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*Author of Digital Photography
For Dummies*

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Introduction



In 2003, Canon revolutionized the photography world by introducing the first digital SLR camera (dSLR) to sell for less than \$1,000, the EOS Digital Rebel/300D. The camera delivered exceptional performance and picture quality, earning it rave reviews and multiple industry awards. No wonder it quickly became a best seller.

That tradition of excellence and value lives on in the EOS Rebel T5/1200D. Like its ancestors, this baby offers a range of controls for experienced photographers plus an assortment of features and tools designed to help beginners be successful. Adding to the fun, the Rebel T5/1200D also offers the option to record full high-definition video.

About This Book

The T5/1200D is so feature-packed that sorting out everything can be a challenge. For starters, you may not even be sure what SLR means, let alone have a clue about all the other terms you encounter in your camera manual — resolution, aperture, and ISO, for example. And if you're like many people, you may be so overwhelmed by all the controls on your camera that you haven't yet ventured beyond fully automatic picture-taking mode. That's a shame because it's sort of like buying a Porsche Turbo and never pushing it past 50 miles per hour.

Therein lies the point of *Canon EOS Rebel T5/1200D For Dummies*. In this book, you can discover not only what each bell and whistle on your camera does but also when, where, why, and how to put it to best use. Unlike many photography books, this one doesn't require any previous knowledge of photography or digital imaging to make sense of concepts, either. In classic *For Dummies* style, everything is explained in easy-to-understand language, with lots of illustrations to help clear up any confusion.

In short, what you have in your hands is the paperback version of an in-depth photography workshop tailored specifically to your Canon picture-taking powerhouse. Whether your interests lie in taking family photos, exploring nature and travel photography, or snapping product shots for your business, you'll get the information you need to capture the images you envision.

This book is organized into four parts, each devoted to a different aspect of using your camera. Although chapters flow in a sequence that's designed to take you from absolute beginner to experienced user, we also tried to make each chapter as self-standing as possible so that you can explore topics that interest you in any order you please.

Additionally, we need to point out a few other details that will help you use this book:

- ✓ **Margin art:** Replicas of some of your camera's buttons and onscreen graphics appear in the margins and in some tables. We include these images to provide quick reminders of the appearance of the button or option being discussed.
- ✓ **Camera menu and screen options:** In many cases, you can select a camera setting by using the cross keys and then pressing the Set button. To avoid having to spell all that out every time we describe a camera function that can be accessed, we use some verbal shorthand and simply tell you to choose the setting in question.
- ✓ **Software menu commands:** In sections that cover software, a series of words connected by an arrow indicates commands you choose from the program menus. For example, if a step tells you, "Choose File→Export," click the File menu to unfurl it and then click the Export command on the menu.

Foolish Assumptions

Although it's not possible for us to know everything about you — we're not sure whether orange or blue is your favorite color or whether you have a penchant for mocha lattes or prefer herbal tea — we do tailor the content of this book around a few assumptions. Namely, we assume that you have little or no experience in photography, digital photography, or both, so we explain everything in beginner's terms. Our goal is to help you leave Auto mode behind as soon as possible so that you can take best advantage of your camera.

However, if you are a photo pro but new to the T5/1200D, this book is for you, too: It'll help you get up and running with your new gear in no time.

Icons Used in This Book



A Tip icon flags information that will make your life easier. You'll save time, effort, money, or other valuable resources, including your sanity.



This icon highlights important information that's especially worth storing in your brain's long-term memory or to remind you of a fact that may have been displaced from that memory by another pressing fact.



If we present a detail that's useful mainly for impressing your geeky friends (but otherwise not critical for you to retain), we mark it with this icon.



When you see this icon, look alive. It indicates a potential danger zone that can result in much wailing and teeth-gnashing if it's ignored.

Beyond the Book

We have snuck a bit of extra content online you may find helpful as you get to know your Rebel T5/1200D.

✓ The Cheat Sheet for this book is at

www.dummies.com/cheatsheet/canoneosrebel51200d

The Cheat Sheet contains a quick-reference guide to all the buttons, dials, switches, and exposure modes on your camera. Log on, print it out, and tuck it in your camera bag for times when you don't want to carry this book with you.

✓ You can find online articles covering additional topics at

www.dummies.com/extras/canoneosrebel51200d

✓ Updates to this book, if we have any, are at

www.dummies.com/extras/canoneosrebel51200d

Where to Go from Here

To wrap up this preamble, we want to stress that if you initially think that digital photography is too confusing or too technical for you, you're in very good company. *Everyone* finds this stuff a little mind-boggling at first. Take it slowly, experimenting with just one or two new camera settings or techniques at first. Then, every time you go on a photo outing, make it a point to add one or two more shooting skills to your repertoire. With some time, patience, and practice, you'll soon wield your camera like a pro, dialing in the necessary settings to capture your creative vision almost instinctively.

So without further ado, we invite you to grab your camera and a cup of whatever it is you prefer to sip while you read and then start exploring the rest of this book. Your Rebel T5/1200D is the perfect partner for your photographic journey, and we thank you for allowing us, in this book, to serve as your tour guides.

Part I

Fast Track to Super Snaps



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A background image of two Great Egrets standing in a marshy area with green foliage. The birds are facing each other, and their long, straight beaks are touching in the center. They have white plumage and long, thin legs.

In this part . . .

- ✓ Familiarize yourself with the basics of using your camera, from attaching lenses to navigating menus.
- ✓ Try out Live View versus traditional viewfinder photography.
- ✓ Find out how to select the exposure mode, Drive mode, and Image Quality (resolution and file type), and monitor important settings while shooting.
- ✓ Discover options available for flash photography.
- ✓ Get step-by-step help with shooting your first pictures in Scene Intelligent Auto mode.
- ✓ Take more creative control by using scene modes and Creative Auto mode.

Getting Up and Running

In This Chapter

- ▶ Preparing the camera for its first outing
- ▶ Getting acquainted with camera features
- ▶ Viewing and adjusting camera settings
- ▶ Setting a few basic preferences

If you're like many people, shooting for the first time with an SLR (single-lens reflex) camera produces a blend of excitement and anxiety. On one hand, you can't wait to start using your new equipment, but on the other, you're a little intimidated by all its buttons, dials, and menu options.

Well, fear not: This chapter provides the information you need to start getting comfortable with your Rebel T5/1200D. The first section walks you through initial camera setup; following that, you can get an overview of camera controls, discover how to view and adjust camera settings, work with lenses and memory cards, and get our take on some basic setup options.

Preparing the Camera for Initial Use

After unpacking your camera, you have to assemble a few parts. In addition to the camera body and the supplied battery (be sure to charge it before the first use), you need a lens and a memory card. Later sections in this chapter provide details about lenses and memory cards, but here's what you need to know up front:

- ✓ **Lens:** Your camera accepts Canon EF and EF-S model lenses; the 18–55mm kit lens sold as a bundle with the camera body falls into the EF-S category. If you want to buy a non-Canon lens, check the lens manufacturer's website to find out which lenses work with your camera.



✓ **SD (Secure Digital), SDHC, or SDXC memory card:** The SD stands for *Secure Digital*; the HC and XC for *High Capacity* and *eXtended Capacity*. The different labels just reflect how many gigabytes (GB) of data the card holds. SD cards hold less than 4GB; SDHC, 4GB to 32GB; and SDXC, greater than 32GB.

With camera, lens, battery, and card within reach, take these steps:

1. **Turn the camera off.**
2. **Attach a lens.**

First, remove the caps that cover the front of the camera and the back of the lens. Then locate the proper *lens mounting index* on the camera body. Your camera has two of these markers, one red and one white, as shown in Figure 1-1. Which marker you use to align your lens depends on the lens type:

- *Canon EF-S lens:* The white square is the mounting index.
- *Canon EF lens:* The red dot is the mounting index.

Your lens also has a mounting index; align that mark with the matching one on the camera body, as shown in Figure 1-1. Place the lens on the camera mount and rotate the lens toward the lens-release button, labeled in the figure. You should feel a solid click as the lens locks into place.

3. **Install the battery and memory card into the compartment on the bottom of the camera.**

Hold the battery with the contacts down and slide it into the compartment. The beveled edges of the battery face the front of the camera. Gently push the battery in until the light gray lock clicks in place, as shown in Figure 1-2.

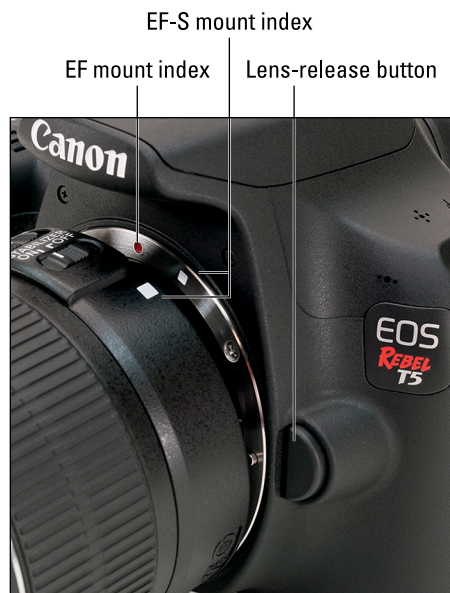


Figure 1-1: Align the mounting index on the lens with the one on the camera body.

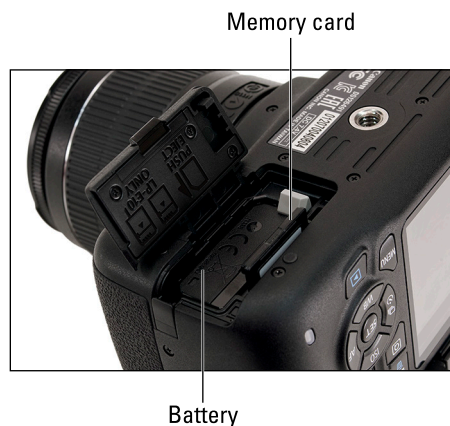


Figure 1-2: Insert the memory card with the label facing the back of the camera.

Orient the memory card as shown in Figure 1-2 (the label faces the back of the camera.) Push the card gently into the slot and close the cover.

4. Turn the camera on and adjust the settings.

When you power up the camera for the first time, the monitor displays a screen asking you to set the date, time, and time zone. To adjust the values on the screen, use the Set button and the four keys surrounding it — known as *cross keys*.

Press the left or right cross keys to highlight an option box; press Set to activate the box. Press the up/down keys to change the value in the box and then press Set again. Lather, rinse, and repeat until you adjust all the settings. Highlight the OK box and press Set.

5. Adjust the viewfinder to your eyesight.

Tucked above the right side of the rubber eyepiece that surrounds the viewfinder is a dial that enables you to adjust the viewfinder focus to accommodate your eyesight. The dial is labeled in Figure 1-3.

This step is critical if you plan to use the viewfinder: If you don't adjust the viewfinder to your eyesight, subjects may appear sharp in the viewfinder when they aren't actually in focus, and vice versa.

Rotate to adjust viewfinder



Figure 1-3: Rotate this dial to set the viewfinder focus for your eyesight.

WARNING!



TECHNICAL STUFF



Decoding Canon lens terminology

When you shop for Canon lenses, you will encounter these lens specifications:

- ✓ **EF and EF-S:** EF stands for *electro focus*; the S stands for *short back focus*. And that simply means the rear element of the lens is closer to the sensor than with an EF lens. The good news is that your T5/1200D works with both of these Canon lens types.
- ✓ **IS:** Indicates that the lens offers *image stabilization*, a feature that helps prevent blur

that can result from camera shake when you handhold the camera.

- ✓ **STM:** Refers to *stepping motor technology*, an autofocus system which is designed to provide smoother, quieter autofocus.

The 18–55mm lens sold as part of the T5/1200D kit is an EF-S lens with both image stabilization and stepping motor technology.

Remove the lens cap, look through the viewfinder, and then press the shutter button halfway to display data at the bottom of the viewfinder. (In dim lighting, the flash may pop up; ignore it for now and close the unit after you adjust the viewfinder.) Now rotate the dial until the data appears sharpest. The markings in the center of the viewfinder, which relate to autofocus, also become more or less sharp.

That's all there is to it — the camera is now ready to go. From here, we recommend that you keep reading the rest of this chapter to familiarize yourself with the main camera features. But if you're anxious to take a picture right away, we won't think any less of you if you skip to Chapter 3, which guides you through the process of using the camera's automatic shooting modes. Just promise that at some point, you'll read the pages in between, because they actually do contain important information.

Exploring External Camera Features

If you're new to dSLR photography, some aspects of using your camera, such as working with the lens, may be unfamiliar. But even if you're a seasoned pro, it pays to spend time before your first shoot with a new camera to get familiar with its controls. To that end, the upcoming pages provide an overview of the T5/1200D's external bells and whistles.

Topside controls

Your virtual tour begins on the top of the camera, shown in Figure 1-4.

The items of note here are

- ✓ **On/Off switch:** We won't insult your intelligence by explaining what this switch does. But note that even when the switch is in the On position, the camera automatically goes to sleep after 30 seconds of inactivity to save battery power. You can adjust this timing via the Auto Power Off option on Setup Menu 1.
- ✓ **Red-eye reduction/Self-timer lamp:** When you set your flash to Red-Eye Reduction mode, this lamp emits a brief burst of light prior to the real flash — the idea being that your subjects' pupils will constrict in response to the light, thus lessening the chances of red-eye. If you use the camera's self-timer feature, the lamp lights during the countdown period before the shutter is released. See Chapter 2 for more details about Red-Eye Reduction flash mode and the self-timer function.
- ✓ **Mode dial:** Rotate this dial to select an *exposure mode*, which determines whether the camera operates in fully automatic, semi-automatic, or manual exposure mode when you take still pictures. To shift to Movie mode, rotate the dial so that it aligns with the movie camera icon, labeled in Figure 1-4. Chapter 2 provides an overview of the still photography exposure modes; Chapter 8 covers movie recording.

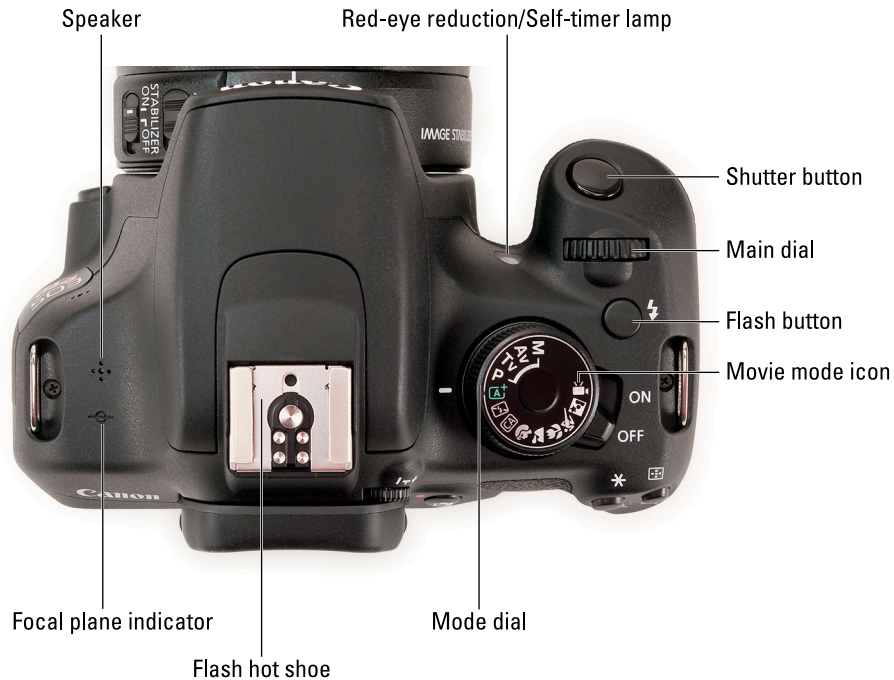


Figure 1-4: Here's a guide to controls found on top of the camera.



- ✓ **Viewfinder adjustment dial:** Use this dial (shown close-up in Figure 1-3) to adjust the viewfinder focus to your eyesight.
- ✓ **Main dial:** You use this dial when selecting many camera settings. (Specifics are provided throughout the book.) In fact, this dial plays such an important role that you'd think it might have a more auspicious name, but Main dial it is.



- ✓ **Shutter button:** You no doubt already understand the function of this button, too. But you may not realize that when you use autofocus and autoexposure, you need to use a two-stage process when taking a picture: Press the shutter button halfway, pause to let the camera set focus and exposure, and then press the rest of the way to capture the image. You'd be surprised how many people mess up their pictures because they press that button with one quick jab, denying the camera the time it needs to set focus and exposure. The beep you may hear is the camera telling you it was able to focus and is ready to take the photo.
- ✓ **Flash button:** Press this button to raise the built-in flash in the advanced exposure modes (P, Tv, Av, and M).
- ✓ **Flash hot shoe:** Labeled in Figure 1-4, this is the connection for attaching an external flash and other accessories such as flash adapters, bubble levels, flash brackets, off-camera flash cords, and the GP-E2 GPS Receiver.



- ✓ **Speaker:** When you play a movie that contains audio, the sound comes wafting through these little holes.
- ✓ **Focal plane indicator:** Should you need to know the exact distance between your subject and the camera, the *focal plane indicator* labeled in Figure 1-4 is key. This mark indicates the plane at which light coming through the lens is focused onto the camera's image sensor. Basing your measurement on this mark produces a more accurate camera-to-subject distance than using the end of the lens or some other point on the camera body as your reference point.

Back-of-the-body controls

Traveling over the top of the camera to its back, you encounter the smorgasbord of controls shown in Figure 1-5.



Buttons with a white icon perform shooting mode functions; buttons with blue icons are used in playback. Some buttons sport dual colors, meaning that they come into play for both functions.



Figure 1-5: Having lots of external buttons makes accessing the camera's functions easier.



Throughout this book, pictures of some buttons appear in the margins to help you locate the button being discussed. So even though we provide the official names in the following list, don't worry about getting all those straight right now. Note, however, that some buttons have multiple names because they serve multiple purposes depending on whether you're taking pictures, reviewing images, recording a movie, or performing some other function. In this book, we refer to these buttons by the first label you see in the following list (and in Figure 1-5) to simplify things. For example, we refer to the AF Point Selection/Magnify button as the AF Point Selection button. Again, though, the margin icons help you know exactly which button you're to press.

With that preamble out of the way, it's time to explore the camera back, starting at the top-right corner and working westward (well, assuming that your lens is pointing north, anyway):



✓ **AF Point Selection/Magnify button:** In certain shooting modes, you press this button to specify which autofocus points you want the camera to use when establishing focus. Chapter 5 tells you more. In Playback mode, covered in Chapter 9, you use this button to magnify the image display (thus the plus sign in the button's magnifying glass icon).

✓ **AE Lock/FE Lock/Index/Reduce button:** During shooting, you press this button to lock autoexposure (AE) settings, as covered in Chapter 4, and to lock flash exposure (FE), a topic we discuss in Chapter 2.

This button also serves two image-viewing functions: It switches the display to Index mode, enabling you to see multiple image thumbnails at once, and it reduces the magnification of images when displayed one at a time.



✓ **Live View/Movie-record button:** Press this button to shift to Live View mode, which enables you to compose your pictures using the monitor instead of the viewfinder. When shooting movies, you press the button to start and stop recording. (You must first set the Mode dial to the Movie position.)



After you shift to Live View or Movie mode, certain buttons perform different functions than they do for viewfinder photography. We spell out the differences when showing you how to use Live View and movie features.

✓ **Exposure Compensation/Aperture/Delete button:** When you shoot in the M (manual) exposure mode, press this button and rotate the Main dial to choose the aperture setting, also known as the *f-stop*. In the other advanced exposure modes (P, Tv, and Av), you instead use the button and dial to apply *Exposure Compensation*, a feature that enables you to adjust the exposure. Chapter 4 discusses both issues.

During playback, press this button to erase pictures — thus the blue trash-can symbol, the universal sign for “dump it.”



✓ **Q (Quick Control) button:** Press this button to display the Quick Control screen, which gives you one way to adjust picture settings. See “Changing Settings via the Quick Control Screen,” later in this chapter, for help.

✓ **Disp button:** In Live View, Movie, and Playback modes, pressing this button changes the picture-display style. When menus are displayed, pressing the button brings up the Camera Settings display.

✓ **Set button and cross keys:** Figure 1-5 points out the Set button and the four surrounding buttons, known as *cross keys*. These buttons team up to perform several functions, including choosing options from the camera menus. You use the cross keys to navigate through menus and then press the Set button to select a specific menu setting.



In this book, the instruction “Press the left cross key” means to press the one to the left of the Set button, “press the right cross key” means to press the one to the right of the Set button, and so on.

During viewfinder photography — that is, you’re using the viewfinder and not the monitor to frame your shots — the cross keys also have individual responsibilities, which are indicated by their labels:

- *Press the up cross key to change the ISO setting.* Detailed in Chapter 4, this exposure-related control determines how sensitive the camera is to light. (If nothing happens when you press this cross key or any other buttons, give the shutter button a half-press and release it to wake up the camera.)
- *Press the right cross key to adjust the AF mode.* This option controls one aspect of the camera’s autofocus behavior, as outlined in Chapter 5.
- *Press the left cross key to change the Drive mode.* The Drive mode settings enable you to switch the camera from single-frame shooting to continuous capture or self-timer/remote-control shooting. See Chapter 2 for details.
- *Press the down cross key to change the White Balance setting.* The White Balance control, explained in Chapter 6, enables you to ensure that colors are rendered accurately.

For Live View and Movie shooting, the cross keys perform actions related to autofocusing; we get into those details in Chapter 5.



✓ **Playback button:** Press this button to switch the camera into picture-review mode.

✓ **Menu button:** Press this button to access the camera menus.

✓ **Memory card access light:** Labeled in Figure 1-5, this light glows while the camera is recording data to the memory card. Don’t power off the camera while the light is lit, or you may damage the card or camera.

Front-left features

The front-left side of the camera sports three important features, labeled in Figure 1-6:



Figure 1-6: When recording movies, be careful not to cover the microphone with your finger.

- ✓ **Lens-release button:** Press this button to disengage the lens from the lens mount so that you can remove it from the camera. While pressing the button, rotate the lens toward the shutter-button side of the camera to dismount the lens.
- ✓ **Microphone:** This cluster of holes leads to the camera's microphone. See Chapter 8 for details about choosing microphone settings.
- ✓ **Connection ports:** Hidden under the cover labeled *port access door* in Figure 1-6 are inputs for connecting the camera to various devices. Figure 1-7 labels each connection.
 - **Remote-control terminal:** You can attach the Canon Remote Switch RS-60E3 wired controller here.



The controller currently sells for under \$30 and is a worthwhile investment for long-exposure shooting (such as nighttime shots and fireworks). By using the remote control, you eliminate the chance that the action of your finger on the shutter button moves

the camera enough to blur the shot, which is especially problematic during long exposures.

- Digital terminal (USB and GPS connection terminal):** You use this terminal to connect the camera to a computer via the supplied USB cable for picture downloading. (Chapter 10 offers details.) This terminal is also used for attaching the optional Canon GP-E2 GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) unit, which mounts on the hot shoe and connects here.
- HDMI terminal:** For playback on a high-definition television or screen, you can connect the camera via this terminal, using an optional HDMI male to mini-C cable. You'll pay about \$50 if you buy Canon's version, the HTC-100 cable. Shop around for better deals if you like.



Figure 1-7: Inputs for connecting the camera to other devices are found under the cover on the left side of the camera.

If you turn the camera over, you find a tripod socket, which enables you to mount the camera on a tripod that uses a 1/4-inch screw, plus the chamber that holds the battery and memory card. Also found in the chamber is a connection for attaching the optional Canon AC power adapter kit ACK-E10; it sells for about \$65. See the camera manual for specifics on running the camera on AC power.

Ordering from Camera Menus

Only a handful of camera settings can be adjusted by using the external buttons and controls. To access other options, press the Menu button, which displays a menu screen similar to the one shown in Figure 1-8. Here's what you need to know about the menu system:

- Understanding the menu layout:** Menus are organized into the categories labeled in Figure 1-8. Notice that the icons that represent the menus are color coded: Shooting menu icons are red; Playback menu icons are



blue; Setup menu icons are a lovely yellow; and the My Menu icon is green. (Chapter 11 explains the My Menu feature, which enables you to create a personalized menu.)

The number of dots above the icon tells you the menu number — one dot for Shooting Menu 1, two dots for Shooting Menu 2, and so on.

The highlighted icon marks the active menu; options on that menu appear automatically on the main part of the screen. In Figure 1-8, Shooting Menu 1 is active, for example.



Figure 1-8: All these still-photography menus appear only when you shoot in an advanced exposure mode.

- ✓ **Accessing all menus:** To display all the menus shown in Figure 1-8, you must set the Mode dial to P, Av, Tv, or M. In other modes, you see only a handful of menus because you have limited control over camera operation in those modes.

Additionally, when you set the camera to Movie mode, three of the four Shooting menus are replaced by Movie menus, which offer movie-recording options, and a limited version of Shooting Menu 1 is bumped over to make room for the Movie menus. The menu icon for the Movie menus changes to a movie-camera symbol to indicate the shift. In addition, Movie mode does not display the My Menu icon.

- ✓ **Selecting menus and menu items:** To cycle through menus, rotate the Main dial or press the left or right cross keys. After landing on a menu, press the up or down cross key to highlight the feature you want to adjust. Then press the Set button to display the available options. Use the cross keys to select a setting and press the Set button again.
- ✓ **Navigating Custom Functions:** When you select Custom Functions from Setup Menu 3 — a menu available only in the P, Tv, Av, and M exposure modes — you delve into submenus containing advanced settings. Initially, you see a screen similar to the one shown on the left in Figure 1-9.

Some explanation may help you make sense of these screens:

- *Custom Functions are grouped into four categories: Exposure, Image, Autofocus/Drive, and Operation/Others.* The category number and name appear in the upper-left corner of the screen.
- *The number of the selected function appears in the upper-right corner.* Custom Function 1 is indicated in Figure 1-9.
- *Settings for the current function appear in the middle of the screen.* The blue text indicates the current setting. The default setting is represented by the number 0.

- Numbers at the bottom of the screen show you the current setting for all Custom Functions. The top row of numbers represents the Custom Functions, with the currently selected function indicated with a tiny horizontal bar over the number. The lower row shows the number of the current setting for each Custom Function; again, 0 represents the default. So in the figure, all the Custom Functions are currently using the default settings.

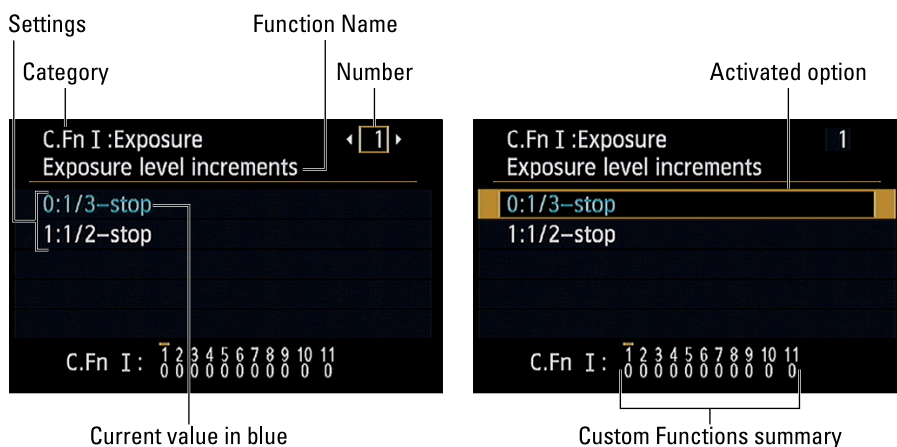


Figure 1-9: The Custom Functions menu screens are divided into several important areas.

To scroll from one Custom Function to the next, press the left or right cross keys. When you reach the setting you want to adjust, press the Set button to activate that option. Use the cross keys to move the highlight box over the setting you want to use and press the Set button again.

- ✓ **Displaying the Camera Settings screen:** See the little box titled DISP, at the far-right end of the row of menu icons? (Refer to Figure 1-8.) That's a reminder that any time the menus are active, you can press the DISP button to bring up the Camera Settings screen, shown in Figure 1-10. Here, you can get a quick summary of certain camera settings. The data displayed varies depending on the setting of the Mode dial; the figure shows you the data that appears in the P, Tv, Av, and M exposure modes. If a setting can't be adjusted in the current exposure mode, it disappears from the screen.



Figure 1-10: Press the DISP button when the menus are active to view this screen.

Moving from top to bottom, here's your decoder ring to the screen:

- *Freespace*: Indicates how much empty storage space is left on your camera memory card.
- *Color Space*: Tells you whether the camera is using the sRGB or Adobe RGB color space, an option we cover in Chapter 11. (Stick with sRGB until you have time to explore that information.)
- *White Balance Shift/Bracketing*: Indicates the amount of White Balance shift or bracketing, an advanced color option covered in Chapter 6.
- *Live View Shooting*: Tells you whether Live View is enabled; skip to the next section to investigate Live View.
- *Auto Power Off and Red-Eye Reduction flash mode*: These two functions share a line in the screen. The first readout tells you the delay time selected for the Auto Power Off option, found on Setup Menu 1; the second symbol indicates whether the flash is set to Red-Eye Reduction mode, which we cover in Chapter 2.
- *Beep and Auto Rotate Display*: The first setting determines whether the camera beeps after certain operations; you can turn the sound on and off via Shooting Menu 1.

The second symbol reflects the setting of the Auto Rotate Display option on Setup Menu 1, which determines whether pictures are rotated to their proper orientation during playback and when you view them on your computer (assuming the software you use can read the rotation data embedded in the image file). The symbol shown in the figure indicates that both rotation features are enabled. See the first part of Chapter 9 for more about this feature.

- *Date/Time*: The last line of the display shows the date and time, which you enter via the Date/Time/Zone option on Setup Menu 2. The sun symbol at the beginning of the line indicates whether you told the camera to adjust the time automatically to account for Daylight Saving Time.

Of course, with the exception of the free-card-space value, you also can simply go to the menu that contains the option in question to check its status. The Camera Settings display just gives you a quick way to monitor some of the critical functions without hunting through menus.

- ✓ **Exiting the menus or Camera Settings screen and returning to shooting:** Press the shutter button halfway and release it or press the Menu button.

Using the Monitor as Viewfinder: Live View Shooting

For your convenience, the T5/1200D offers *Live View*, a feature that enables you to use the monitor instead of the viewfinder to compose photos. You also must rely on the monitor for recording movies; the viewfinder is disabled for movie recording.

How you activate Live View depends on whether you want to shoot still photos or movies:



✓ **Live View for still photography:** First ensure that Live View shooting is enabled in the menus. Where you find the option depends on the setting of the Mode dial: In the P, Tv, Av, and M modes, the Live View option is found on Shooting Menu 4, as shown on the left in Figure 1-11; in all other modes but Movie mode, the option appears on Shooting Menu 2, as shown on the right in the figure.

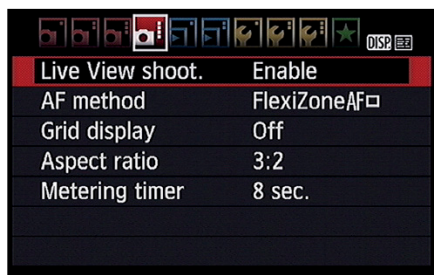


Figure 1-11: If Live View mode doesn't activate, make sure that the Live View Shoot menu option is enabled.



Why disable Live View? Because it's easy to hit the Live View button accidentally and switch to Live View when you don't really want to go there.

After enabling the feature on the menu, press the Live View button. You hear a clicking sound as the internal mirror that normally sends the image from the lens to the viewfinder flips up. Then the scene in front of the lens appears on the monitor, and you can no longer see anything in the viewfinder. Data representing certain camera settings is displayed over the live image, as shown in Figure 1-12. You can press the Disp button to change the type of data that appears.



Figure 1-12: In Live View mode, picture data is superimposed over the live preview.