

Tips for Camera Cleaning 2024

HOW TO SPOT DIRT...

1. If dirt is on the front of the lens, it won't show on your image.
2. If dirt is on the sensor, it'll look like little water droplets. They are most noticeable when shooting the sky.
3. Dirt may not be visible to the naked eye, but you can do a test shot to see if there is any: Aim your camera at the sky or a blank wall. Use manual focus to make sure your subject isn't focused. Use a small aperture - it makes the dirt easier to see. In your editing program, maximize Contrast and Clarity. You'll be amazed at all the dirt that shows up. Now get cleaning!

CLEANING DIRT OFF THE LENS...

1. Use a blower. This is safest as it won't scratch a lens. A lens brush works also.
2. For stains on the lens, use dedicated microfiber wipes and cleaning fluids. Spray the fluid onto the cloth - not directly onto the lens. Wipe in a circular motion from the center of the lens out to the edge (most of the dirt hides along the edge and we don't want to drag it across the lens). You can also use wet wipes that are designed for lenses.

CLEANING DIRT OFF THE SENSOR...

1. Hold the camera facing down while using a blower. Do not use canned air.
2. Use the camera's Sensor Cleaning Function. This shakes off dirt. Hold the camera upside down and take the lens off so the dirt can fall out. Blow out the dislodged dirt.
3. Use dedicated Sensor Swabs. Buy ones that fit your sensor size. Read the instructions - don't use them dry or soaked and don't re-use them. Have your camera turned off so that the shutter doesn't go off while you're cleaning.

KEEPING YOUR CAMERA CLEAN WHEN OUT AND ABOUT...

1. Whenever changing lenses, give the sensor and the back of the lens a quick blow.
2. On zoom lenses, the barrel can extend and contract. This can suck dirt into the lens, so wipe the barrel of the lens in dusty environments.
3. Make sure the camera is facing down when changing lenses.