

NIKON D7200

[W/SOLMETA GMAX GPS]

FULL SETUP CHECKLIST



NIKON D7200 FULL SETUP CHECKLIST

The following FULL sequential setup checklist is appropriate for Civil Air Patrol daytime aerial photos using the Nikon D7200 DSLR with a Sigma (or Nikon) 200mm zoom lens and a Solmeta GMAX GPS. [Aircraft track can be captured can by the Bad Elf GPS or the Solmeta GMAX GPS]. Items noted as **[ADVANCED]** are **OPTIONAL**, but recommended.

1-CHARGE AND/OR CHANGE THE BATTERIES FOR

- Camera-EN-EL15 Battery
- Battery Pack MB D-15-EN-EL15 Battery and/or AA Alkaline (if used)
- [See **Note 1** if non-Alkaline batteries are used]
- GMAX GPS (Internal battery)
- Bad Elf GPS (Internal battery), if used.

2-ASSEMBLE (AND CLEAN IF REQUIRED) ALL THE PARTS

- Camera Body
- Neck strap
- MB-D15 Multi Power Battery Pack (if used)
- Lens (or lenses)
- Lens UV Filter
- Lens Cap(s)
- SD Media Cards-1 for each slot (2 total)
- Solmeta GMAX GPS
- GPS to Camera Cable (secure with **blue tape** if required)
- NO** lens hood (For aerial work)
- Bad Elf Tracker, if used

3-SET THE SWITCHES ON CAMERA BODY AND LENS

A) Set Camera Body switches incl

- Focus selector lock**-White dot on **L**
- Live view selector**-White dot on **still camera** position
- **Focus Mode selector**-White line on **AF** position

B) Set Lens Switches

- Lock switch** to **Unlock**
- AF/M switch** to **AF** (autofocus)
- OS switch** to **ON** (vibration reduction)
- Normal/Active switch** to **Active** (if Nikon lens)

4-TURN CAMERA POWER SWITCH TO **ON**

5-SET UP CAMERA VIEWFINDER (DIOPTER)

- A) Use **diopter adjustment control** for your eye

- B) Press **shutter button** to check for focus point [REVIEW]

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6-SET CAMERA ITEMS NOT AFFECTED BY DEFAULTS

A) Rotate **Exposure Mode Dial** to **S** (Shutter Priority)

B) Rotate **Main Command Dial** to **2500** to set shutter speed to 1/2500. Put **blue tape** over dial to hold dial in place. If low light, see **Note 2**.

C) Rotate **Release Mode Dial** to **S** (single frame). For continuous release see **Note 3**.

D) Check/Set Playback Display

[Menu→Playback Display Option→Check/Set **Focus Point, None** and **Overview**. All others are unchecked. Note that the GPS screen will appear automatically with GPS attached.

E) Set Time and Date

[Menu→Setup Menu→Time Zone and Date→[As Required for local date and time.]

7-SET CAMERA DEFAULTS (3 TOTAL)

A)-Set Two Button Defaults

[Simultaneously press and hold **Two Green Buttons** until monitor flashes]

B) Set Shooting Menu Defaults

[Menu→Shooting Menu→**Reset Shooting Menu**→OK→Yes→OK]

C) Set Custom Settings Defaults

[Menu→Custom Settings Menu→**Reset Custom Settings** →OK→Yes→OK]

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8-CHANGE CERTAIN CAMERA DEFAULTS

A) **[ADVANCED]** Change autofocus mode to AF-C (Continuous Focus) and AF-Area to D9 (Nine center clustered focus points),

[Press **autofocus button** on front left of camera body. While holding button down, rotate **Main Command Dial** until **AF-C** appears in top screen. **Rotate Sub Command Dial** until **D-9** appears. Remove/replace blue tape as required]

B) Change Image Quality to JPEG Fine

[Menu→Shooting Menu→Image Quality→OK→**JPEG Fine**→OK [See **Note 4** if Client requests RAW images]

C) **[ADVANCED]**-Change JPEG Compression to Optimum

[Menu→Shooting Menu→JPEG Compression→OK→**Optimal Quality**→OK]

D) **[ADVANCED]**-Change Active D-Lighting to Low

[Menu→Shooting Menu→Active D Lighting→OK→**Low**→OK]

E) Change ISO Sensitivity to ON, with certain settings

[Menu→Shooting Menu→ISO Sensitivity Settings→OK→Auto ISO Sensitivity Control→OK→**ON**→OK→Maximum Sensitivity→OK→**25,600**→OK→Minimum Shutter Speed→OK→**1/1000**→OK]

F) Change Monitor Off Delay to 5 Minutes

[Menu→Custom Settings Menu→C4 Monitor Off Delay→Menus→OK→**5 min**→OK]

G) **[ADVANCED]** Show Viewfinder Grid

[Menu→Custom Settings Menu→D7 Viewfinder Grid Display→OK]

9-FORMAT THE CAMERA MEDIA CARDS (2 TOTAL)

A) Format Card #1

[Menu→Setup Menu→Format Memory Card→OK→Slot 1→OK→**Yes**→OK]

B) Ditto for Card #2

10-SOLMETA GMAX SETTINGS AND CALIBRATION (IF REQUIRED)

[See Note 5]

11-BAD ELF SETTINGS AND CALIBRATION (IF REQUIRED)

[See Note 5]

12-CHECK SETTINGS AND OPERATIONS/TEST SHOTS

A) Go outside and check for proper exposure (check exposure bar and histogram), focusing (white dot) and GPS acquisition (check for GPS screen with data).

IF OK, SETUP IS COMPLETE

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NOTES

NOTE 1-If using non-Alkaline batteries with the MB-D15 Battery Pack, the following setting changes are required.

- 1) Change Custom Setting D12 to **HR6** (AA Ni-MH) or **FR6** (AA Lithium) as applicable. Change as part of Section 8 of the checklist.

NOTE 2-If low light prevents proper exposure, a shutter speed as low as **1/1000** may be used. Use appropriate techniques to minimize motion and vibration blur. OK to adjust in flight.

NOTE 3-Continuous release **CL** or **CH** may be appropriate for certain targets. OK to adjust in flight.

NOTE 4-If the Client requests RAW images to allow for post processing, make the following changes.

- 1) Change Shooting Menu item **Role played by card in Slot 2** to **RAW Slot 1+JPEG Slot 2** [REVIEW IF THIS HAPPENS AUTOMATICALLY]
- 2) Change Shooting Menu item **Image Quality** to **NEF (RAW)+JPEG Fine**
- 3) Change Shooting Menu item **Color Space** to **Adobe RGB**

NOTE 5-See User manuals for both the Solmeta and Bad Elf GPS. If resetting the Solmeta GMAX, use defaults. There is an APP for the Bad Elf. [NEED MORE DETAILS IN THIS NOTE]

Checklist initially created by
Capt Don Eichelberger
Nellis Senior Squadron NV-064
donald.eichelberger@nvwgcap.org