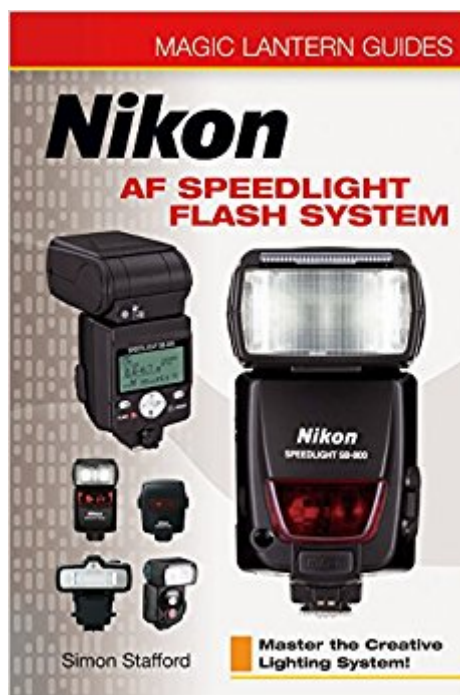




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Magic Lantern Guides: Nikon AF Speedlight Flash System: Master The Creative Lighting System! (A Lark Photography Book)



Synopsis

Nikon manufactures some of the most sophisticated accessory flash equipment found in today's marketplace, and the Magic Lantern Guide shows photographers exactly how to master the complex equipment and operating modes of the company's AF Speedlight Flash System. That's why it's destined to be the most often used reference on photographic flash technique. From advice on Multi-sensor balanced fill flash, bounce flash, rear-curtain sync to high-speed sync, or multiple flash set-ups, this manual explains everything. It comes complete with a course on the basics of flash handling, specialized flash technique, and a model-by-model review of using current flash gear with Nikon cameras.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I would really give this book 3.5 stars if such a rating was available. The book has a lot of helpful information that will allow you to understand the complexities of the Nikon Flash System. It is the first, and to my knowledge, only book claiming to be dedicated solely to the topic of using Nikon's new Creative Lighting System. However, I have a few gripes. First, the book is sub-titled "Master the Creative Lighting System", so why is half the book spent on discussing non-CLS hardware (film bodies and non-CLS Speedlights)? While the people who still might be clinging desperately to film photography might find the information helpful, I felt it cluttered the book with irrelevant information

that I had to sift through. I know this is a personal preference, but there are already plenty of books dedicated to the non-CLS flashes, so the information seemed superfluous. I got the impression the information on flashes such as the SB-24, SB-25, SB-26, SB-28, and SB-80DX or film bodies such as the FM2, FM10, N70, and N90 were added as filler to make the book "thicker". Second, there are absolutely no color pictures save for the front and back cover. The book comes shrink-wrapped when sold in bookstores so you would have no idea of this until you "broke the seal". I know this helps keep the price of the book down by reducing printing costs, but in a book about photography, you really need color to illustrate your points when discussing topics such as White Balance. Many of the example pictures lost detail by being printed too dark and made it difficult to see the point the author was trying to make. Third, and most importantly, the book is littered with dozens of spelling, copy/paste, and editorial mistakes. I came across places where placeholders said things like "put icon for TTL mode here" or text copied from a similar section elsewhere told you to put the flash in wrong mode. I know that this is a first edition but shouldn't there be proof-readers checking for these type of mistakes? Some of the errors cast a shadow over the credibility of the subject matter. When the instructions for setting Rear Curtain Sync tell you to rotate the Main Command Dial until the word "Slow" is displayed (instead of "Rear"), you wonder what other things are being told erroneously. Given the chance, I definitely would still buy this book. I learned a lot and it helped clear up some issues with the complexities of CLS. I just wish they weren't so sloppy in a rush to get a book to print.

Frankly, at first I was sorry I bought this lighting system. It seemed too complicated to be practical. Then I found this book. The part of the title that says "Mastering" the system is so very accurate because after reviewing the basics of understanding what each command and setting does, it continues on to provide the user with the complete, confident ability to use the system & the best it has to offer. Of course it takes practice to get down one's own ability to accurately place the flashes and know which setting to use for specific desired effects. But with the knowledge provided in this book one can make necessary adjustments sensibly, rather than just guessing at what might improve the lighting. I recommend this book, which has also made me really glad I DID purchase this particular flash system. Instead of feeling frustrated I now feel lucky to have a system so versatile, portable and easy to use in small spaces.

I have had this book on the shelf for several years and just opened it to figure out a problem with manual flash. In the absence of antecedents, the writing defies understanding. It's impossible to

know when the subject is the flash or when the subject is the the camera. In the absence of useful illustration, I have no idea how to proceed. I haven't compared the book with the user's manual, but I suspect the author has done nothing more than put the user's manual into a more opaque format. Useless. Utterly useless.

I have been looking for help with the Speedlight system for over a year - since first purchasing my SB-800. There only ones I found were out-of-print and obviously too outdated to matter anyway! If you think figuring out how to access all the power of one model is difficult, just imagine trying to cover all the models Nikon has produced since it introduced TTL. Add to that the fact that Nikon bodies change the available features. (The current digital bodies like D200 are covered as well). A daunting prospect for any author. So the good news is that I found the book very helpful and it clears up a lot of my confusion. The bad news is that you must sort thru a lot of info about Speedlight models and film bodies that you are unlikely to own.

:)

The book take you beyond the basics of flash photography anddo so with in depth details.Also, in my opinion this is a must have book for those who are intoflash photography.

I brought this because i got back into photography i remember this strobe as being a very good one. too bad it is soo expensive, but it is worth every penny.

The book ordered is a welcomed addition to my library. I decided to study up on some techniques ad this was just what was needed.

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