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# Fast Track to Wireless Speedlights

The Nikon Creative Lighting System offers a comprehensive selection of revolutionary lighting tools to match virtually any need. This system features the world's most intelligent and versatile flash units, including the groundbreaking Nikon SB-900, SB-700, SB-600, SB-R200 Speedlights, and the innovative Wireless Close-up Speedlight System. The end result is unprecedented levels of accuracy, automation, integration and control that only Nikon could deliver.

### ADVANCED WIRELESS FLASH USING Nikon's CREATIVE LIGHTING SYSTEM

The Nikon SB-900, SB-700 or SU-800 Wireless Commander can be used to control other SB-900, SB-700, SB-600 and SB-R200 Speedlight units wirelessly. Connected to any i-TTL compatible camera's Hotshoe, the SB-900 or SB-700 (or SU-800 Wireless Commander) functions as a "Master Flash Unit."



Photo © Joe McNally

## Setting the SB-900 as a Master Speedlight Unit

## Set the SB-900 to the Master mode by using the **Off/On/Remote/Master** setting switch.

- Turn the Off/On/Remote/Master switch while holding down the button in the center.
- 2. Align the index on the Off/On/Remote/Master setting switch to MASTER.

Setting the flash mode, flash output level compensation values, and channel number on the master flash unit

- Press the Function button 1 on the Master flash unit to highlight "M".
- Press the MODE button, then turn the selector dial to choose the desired flash mode, and press the OK button.
  - TTL Through the lens metering
  - A Auto Aperture
  - M Manual
  - - No light output (although in M - a preflash will occur)
- Press the Function button 2, then turn the selector dial to choose the desired flash output level compensation value, and press the OK button.
- Press the Function button 1 to highlight Group "A". Turn the selector dial to choose a group other than "A".
- Repeat procedures 2, 3 above to set the flash mode and flash output level compensation values of the remote flash units in Group "A".
- **6.** In the same way as with Group A, set the flash mode and flash output level compensation values of the remote flash unit in Group "B".

**Note:** After setting the output compensation value press **OK** twice to reveal "Ch" above Function button 2.

Press the Function button 2, then turn the selector dial to set a channel number, and press the OK button.



## Setting the SB-700 as a Master Speedlight Unit

Set the SB-700 to the Master mode by using the **Off/On/Remote/Master** wireless setting switch.

- Turn the Off/On/Remote/Master switch while holding down the button in the center.
- Align the index of the Off/On/Remote/Master setting switch to MASTER.

Setting the flash mode, flash output level compensation values, and channel number on the Master flash unit.

#### [Setting i-TTL mode and channel 1 (example)]

- 1. Set the mode selector to [TTL].
- Press the [SEL] button to select the Master (M) flash unit choose a flash compensation value with the selector dial, and then press the [OK] button.



Rotating the Selector Dial allows for flash compensation settings from +3 EV to -3 EV or --- (No light output (although in M - - - a pre-flash will occur)

- Press the [SEL] button until the Remote Group A or Remote Group B flash unit is highlighted, then choose a flash compensation value with the selector dial, and then press the [OK] button.
- 4. After setting the output compensation value of the master and Remote Groups, press [SEL] to highlight the "Ch" and set the Channel that you would like to use by rotating the Selector Dial (Channels 1-4) and then press the [OK] button

# SEE WHAT JUST CAN DO. Position one Speedlight off camera for flattering fill-flash portraits.

For more information on setting your wireless Speedlights please see your instruction manual.

### REMOTE WIRELESS FLASH

The Nikon SB-900, SB-700, SB-600 and SB-R200 Speedlights can be set as Remote units and can be triggered by using an on-camera SB-900 or SB-700 set in "Master Mode", directly from the built-in flash on the D700, D300, D300S, D7000, D90 or using the SU-800 Wireless Commander.



Photo © Joe McNally

## Setting the SB-900 as a Wireless Remote Unit

You can set the SB-900 for remote operation using the **Off/On/Remote/Master** setting switch.

- 1. Turn the switch while holding down the button in the center.
- 2. Align the index on the Off/On/Remote/Master switch to REMOTE.

Setting a group and channel number on the remote flash units

- Press the Function button 1, then turn the selector dial to choose a desired group name, and press the **OK** button. Group name and channel number being set appears larger. For remote flash units where the flash mode and flash output level compensation values are to be set identically, place these flash units into the same group.
- Press the Function button 2, then turn the selector dial to choose a desired channel number, and press the OK button. Be sure to choose the same channel number as set on the Master flash unit or in the Commander mode on your camera.



You can set the SB-700 for Remote operation using the **Off/On/Remote/Master** setting switch.

- Turn the Off/On/Remote/Master switch while holding down the button in the center.
- 2. Align the index on the Off/On/Remote/Master switch to REMOTE.

Setting a Group and Channel number on the remote flash units

#### [Setting group A and channel 1 (example)]

- **1.** Press the **[SEL]** button to highlight the Group, choose A for group by rotating the Selector Dial, and then press the **[OK]** button.
- Press the [SEL] button to highlight the Channel, choose 1 for channel number with the Selector Dial, and then press the [OK] button.

Be sure to choose the same channel number as set on the master flash unit





## Setting the SB-700 to Quick Wireless Master Mode

The flash output level ratios of two remote flash unit Groups (A and B) can be easily balanced in quick wireless control mode.

The master flash unit does not fire in quick wireless control mode.

Set the **Off/On/Remote/Master** switch for multiple flash units to **[MASTER]**, and set the **Mode Selector to** [A:B].

Setting the Master flash unit for flash output level ratios, flash compensation value and channel.

## [Setting flash output level ratio of 1: 2 and channel 1 (example)]

- **1.** Press the **[SEL]** button to highlight the flash output level ratio of Remote flash unit groups A and B.
- 2. Set the flash output level ratio to 1:2 with the Selector Dial and press the [OK] button.
  - The flash output level ratio can be set within a range of 8:1 1:8
  - The flash function in one of the remote flash unit groups A and B can be cancelled
  - Set the flash compensation value if necessary
- **3.** Press the **[SEL]** button to highlight the Channel, choose CH 1 with the **Selector Dial**, and then press the **[OK]** button.

## Setting the SB-700 for Quick Wireless Remote Mode

Remote flash unit setting (group, channel and zoom head position)

Set the **Off/On/Remote/Master** switch for multiple flash units to **[REMOTE].** 

#### [Setting group A and channel 1 (example)]

- 1. Press the [SEL] button to highlight the Group, choose A for Group with the Selector Dial, and then press the [OK] button.
  - Set the Group **A** or **B**. (Group C can not be used in Quick Wireless Mode)
  - The selected channel number and group indicator appear larger on the LCD
- Press the [SEL] button to highlight the Channel, choose 1 for Channel number with the Selector Dial, and then press the [OK] button.
  - Be sure to choose the same channel number as set on the master flash unit
- Press the [ZOOM] button to highlight the zoom head position, choose a zoom head position with the Selector Dial, and then press the [OK] button.
- **4.** Confirm the flash-ready indicator is on, and then shoot.





## Setting the SB-600 to Wireless Remote Mode

- With the unit on, press and hold the **ZOOM** and the "-" together for two seconds.
- 2. Press either the **ZOOM** or **MODE** button to select wireless mode **ON/OFF.**
- 3. Press **ON/OFF** for one second. The flash will be set in the Wireless Remote mode. (Default: CH 3, Group A)
- Press MODE to highlight the channel (1, 2, 3 or 4) and use "+/-" to select the same channel as the Master Flash.
- Press MODE again and choose a group (A, B or C). The amount of output compensation set for that group on the Master Flash will determine the amount of output from the Remote Speedlight.

Be sure to choose the same channel number as set on the Master flash unit or in the Commander mode on your camera.





#### To exit Wireless and return to Normal TTL operation

To reset the SB-600 unit to normal TTL operation, reverse the steps above or hold **ON/OFF** and **MODE** button for two seconds. To exit remote operation of the SB-900 or SB-700 simply turn the ON-OFF switch/wireless settings to the ON position.



## WHY MORE THAN ONE SPEEDLIGHT?



Create dramatic lighting with two Speedlights positioned strategically within the scene.



For more information on setting your wireless Speedlights please see your instruction manual.

### NIKON'S EXCLUSIVE BUILT-IN I-TTL FLASH SYSTEM WITH WIRELESS CAPABILITIES WITH THE D700, D300, D300S, D7000, AND D90 DIGITAL SLRS



- The Wireless Flash Commander mode option can be selected within the Custom Settings menu under the built-in flash option of the D700, D300, D300S, D7000, and D90 cameras.
  D700 – Custom Setting: e3
  D3005 – Custom Setting: e3
  D7000 – Custom Setting: e3
  D7000 – Custom Setting: e3
  D900 – Custom Setting: e3
- 2. When you enter the Commander mode, the built-in flash, Group A and Group B are all activated and set to TTL with zero exposure compensation. In this scenario, the built-in flash will send a pre-flash signal for the remote units to fire, as well as trigger the remote Speedlights and factor into the lighting scheme and final exposure.
- **3.** Flash compensation can be adjusted for Groups A and B, as well as the built-in flash. Press the camera's Multi-selector right or left to move into the Mode or Compensation windows for the built-in flash and both Groups. Use the up and down arrows with the Multi-selector to set the desired values.
- 4. The built-in flash, as well as the A and B Groups, can be set to fire and be factored into the exposure, or turned off individually, based on your lighting requirements. Toggle the Multi-selector to the right to enter the Mode window for the item you would like to turn off. Toggle the Multi-selector down until you see the dashed lines. This means that the built-in flash or selected Speedlight will NOT fire.\*

\*Note: Although you may turn off the built-in flash from being calculated into the exposure, the built-in flash unit must stay in the up position, as it will still send the pre-flash signal to control the remote units.

Once you have set the Commander mode as desired, be sure that the channel you have selected matches the channel set on the remote units. Also, be sure to press the "OK" button to confirm and set the Commander mode.

**Note:** Wireless Flash Commander Mode works in only **P**, **S**, **A** or **M** and is <u>not</u> available in Scene Modes. The D70/D70s Commander mode operation communicates **only** in **Channel 3/Group A**.

E.	= Bracketing/flash	
8	Rash shutter speed	1/80
	Tash outri for built-in flash	C5
	Modeling flash	OFF
ы	Auto bracketing set	10
6	Auto FP	OFF
	Eracketing order	N
	el #switch	
9	r2 DK button (shooting mode)	RESET









## SPEEDLIGHT DVD GLOSSARY

#### **Ambient Light**

The natural, available light in a scene. Also known as existing light.

#### **AF-Assist Illuminator**

LED light on the camera that illuminates the subject, making it possible to focus on the subject even in total darkness.

#### Automatic Power Zoom

The zoom head is automatically adjusted according to the focal length of the lens in use.

#### Backlighting

The light coming from behind the subject.

#### **Bounce Lighting**

Using the bounce feature on a Speedlight, light is bounced off a reflector, ceiling or wall to soften or diffuse the light's intensity.

#### Chiaroscuro

Italian for light-dark, a term in art and photography for a contrast between light and dark.

#### CLS

Creative Lighting System - Nikon's Speedlight system.

#### Feathering

Pan or tilting the light so that its dim edge is used to light the subject.

#### **Flash Output Level Compensation**

Flash compensation used to increase or decrease the output power of a Nikon Speedlight unit.

#### Fill-Flash

A technique to brighten dark shadow areas, often used when the subject is located in the dark shadow.

#### **Fill Light**

A light that supplements the key light without changing its character, used to lighten or open shadows within a scene.

#### **Front Lighting**

Light coming from the direction of the camera toward the subject.

#### FP Auto High-Speed Sync

Auto high-speed flash synchronization enables CLScompatible cameras and Speedlights to sync at the camera's highest possible shutter speed. This technique minimizes depth of field and freezes high-speed subjects.

#### **Flash Synchronization**

A means by which a Speedlight is fired at precisely the moment when the camera's shutter is at its peak opening. Also referred to as flash sync.

#### Front Curtain Sync

Also referred to as Normal sync, the flash fires immediately after the front curtain opens completely.

#### **FV Flash Value Lock**

Locks in the appropriate flash exposure for the main subject, which remains locked whether the aperture, composition or lens zoom position is changed.

#### Guide Number (Flash)

Guide numbers proclaim the light output of electronic flash units. The guide number divided by subject distance represents the theoretical f-stop for an exposure.

#### i-TTL Metering

Nikon's Intelligent Through-The-Lens (TTL) flash metering using monitor pre-flashes for unprecedented levels of precision and performance.

#### Key Light

Also called "main" light is the principal source of light on a subject or a scene.

#### Master Speedlight Unit

CLS-compatible Speedlight unit, built-in flash or wireless device (SB-700, SB-900 or SU-800 Wireless Commander) that works in the Commander mode to send monitor preflash and firing signals to remote Speedlights

#### **Monitor pre-flash**

A series of pre-flash firings detected by the camera's TTL multi-sensor, analyzed for brightness and contrast. Also used to communicate output values to remote Speedlight units in multiple wireless lighting.

#### **Quick Wireless Mode**

The flash output level ratios of two remote flash unit groups (A and B) can be easily balanced in quick wireless control mode.

#### **Rear Curtain Sync**

The flash fires just before the rear (second) curtain starts to close for special effects photography where the blur appears behind the subject.

#### Reflectors

Flat devices, typically white, silver, or gold, that redirect light to soften or fill in areas of a subject or scene.

#### **Remote Speedlight Unit**

CLS-compatible Speedlight that can be set to fire as a wireless remote unit.

#### **Repeating Flash**

The Speedlight delivers a stroboscopic effect, firing the flash continuously at selected rates.

#### Side Lighting

Light shining on the subject from the side relative to the camera, often casting long shadows.

#### **Slow Sync Flash**

The flash is controlled at a slower shutter speed to obtain the correct exposure for both the main subject and the background in low light situations or at night.

#### TTL

Through the lens. Any metering system - ambient exposure metering or flash metering - which works through the lens.

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