

Nikon D3S Setup Guide

For Nature, Landscape and Travel Photography

External Controls	
Exposure Mode	Aperture Priority
Metering Mode	3D Matrix Metering
Focus Pattern	Dynamic-area AF
Bracketing	Off (unless HDR photography)
Shooting Mode	CL 3fps (Continuous Low)
WB	Variable, dep. on situation
ISO	200 - 6400 dep. on situation
QUAL	RAW
Autofocus Mode	AF-S or AF-C

Shooting Menu	
Shooting Menu Bank	A
Menu Reset	Default
Active Folder	Default
File Naming	MJH
Slot 2	Overflow
Image quality	RAW
Image Size	N/A
Image area	
Auto DX crop	On
Choose Image area	FX format (36x24)
JPEG Compression	Optimal Quality
NEF (RAW) recording	
Type	Lossless Compressed
bit depth	14 for landscapes, 12 others
White Balance	Variable, dep. on situation
Set Picture Control	Vivid
Manage Picture Control	Default
Color Space	Adobe
Active D-Lighting	High
Long Exp. NR	Off (until needed)
High ISO NR	Off
ISO Sensitivity Settings	200 - 6400 dep. on situation
auto control	Off
Live view	
Live view mode	Tripod
Release mode	CH
Multiple Exposure	Off (until needed)
Movie Quality	1280x720 (16:9)
Movie Microphone	Auto
Movie Destination	Slot 2
Intvl Timer Shooting	Off (until needed)

Setup Menu	
Format memory card	Default
LCD Brightness	0
Lock mirror up cleaning	As needed
Video Mode	NTSC
HDMI	Auto
Flicker Reduction	60 Hz (USA)
World Time	--
Language	En
Image comment	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Auto image rotation	On
Voice memo	Manual only
Voice memo overwrite	Off (disable)
Voice memo button	Press and hold
Audio output	Via speaker, 3
USB	Dep. on situation
Dust off ref photo	Default
Battery info	--
Wireless Transmitter	--
Image authentication	As needed
Copyright Info	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Save/load settings	--
GPS	--
Virtual horizon	As needed
Non-CPU lens data	As needed
AF fine tune	--
Firmware version	Newest version

Custom Setting Menus	
C Custom setting bank	A
R Reset custom settings	--
a1 AF-C priority select	Release
a2 AF-S priority select	Focus
a3 Dynamic AF area	21 points
a4 Focus lock-on	Off
a5 AF Activation	Shutter/AF-ON
a6 AF point illumination	
Manual focus mode	Off
Continuous mode	On
a7 Focus point wrap	Wrap
a8 AF point selection	51 points
a9 AF-ON button	AF-ON
a10 Vert AF-ON button	AE lock only
b1 ISO sensitivity step	1/3
b2 EV steps for expos.	1/3
b3 EV steps exp comp	1/3
b4 Easy exp. comp.	Off
b5 Center-weight area	12mm
b6 Fine tune opt. exp.	0 for all meters
c1 Shutter-release AE-L	Off
c2 Auto meter-off del.	8s
c3 Self-timer delay	Dep. on situation
c4 Monitor off delay	10s
d1 Beep	Off
d2 Shooting speed	
Continuous high-spd	11 fps
Continuous low-spd	3 fps
d3 Max cont. release	130
d4 File No. Sequence	On
d5 Ctrl panel/viewfinder	
Rear control panel	ISO
Viewfinder display	Exposures remaining
d6 Shooting info display	Auto
d7 Screen Tips	On
d8 LCD illumination	Off
d9 Exposure del. mode	Off
e1 Flash Sync Speed	1/250s (Auto FP)
e2 Flash shutter speed	1/60
e3 Modeling flash	On
e4 Auto Bracket Set	AE Only
e5 Auto bkt. (Mode M)	Flash/Speed
e6 Bracketing order	Under > MTR > Over
f1 Center Button	Shooting Mode, RESET
f1 Center Button	P/back Mode, Zoom, Med. mag.
f2 Multi-Selector	Do Nothing
f3 Photo Info/Playback	Off
f4 Assign FUNC. button	Press: Spot Metering
	Dials: Choose image area
f5 Assign Preview button	Press: Preview
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Press: AE lock only
	Dials: choose non-CPU lens
f7 Assign BKT Button	Bracketing
f8 Cust. command dials	OFF, OFF, ON, ON
f9 Release button dial	OFF
f10 No Memory Card?	Release locked
f11 Reverse indicators	Default (+ . . . 0 . . .)

Playback Menu	
Delete	Selected
Playback folder	Default
Hide image	Default
Display mode	All Selected
Copy image(s)	As needed
Image review	On
After delete	Show Next
Rotate tall	Off
Slide show	Default
Print set (DPOF)	Default

Nikon D3S Setup Guide

For Portrait and Wedding Photography

External Controls	
Exposure Mode	Aperture Priority
Metering Mode	3D Matrix Metering
Focus Pattern	Dynamic-area AF
Bracketing	Off
Shooting Mode	CL 6fps (Continuous Low)
WB	Variable, dep. on situation
ISO	200 - Hi 2 dep. on situation
QUAL	JPEG
Autofocus Mode	AF-S or AF-C

Shooting Menu	
Shooting Menu Bank	B
Menu Reset	Default
Active Folder	Default
File Naming	MJH
Slot 2	Overflow
Image quality	JPEG Fine
Image Size	Large
Image area	
Auto DX crop	On
Choose Image area	FX format (36x24)
JPEG Compression	Optimal Quality
NEF (RAW) recording	
Type	Lossless Compressed
bit depth	12 bit
White Balance	Variable, dep. on situation
Set Picture Control	Neutral
Manage Picture Control	Default
Color Space	sRGB
Active D-Lighting	Off
Long Exp. NR	Off (until needed)
High ISO NR	Off
ISO Sensitivity Settings	200 - Hi 2 dep. on situation
auto control	Off
Live view	
Live view mode	Handheld
Release mode	CH
Multiple Exposure	Off (until needed)
Movie Quality	1280x720 (16:9)
Movie Microphone	Auto
Movie Destination	Slot 2
Intvl Timer Shooting	Off (until needed)

Setup Menu	
Format memory card	Default
LCD Brightness	0
Lock mirror up cleaning	As needed
Video Mode	NTSC
HDMI	Auto
Flicker Reduction	60 Hz (USA)
World Time	--
Language	En
Image comment	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Auto image rotation	On
Voice memo	Manual only
Voice memo overwrite	Off (disable)
Voice memo button	Press and hold
Audio output	Via speaker, 3
USB	Dep. on situation
Dust off ref photo	Default
Battery info	--
Wireless Transmitter	--
Image authentication	As needed
Copyright Info	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Save/load settings	--
GPS	--
Virtual horizon	As needed
Non-CPU lens data	As needed
AF fine tune	--
Firmware version	Newest version

Custom Setting Menus	
C Custom setting bank	B
R Reset custom settings	--
a1 AF-C priority select	Release
a2 AF-S priority select	Focus
a3 Dynamic AF area	21 points
a4 Focus lock-on	Off
a5 AF Activation	Shutter/AF-ON
a6 AF point illumination	
Manual focus mode	Off
Continuous mode	On
a7 Focus point wrap	Wrap
a8 AF point selection	51 points
a9 AF-ON button	AF-ON
a10 Vert AF-ON button	AE lock only
b1 ISO sensitivity step	1/3
b2 EV steps for expos.	1/3
b3 EV steps exp comp	1/3
b4 Easy exp. comp.	Off
b5 Center-weight area	12mm
b6 Fine tune opt. exp.	0 for all meters
c1 Shutter-release AE-L	Off
c2 Auto meter-off del.	8s
c3 Self-timer delay	Dep. on situation
c4 Monitor off delay	10s
d1 Beep	Off
d2 Shooting speed	
Continuous high-spd	11 fps
Continuous low-spd	6 fps
d3 Max cont. release	130
d4 File No. Sequence	On
d5 Ctrl panel/viewfinder	
Rear control panel	ISO
Viewfinder display	Exposures remaining
d6 Shooting info display	Auto
d7 Screen Tips	On
d8 LCD illumination	Off
d9 Exposure del. mode	Off
e1 Flash Sync Speed	1/250s (Auto FP)
e2 Flash shutter speed	1/60
e3 Modeling flash	On
e4 Auto Bracket Set	AE Only
e5 Auto bkt. (Mode M)	Flash/Speed
e6 Bracketing order	Under > MTR > Over
f1 Center Button	Shooting Mode, RESET
f1 Center Button	P/back Mode, Zoom, Med. mag.
f2 Multi-Selector	Do Nothing
f3 Photo Info/Playback	Off
f4 Assign FUNC. button	Press: Flash off
	Dials: Choose image area
f5 Assign Preview button	Press: Preview
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Press: AE lock only
	Dials: choose non-CPU lens
f7 Assign BKT Button	Bracketing
f8 Cust. command dials	OFF, OFF, ON, ON
f9 Release button dial	OFF
f10 No Memory Card?	Release locked
f11 Reverse indicators	Default (+ . . . 0 . . .)

Playback Menu	
Delete	Selected
Playback folder	Default
Hide image	Default
Display mode	All Selected
Copy image(s)	As needed
Image review	On
After delete	Show Next
Rotate tall	Off
Slide show	Default
Print set (DPOF)	Default

Nikon D3S Setup Guide

For Sports and Action Photography

External Controls	
Exposure Mode	Aperture Priority
Metering Mode	3D Matrix Metering
Focus Pattern	Dynamic-area AF
Bracketing	Off
Shooting Mode	Ch 11fps (Continuous High)
WB	Variable, dep. on situation
ISO	200 - Hi 2 dep. on situation
QUAL	JPEG or RAW (depends)
Autofocus Mode	AF-C

Shooting Menu	
Shooting Menu Bank	C
Menu Reset	Default
Active Folder	Default
File Naming	MJH
Slot 2	Overflow
Image quality	JPEG Fine or RAW
Image Size	Large
Image area	
Auto DX crop	On
Choose Image area	FX format (36x24)
JPEG Compression	Optimal Quality
NEF (RAW) recording	
Type	Lossless Compressed
bit depth	12 bit
White Balance	Variable, dep. on situation
Set Picture Control	Vivid
Manage Picture Control	Default
Color Space	sRGB
Active D-Lighting	High
Long Exp. NR	Off (until needed)
High ISO NR	Off
ISO Sensitivity Settings	200 - Hi 2 dep. on situation
auto control	On, 6400, 1/125 sec.
Live view	
Live view mode	Handheld
Release mode	CH
Multiple Exposure	Off (until needed)
Movie Quality	1280x720 (16:9)
Movie Microphone	Auto
Movie Destination	Slot 2
Intvl Timer Shooting	Off (until needed)

Setup Menu	
Format memory card	Default
LCD Brightness	0
Lock mirror up cleaning	As needed
Video Mode	NTSC
HDMI	Auto
Flicker Reduction	60 Hz (USA)
World Time	--
Language	En
Image comment	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Auto image rotation	On
Voice memo	Manual only
Voice memo overwrite	Off (disable)
Voice memo button	Press and hold
Audio output	Via speaker, 3
USB	Dep. on situation
Dust off ref photo	Default
Battery info	--
Wireless Transmitter	--
Image authentication	As needed
Copyright Info	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Save/load settings	--
GPS	--
Virtual horizon	As needed
Non-CPU lens data	As needed
AF fine tune	--
Firmware version	Newest version

Custom Setting Menus	
C Custom setting bank	C
R Reset custom settings	--
a1 AF-C priority select	Release
a2 AF-S priority select	Focus
a3 Dynamic AF area	51 points 3D-tracking
a4 Focus lock-on	Off or Long dep. on situation
a5 AF Activation	AF-ON only
a6 AF point illumination	
Manual focus mode	Off
Continuous mode	On
a7 Focus point wrap	Wrap
a8 AF point selection	11 points
a9 AF-ON button	AF-ON
a10 Vert AF-ON button	AF-ON
b1 ISO sensitivity step	1/3
b2 EV steps for expos.	1/3
b3 EV steps exp comp	1/3
b4 Easy exp. comp.	Off
b5 Center-weight area	12mm
b6 Fine tune opt. exp.	0 for all meters
c1 Shutter-release AE-L	Off
c2 Auto meter-off del.	8s
c3 Self-timer delay	Dep. on situation
c4 Monitor off delay	10s
d1 Beep	Off
d2 Shooting speed	
Continuous high-spd	11 fps
Continuous low-spd	3 fps
d3 Max cont. release	130
d4 File No. Sequence	On
d5 Ctrl panel/viewfinder	
Rear control panel	ISO
Viewfinder display	Exposures remaining
d6 Shooting info display	Auto
d7 Screen Tips	On
d8 LCD illumination	Off
d9 Exposure del. mode	Off
e1 Flash Sync Speed	1/250s (Auto FP)
e2 Flash shutter speed	1/60
e3 Modeling flash	On
e4 Auto Bracket Set	AE Only
e5 Auto bkt. (Mode M)	Flash/Speed
e6 Bracketing order	Under > MTR > Over
f1 Center Button	Shooting Mode, RESET
f1 Center Button	P/back Mode, Zoom, Med. mag.
f2 Multi-Selector	Do Nothing
f3 Photo Info/Playback	Off
f4 Assign FUNC. button	Press: Spot Metering
f5 Assign Preview button	Dials: Choose image area
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Press: Preview
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Press: AE lock only
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Dials: choose non-CPU lens
f7 Assign BKT Button	Bracketing
f8 Cust. command dials	OFF, OFF, ON, ON
f9 Release button dial	OFF
f10 No Memory Card?	Release locked
f11 Reverse indicators	Default (+ . . . 0 . . .)

Playback Menu	
Delete	Selected
Playback folder	Default
Hide image	Default
Display mode	All Selected
Copy image(s)	As needed
Image review	On
After delete	Show Next
Rotate tall	Off
Slide show	Default
Print set (DPOF)	Default

Nikon D3S Setup Guide

For Point and Shoot Photography

External Controls	
Exposure Mode	Program
Metering Mode	3D Matrix Metering
Focus Pattern	Auto area auto focus
Bracketing	Off
Shooting Mode	S (Single)
WB	Auto
ISO	400
QUAL	JPEG
Autofocus Mode	AF-C

Shooting Menu	
Shooting Menu Bank	D
Menu Reset	Default
Active Folder	Default
File Naming	MJH
Slot 2	Overflow
Image quality	JPEG Fine
Image Size	Large
Image area	
Auto DX crop	On
Choose Image area	FX format (36x24)
JPEG Compression	Optimal Quality
NEF (RAW) recording	
Type	Compressed
bit depth	12 bit
White Balance	Auto
Set Picture Control	Vivid
Manage Picture Control	Default
Color Space	sRGB
Active D-Lighting	Off
Long Exp. NR	Off (until needed)
High ISO NR	Off
ISO Sensitivity Settings	400
auto control	On, 3200, 1/60 sec.
Live view	
Live view mode	Handheld
Release mode	CH
Multiple Exposure	Off (until needed)
Movie Quality	1280x720 (16:9)
Movie Microphone	Auto
Movie Destination	Slot 2
Intvl Timer Shooting	Off (until needed)

Setup Menu	
Format memory card	Default
LCD Brightness	0
Lock mirror up cleaning	As needed
Video Mode	NTSC
HDMI	Auto
Flicker Reduction	60 Hz (USA)
World Time	--
Language	En
Image comment	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Auto image rotation	On
Voice memo	Manual only
Voice memo overwrite	Off (disable)
Voice memo button	Press and hold
Audio output	Via speaker, 3
USB	Dep. on situation
Dust off ref photo	Default
Battery info	--
Wireless Transmitter	--
Image authentication	As needed
Copyright Info	On (Copyright Mike Hagen)
Save/load settings	--
GPS	--
Virtual horizon	As needed
Non-CPU lens data	As needed
AF fine tune	--
Firmware version	Newest version

Custom Setting Menus	
C Custom setting bank	D
R Reset custom settings	--
a1 AF-C priority select	Release
a2 AF-S priority select	Focus
a3 Dynamic AF area	51 points 3-D tracking
a4 Focus lock-on	Normal
a5 AF Activation	Shutter/AF-ON
a6 AF point illumination	
Manual focus mode	Off
Continuous mode	On
a7 Focus point wrap	Wrap
a8 AF point selection	51 points
a9 AF-ON button	AF-ON
a10 Vert AF-ON button	AF-ON
b1 ISO sensitivity step	1/3
b2 EV steps for expos.	1/3
b3 EV steps exp comp	1/3
b4 Easy exp. comp.	Off
b5 Center-weight area	12mm
b6 Fine tune opt. exp.	0 for all meters
c1 Shutter-release AE-L	Off
c2 Auto meter-off del.	8s
c3 Self-timer delay	Dep. on situation
c4 Monitor off delay	10s
d1 Beep	Off
d2 Shooting speed	
Continuous high-spd	11 fps
Continuous low-spd	3 fps
d3 Max cont. release	130
d4 File No. Sequence	On
d5 Ctrl panel/viewfinder	
Rear control panel	ISO
Viewfinder display	Exposures remaining
d6 Shooting info display	Auto
d7 Screen Tips	On
d8 LCD illumination	Off
d9 Exposure del. mode	Off
e1 Flash Sync Speed	1/250s (Auto FP)
e2 Flash shutter speed	1/60
e3 Modeling flash	On
e4 Auto Bracket Set	AE Only
e5 Auto bkt. (Mode M)	Flash/Speed
e6 Bracketing order	Under > MTR > Over
f1 Center Button	Shooting Mode, RESET
f1 Center Button	P/back Mode, Zoom, Med. mag.
f2 Multi-Selector	Do Nothing
f3 Photo Info/Playback	Off
f4 Assign FUNC. button	Press: Spot Metering
f5 Assign Preview button	Dials: Choose image area
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Press: Preview
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Press: AE lock only
f6 Assign AE-L/AF-L	Dials: choose non-CPU lens
f7 Assign BKT Button	Bracketing
f8 Cust. command dials	OFF, OFF, ON, ON
f9 Release button dial	OFF
f10 No Memory Card?	Release locked
f11 Reverse indicators	Default (+ . . . 0 . . .)

Playback Menu	
Delete	Selected
Playback folder	Default
Hide image	Default
Display mode	All Selected
Copy image(s)	As needed
Image review	On
After delete	Show Next
Rotate tall	Off
Slide show	Default
Print set (DPOF)	Default