

Getting started in underwater photography

... with Casio EXILIM EX-Z77 and the underwater housing EWC-11

Camera settings

- Anti-Shake: Off
- AF-Area: Spot
- L/R-Key: ISO
- Quick Shutter: Off
- Grid: On
- Memory: On (Bestshot, Flash, Focus, White Balance, ISO, AF Area, Metering)
- Picture Size: 7M
- Picture Quality: Normal
- Video Quality: HQ (640x480)
- White Balance: Shade (the tree)
- ISO: 50 (increase only if it's too dark)
- Metering: Multi
- File No.: Continue

General photo tips

- Lowest possible ISO sensitivity which allows taking sharp pictures
- Golden Ratio
- Focus: Auto focus or pan focus in difficult light conditions

Underwater photo tips

- Bright sunlight (noon), cloudless sky and calm water
- Always keep close to the subject (15 cm - 2 m), no zoom
- Minimum Shutter Speeds
Moving subjects / strong current: 1/125 s, still subjects: 1/40 s
- Rarely use flash
- Don't chase your subject, shoot upward
- Use continuous shutter mode to take pictures of fast moving subjects
- Hold the camera with both hands and hold your breath while pressing the shutter button
- Videos: drift in the water and restrict movements

Preparation

- Charge the battery
- Check the free space on your memory card (at least 512 MB)
- Grease the o-ring every few days (only if necessary)
- Check the o-ring, groove and the opposite side of the case for impurities
- Water tightness test
- Put silica-gel packet + camera into the case

Cleaning

- Keep the case wet at all times to avoid the formation of salt crystals
- Submerge the case in water (30 min), press all buttons several times, dry with a towel
- Take out the o-ring, wipe the groove and regrease the o-ring if necessary
- Water penetration: dry the case with a towel, take out the camera, remove battery and memory card, wait for at least 48 hours to see if you can rescue the camera and pictures

Maintenance

- Protect from the sun and sun creme
- Store silica-gel packets in plastic bags
- Short-term storage: leave the case ajar
- Long-term storage: take out the o-ring, wipe it with a lint-free cloth, grease the o-ring, place it back into the groove, leave the case open, store it in a dry, shady place