

## Quick Reference Guide to the Canon I MiniDV Camera

BE CAREFUL WHEN INSERTING AND EJECTING TAPES FROM THE CAMERA.

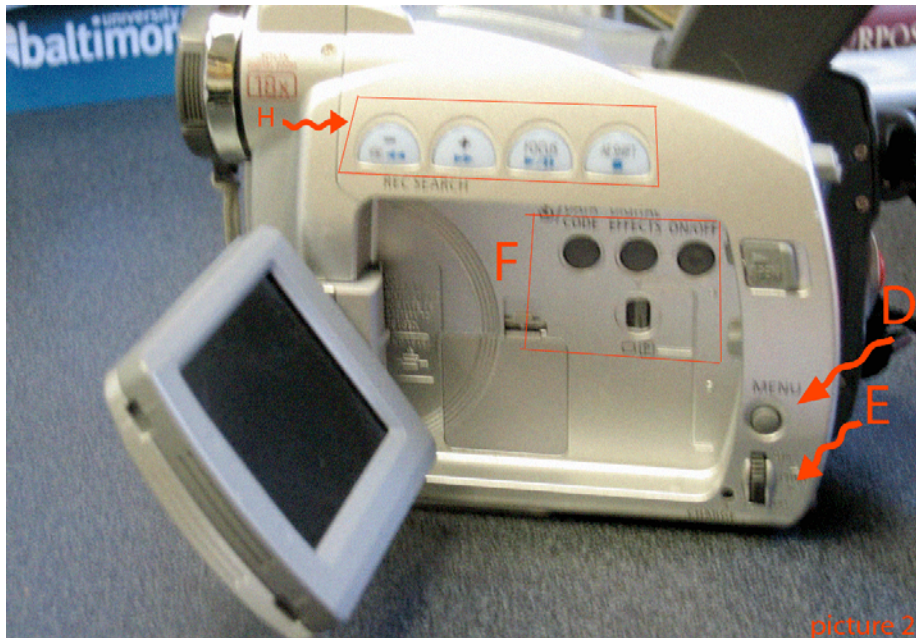
FOLLOW ALL LABELS ON THE CAMERA ITSELF AND THESE DIRECTIONS.

### CAMERA MODE / VCR MODE



- ∞ The toggle button surrounding the record button on the back of the camera is the power and mode selector switch (see at the A area on picture 1).
- ∞ Raise it to the upper position, CAMERA, to record new footage.
- ∞ Switch it to the lower position, PLAY (VCR), to review your footage.
- ∞ *The PLAY/PAUSE, FFWD, REW and STOP buttons above the LCD screen housing will be active in VCR mode and they work just a like a home VCR (see the H area on picture 2).*

## USING THE MENU



To access the camera's menu, press the MENU button on the LCD side of the camera (see D on picture2).

There is a scroll wheel below the MENU button (see E on picture 2), use this wheel to select options by rolling it up and down, press it in to select an option.

You can scroll down to CLOSE or press MENU again to exit the menu window.

### CAMERA MODE

CAMERA SET UP – You only need to use the white balance feature.

VCR SET UP – You only need to use this menu to switch on the headphones.

AUD. SET UP – You shouldn't need this menu.

DISPLAY SET UP – You shouldn't need this menu.

SYSTEM – You shouldn't need this menu.

MY CAMERA – You shouldn't need this menu.

### VCR MODE

VCR SET UP – You only need to use this menu to switch ON the headphones and to adjust the Video output. (See instructions DUPLICATING MINDV TAPES WITH TWO CAMERAS.)

AUD. SET UP – You shouldn't need this menu.

DISPLAY SET UP – You shouldn't need this menu.

SYSTEM – You shouldn't need this menu.

MY CAMERA – You shouldn't need this menu.

**\*\* Ignore the buttons inside the LCD screen housing; you should not need them at all (see F on picture2).**

## **WHITE BALANCE**

*You need to white balance your camera every time you begin to shoot. You'll need to repeat this process every time the lighting changes during your shoot. Especially when you move from indoor to outdoor shooting. You may notice sometimes that a white object in your shot appears yellow or blue. This means you need to white balance your image.*

*When you white balance you're telling the camera what is white so it can adjust all the other colors in the shot so that they appear correctly on the video. The best way to white balance is to have someone hold a white piece of paper or poster board and then zoom the camera into that and follow the instructions below.*

*An empty white wall and or a blank white shirt will work as well. Just make sure to have no other color in the viewfinder while doing this process and never white balance off of a highlighted area. That means never use a shiny object or something that is reflecting the sun or another light source as your white balance object.*

### **Instructions**

- ∞ Zoom the camera into a piece of white paper, a white wall or something similar. Make sure that no other color can be seen in the viewfinder.
- ∞ Press the MENU button, select CAMERA SETUP, and then select WHITE BAL.
- ∞ Press in the scroll wheel.
- ∞ Scroll down to SET and press the scroll wheel in.
- ∞ SET will blink rapidly (make sure that you're still zoomed in tight on that white paper) once the blinking stops you should notice that the colors in the viewfinder have adjusted themselves.
- ∞ Once you zoom out the colors should look correct. If not you'll have to repeat the procedure.

## **MANUAL FOCUS**

- ∞ The camera is in auto focus mode by default.
- ∞ To switch it into manual focus, press the FOCUS button, which is also the Play/Pause button.
- ∞ A blue MF will appear on the LCD screen.
- ∞ (If the MF appears white, press the FOCUS button again until it appears blue.)

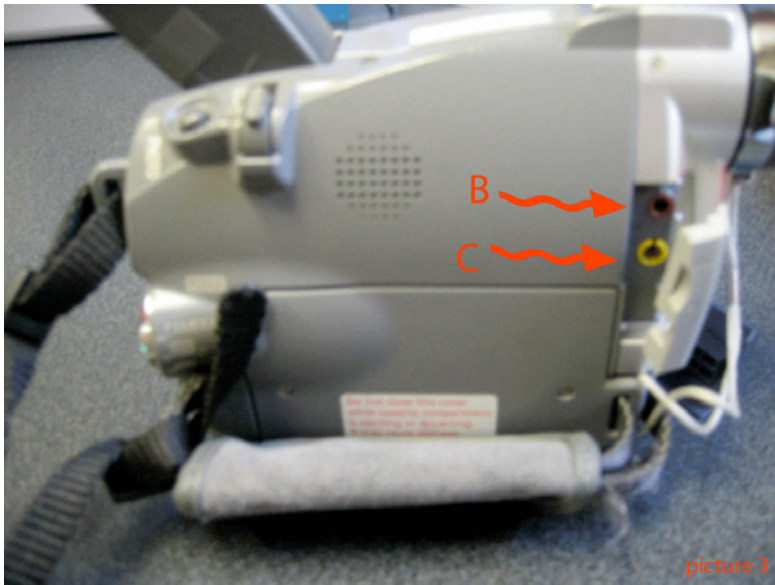
- ∞ Now you can move the scroll wheel up and down to adjust the focus.
- ∞ Remember; to achieve the best focus, zoom in to a detail then focus the camera, then zoom out and everything will be in focus.

## ADJUSTING THE EXPOSURE

- ∞ The camera is auto exposure mode by default.
- ∞ To adjust the exposure, press the AE SHIFT button, which is also the Stop button.
- ∞ A blue AE will appear on the LCD screen.
- ∞ (If the AE appears white, press the AE SHIFT button again until it appears blue.)
- ∞ Now you can move the scroll wheel up and down to adjust the exposure.

## USING HEADPHONES

*(The steps are the same for CAMERA and VCR modes)*



- ∞ Plug the headphone cord into the AV/Headphone jack on the side of the camera with the hand strap. It is underneath a grey rubber cover that is labeled with AV and a little picture of headphones (see C on picture 3).
- ∞ Once the headphones are plugged in, press the MENU button and select VCR SET UP, in that menu select AV/PHONES and press the scroll wheel in and select PHONES, then press the scroll wheel in again. Then press the MENU button to close the menu.
- ∞ You can adjust the headphone volume using the scroll wheel, only when no other option is select. For example the AE and MF icons need to be white, then you'll see a volume level appear and you can raise or lower the volume to whatever you wish.

## **USING A MICROPHONE**

- ∞ The input jack for the microphone is located right above the AV/Headphones jack on the side of the camera with the hand strap. It is underneath a grey rubber cover that is labeled with MIC (see D on picture 3).
- ∞ The camera will switch from using its built in microphone to your microphone as soon as you plug your microphone in.
- ∞ Make sure to monitor the audio with headphones while shooting to ensure that your recording the audio at the highest quality.

## **HOOKING THE CAMERA TO A TV**

- ∞ To view the camera or footage on a TV or to use the Remote Monitor.
- ∞ Hook the camera up to a TV or VCR by borrowing the Canon Video Cables from the Media Lab and plugging them into the AV/Headphone jack on the side of the camera with the hand strap. It is underneath a grey rubber cover that is labeled with AV and a little picture of headphones (see D on picture 3).
- ∞ Once the video cable is plugged in, press the MENU button and select VCR SET UP, in that menu select AV/PHONES and press the scroll wheel in and select AV, then press the scroll wheel in again. Then press the MENU button to close the menu.
- ∞ Now you can hook the RCA cables up to your TV or VCR to view your shot and/or review your footage.



## IMPORTING FOOTAGE INTO THE COMPUTER



1. Plug the camera into the wall.
2. Turn ON the camera into VCR mode.
3. Plug the attached FireWire cable into the camera. The plug is located below the lens underneath a blue/gray plastic shield (see G on picture 4)
  - a. It plugs into the small port on the front of the camera.
4. Plug the FireWire plug into the FireWire port on the MAC.
  - a. Line up the PLUG and PORT CORRECTLY!
  - b. DO NOT Force Anything!
  - c. If you need help ASK!
5. Insert your tape into the camera. (Don't force the tape! Be gentle.)
6. Now you are ready to import your MiniDV footage into iMovie or Final Cut Pro.
  - a. In Final Cut Pro make sure to use the Easy Setup "DV-NTSC", under the top menu Final Cut Pro>Easy Setup.

## DUPLICATING MINDV TAPES WITH TWO CAMERAS

1. Plug the camera into the wall.
2. Make sure both cameras are ON and in VCR (VTR) mode.
3. Plug the cameras into each other using a mini to mini FireWire cable. (You can borrow this from the lab assistant in the graphics or media lab.)
4. Place the master tape into Canon 1. (Don't force the tape! Be gentle.)
5. Place the blank tape into the other camera. (Don't force the tape! Be gentle.)
6. Cue the master tape to 5-10 seconds before the start of the video.
7. Press Play and Pause.
8. Cue the blank tape.

9. On the Canon 1, Go to MENU>VCR SET UP>AV DV OUT and turn it ON.
10. On the camera with the blank tape press Record.
11. On the Canon 1, press Play.
12. It is now recording.
13. When the video is finished, wait 15-20 seconds.
14. Press Stop on the camera with the blank tape.
15. Press Stop on Canon 1.
16. Eject both tapes.
17. Make sure to turn everything off before unhooking the mini-mini FireWire cable.

## CHARGING THE BATTERY

- ∞ Attach the camera battery and plug the camera into the wall using the AC adapter.
- ∞ Leave the Camera OFF and monitor the small light at the bottom of the LCD housing.
- ∞ It will blink red while the battery is charging; when it switches to solid red then the battery is fully charged.

REMEMBER: Do not force the battery in or out. Use the battery eject button above the battery housing, next to the viewfinder. And match the arrow labels on the camera and battery when inserting.

## OTHER NOTES

The PHOTO button next to the Zoom controls on the top of the camera will record a still image onto tape for about 10 seconds. *This feature is not recommended as a way to capture still images.*