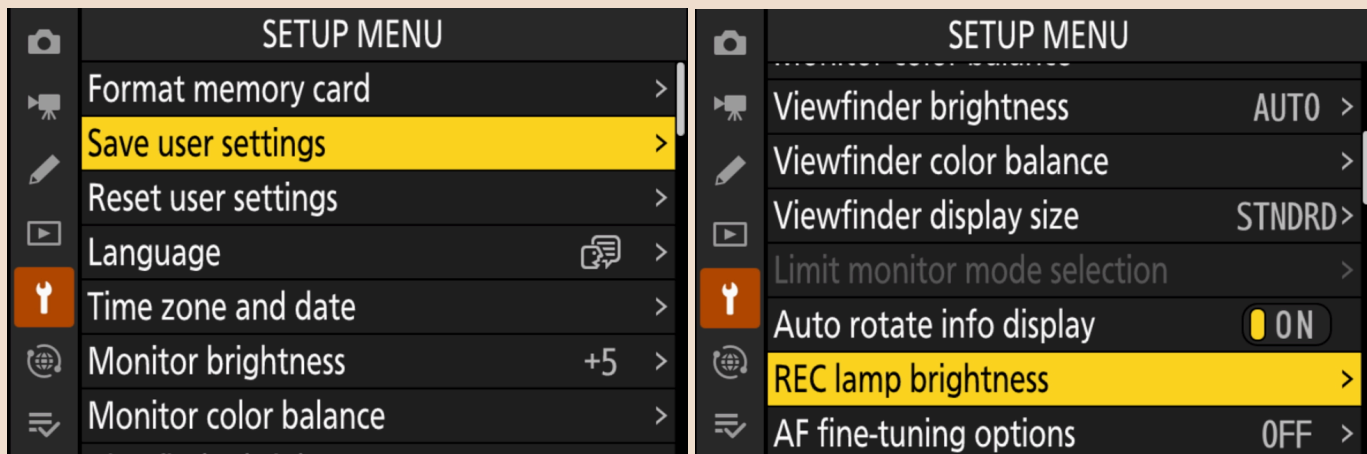
**Auto-rotate pictures** – *ON* – Rotate images automatically for correct orientation

# ORANGE SETUP MENU

In this menu we customize camera behaviour and basic functions. Includes settings for time/date, monitor brightness, card formatting, camera sounds, save/load camera settings and more.

**We will make some important adjustments here.**

## Setup Menu



**Format memory card** – Erase and reformat memory card

**Save user settings** – Save settings to U1,2,3 (change on top dial)

- *This allows to quickly change between different shooting settings*
- *Dial in all settings you want for a particular mode and then save to U1 for instance - repeat for the others if wanted*

**Reset user settings** – Reset saved settings

**Language** – Choose display language

**Time zone and date** – Set time zone, date, and time

**Monitor brightness** – 0 – Adjust LCD brightness

- I usually go as bright as possible to be able to see well in bright sun

**Monitor colour balance** – Adjust LCD colour tint

**Viewfinder brightness** – Auto – Adjust EVF brightness (Auto or Manual)

**Viewfinder colour balance** – Adjust EVF colour tint

**Viewfinder display size** – STNDRD – Choose standard or small EVF display

**Limit monitor mode selection** – Limit which monitor/viewfinder modes can be cycled

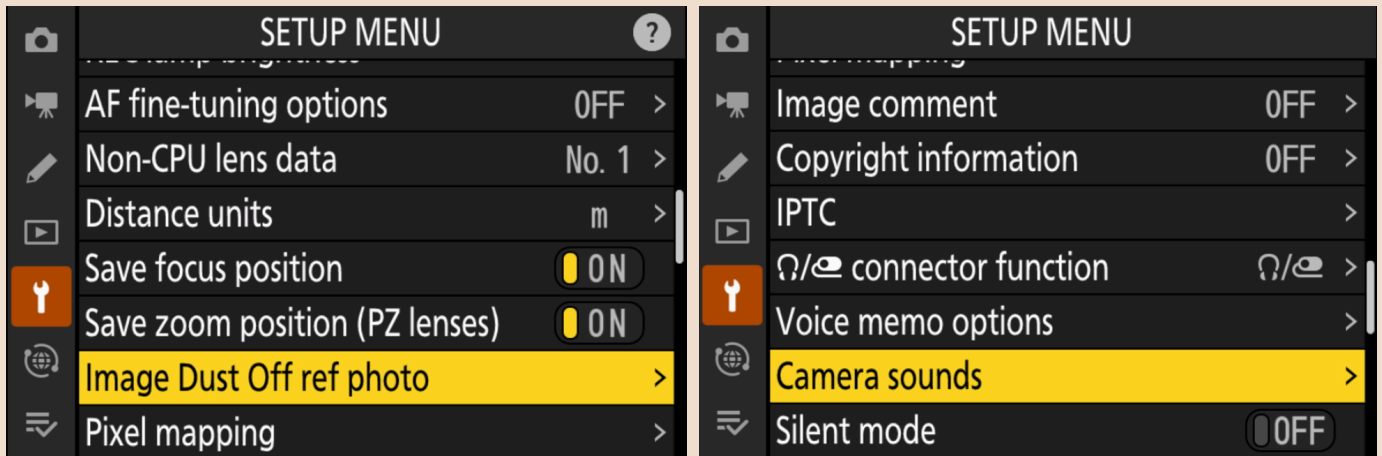
**Auto rotate info display** – ON – Auto-rotate screen info based on camera orientation

**REC lamp brightness** – Set brightness for light

**AF fine-tuning options** – OFF – Enable and configure lens-specific AF adjustments



## Setup Menu



**Non-CPU lens data** – Enter lens data for non-CPU lenses

**Distance units** – Set distance display units (m/ft)

**Save focus position** – *ON* – **Important**

- If this is set to *OFF* the camera will lose focus every time it goes into standby mode or gets turned off
- This mode is there to protect certain lenses that protrude out when zooming or focusing, but useless for long lenses

**Save zoom position (PZ lenses)** – Retains zoom position

**Image Dust Off ref photo** – Capture reference image for dust removal in software

**Pixel mapping** – Detect and correct hot or stuck pixels

**Image comment** – Add a custom comment to image metadata

**Copyright information** – Add your name and copyright notice to image metadata

**IPTC** – Embed standard metadata info (e.g., location, creator)

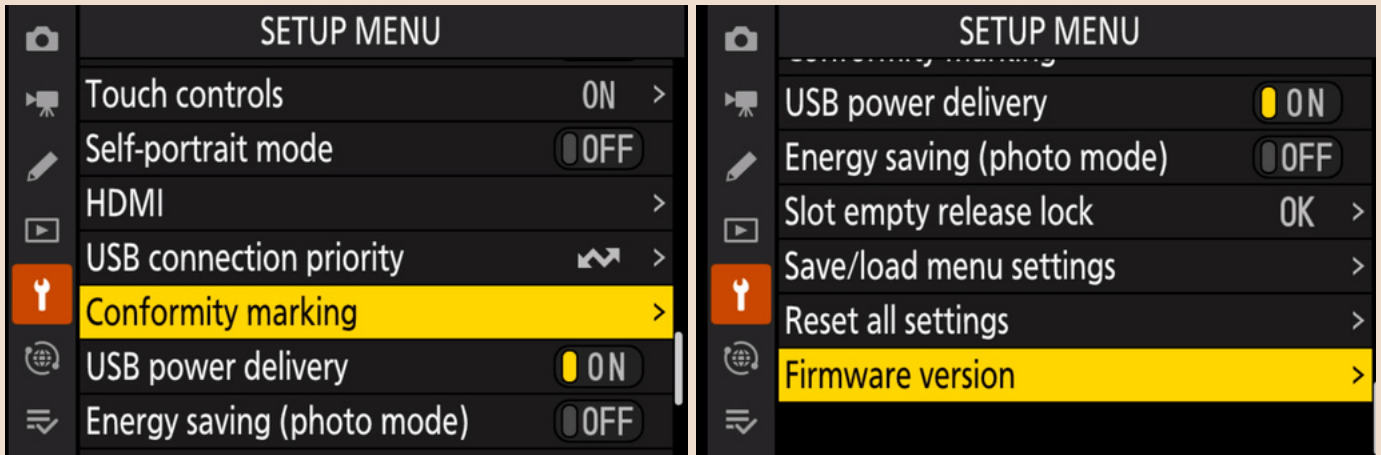
**Headphone/remote connector function** – Set port to control headphones, remote, or other accessories

**Voice memo options** – Record and manage voice memos for images

**Camera sounds** – Enable or disable shutter and operation sounds

**Silent mode** – *OFF* – Enables Electronic Shutter - Lots of rolling shutter

## Setup Menu



**Touch controls** – Enable or disable touchscreen functionality

**Self-portrait mode** – Automatically activates when the screen is flipped forward. Adjusts controls and display for easy front-facing shooting.

**HDMI** – Adjust HDMI output settings for external displays or recorders

**USB connection priority** – Choose whether USB defaults to file transfer or tethering

**Conformity marking** – Displays regulatory compliance information

**USB power delivery** – Enable or disable charging the camera via USB

**Energy saving (photo mode)** – OFF – Reduce power consumption during shooting

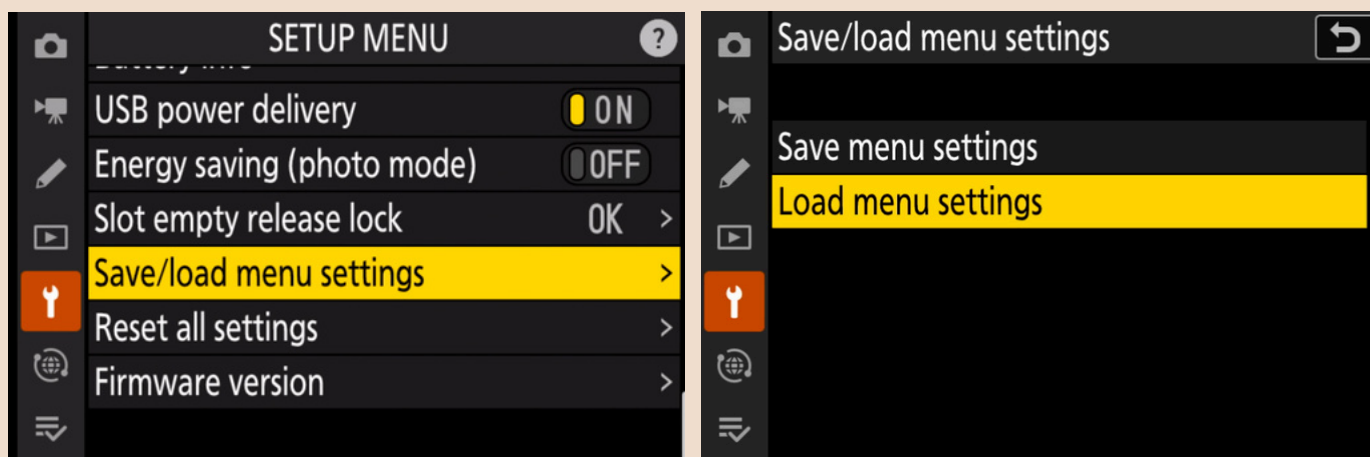
**Slot empty release lock** – LOCK – Prevent shutter release if no card is inserted

**Save/load menu settings** – Backup or restore camera settings to/from memory card – **this is where you install the .BIN setup file (next page)**

**Reset all settings** – Restore camera to factory defaults

**Firmware version** – Displays the currently installed firmware version

## Setup Menu



***This is the menu where you can install the camera set up file that comes with this guide.***

(Save/Load menu settings)

### **WARNING!**

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

**Save menu settings** – Save current camera settings to a new settings file

- To save your current settings navigate to '**Save/load menu settings**' and then select '**Save menu settings**'. This will create a **.BIN file** on your memory card you can save onto your computer as a back up. *You can choose a custom name.*

**Load menu settings** – Load settings from a camera settings file

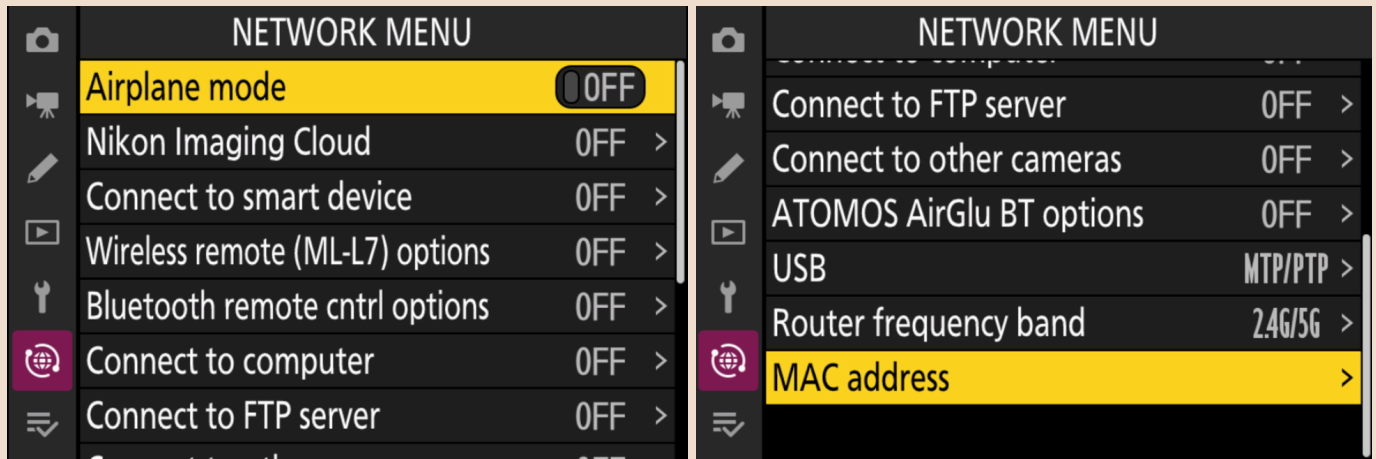
- **To install my camera set up file**, save the .BIN file onto an **empty memory card**
- *Make sure there are no other cards inside the camera*
- Navigate to '**Save/Load menu settings**' and select '**Load menu settings**'
- That will install *most* of my settings onto your Z50II.
- In some cases 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



# PURPLE NETWORK 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.**



**Airplane mode** – OFF – Disable all wireless functions

**Nikon Imaging Cloud** – Connect and sync images to Nikon’s cloud service for backup and sharing

**Connect to smart device** – OFF – Enable Wi-Fi connection to smartphone/tablet

**Wireless remote (ML-L7) options** – Customie how the ML-L7 remote interacts with your camera (e.g., assign functions to buttons)

**Bluetooth remote cntrl options** – Configure settings for using Bluetooth remotes with your camera

**Connect to computer** – OFF – Enable tethered shooting or file transfer

**Connect to FTP server** – OFF – Upload images directly to FTP server

**Connect to other cameras** – OFF – Link multiple cameras for synchronized shooting

**ATOMOS AirGlu BT options** – OFF – Control Atomos recorders via Bluetooth

**USB** – Manage USB data transfer mode

**Router frequency band** – Select Wi-Fi frequency band for wireless connection

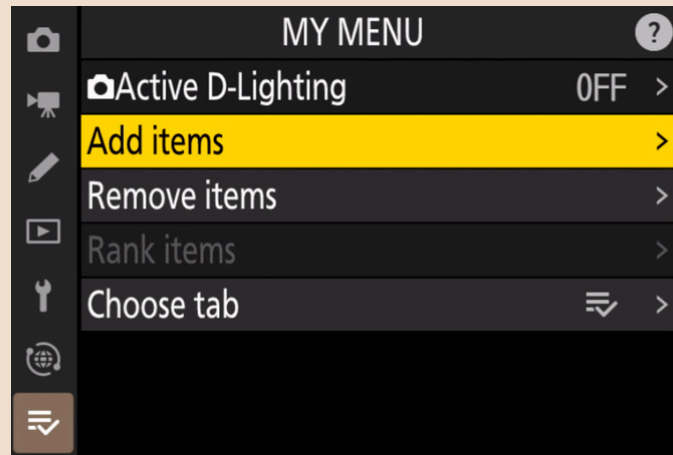
**MAC address** – Displays the camera’s network hardware address

# BROWN '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.**





**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
- *I added 1 example here – Active D-Lighting*

**Add items** – Add items to My Menu tab from the rest of the Z50II menu

**Remove items** – Delete items from your My Menu list

**Rank items** – Rearrange the order of items in My Menu

**Choose tab** – Select if you want to see My Menu or The most recent changed settings



# You've made it!



I hope my guide has helped you find the best settings for your Z50 II. 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><b><u>Next-Gen Photoshop Class</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Lightroom Class</u></b></p> <p>or</p> <p><b><u>Or roam the rest of my shop for more photography courses!</u></b></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 other setup videos as an additional resource or find me on my other platforms. You can always say hi.

## ***Find me and contact me here:***



[@jan\\_wegener\\_](https://www.instagram.com/jan_wegener_)



[JanWegener](https://www.youtube.com/JanWegener)



[jan\\_wegener\\_](https://www.youtube.com/jan_wegener_)



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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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