

M I R R O R L E S S
R E I N V E N T E D




Z 7™

AUTOFOCUS GUIDE

CAPTURE TOMORROW



FOCUS MODES FOR Z 7 CAMERA

Focus option	Name	Use for:	How it works
AF-S	Single AF	Stationary Subjects	Press the shutter-release button halfway to focus. If the camera is able to focus, the focus point will be displayed in green; focus will lock while the shutter-release button is pressed halfway. If the camera fails to focus, the focus point will flash red. In addition, Low-Light AF (a11) can be enabled in this mode for more accurate focusing under low-light conditions (please note that focusing may be slower when activated). In the default setting, the shutter can only be released if the camera is able to focus (focus priority).
AF-C	Continuous AF	Moving Subjects	The camera focuses continuously while the shutter-release button is pressed halfway; if the subject moves, the camera will predict the final distance to the subject and adjust focus as necessary. In movie mode, it is possible to adjust the focusing speed using the AF Speed setting (g4) in the MOVIE menu. Additionally in movie mode, with AF Tracking Sensitivity (g5) you can choose how quickly focus responds when your subject leaves the focus point or something passes between the subject and the camera. In the default setting, the shutter can be released whether or not the subject is in focus (release priority).
AF-F	Full-time AF (MOVIE MODE ONLY)	Moving Subjects / Camera Movement	The camera adjusts focus continuously in response to subject movement or changes in composition. Focus locks when the shutter-release button is pressed halfway. Just like AF-C mode, it is possible to adjust the focusing speed during movie mode using the AF Speed setting (g4). Additionally, with AF Tracking Sensitivity (g5) you can choose how quickly focus responds when your subject leaves the focus point or something passes between the subject and the camera.
MF	Manual Focus	Taking full and creative control of focusing	Position the focus point over your subject and rotate the focus or control ring until the subject is in focus. For greater precision, press the  button to zoom in on the view through the lens. When the subject is in focus, the focus point will light green and the in-focus indicator (●) will appear in the display. Focus Peaking is also available for visual confirmation of sharpness using the Peaking Highlights setting (d10) in the CUSTOM SETTING MENU for Shooting/Display.

AUTOFOCUS AREA MODES









Z 7 / D850 REFERENCE CHART

Nikon's Z Series cameras adopt a newly developed hybrid AF system that is different from the AF system used in Nikon's DSLRs. To maximize your experience with the Z Series, the below chart and explanations will help guide you to make the most effective settings when using your camera.

	Z 7 AF Area Mode (EVF / Live View)	Comparative D850 AF Area Mode (OVF)	Comparative D850 AF Area Mode (Live View)	
PHOTOS	Pinpoint (AF-S)	—	Pinpoint (AF-S)	
	Single-Point (AF-S, AF-C)	Single-Point (AF-S, AF-C)	Normal Area (AF-S, AF-F)	
	Dynamic Area (AF-C)	Dynamic Area: 25 points (AF-C)	—	
	Wide Area (S) (AF-S, AF-C)	Group Area (AF-S, AF-C)	Wide Area (AF-S, AF-F)	
	Wide Area (L) (AF-S, AF-C)	—	—	
	Auto Area (Face Detection: On) (AF-S, AF-C)	Auto-Area (Face Priority) (AF-S, AF-C)	Face Priority (AF-S, AF-F)	
	Auto Area (Face Detection: Off) (AF-S, AF-C)	—	—	
	Auto Area (Subject Tracking: On) (AF-S, AF-C)	3D-Tracking (AF-C)	Subject Tracking (AF-S, AF-F)	
	—	Dynamic-Area: 72/153 points (AF-S, AF-C)	—	
VIDEOS	Z 7 AF Area Mode (EVF / Live View)	Comparative D850 AF Area Mode (OVF)	Comparative D850 AF Area Mode (Live View)	
	Single-Point (AF-S, AF-C, AF-F)	Video function not available via D850 OVF	Normal Area AF (AF-S, AF-F)	
	Wide Area (S) (AF-S, AF-C, AF-F)		Wide Area AF (AF-S, AF-F)	
	Wide Area (L) (AF-S, AF-C, AF-F)		—	
Auto Area (AF-S, AF-C, AF-F)	Subject-Tracking (AF-S, AF-F) or Face Priority (AF-S, AF-F)			

AUTOFOCUS AREA MODES







Z 7 (With Comparable D850 Modes)

Z 7 Area Mode		Use for:	How it works	Use if you are using the following in D850:
 PIN	Pinpoint Available in: AF-S	Stationary subjects; focusing on a selected spot within the frame.	This option uses contrast based autofocus and is only available when shooting stills and Single AF is selected for Focus mode. Focusing may be slower than with Single-Point AF. This AF Area Mode prioritizes focus precision over speed.	Pinpoint (via Live View only)
	Single-Point Available in: AF-S, AF-C	Stationary or slow moving subjects	The camera focuses on a point selected by the user.	Single-Point (via OVF); Normal Area (via Live View)
	Dynamic-Area Available in: AF-C Photo mode only	Stationary or Moving subjects	The camera focuses on a point selected by the user. If the subject briefly leaves the selected point, the camera will focus based on information from surrounding focus points, letting you concentrate on composition in shots of moving subjects.	Dynamic-Area: 25 point (via OVF)
	Wide-Area Small or Large Available in: AF-S, AF-C	Stationary or moving subjects; moving subjects that are hard to keep framed using a single point.	The camera focuses on a point selected by the user. The focus points for Wide-Area AF (S) are wider than those for Single-point AF, while the focus points for Wide-Area AF (L) are wider than those for Wide-Area AF (S).	Group Area (via OVF); Wide Area (via Live View) <small>Note: Wide-area AF (L) has no direct equivalent.</small>
	Auto-Area <i>With Face Detection activated - default On in Custom Setting a4</i> Available in: AF-S, AF-C	Moving subjects; Group shots; Snap shooting	The camera automatically detects the subject's face(s) and selects the focus area. In the default setting, the camera gives priority to portrait subjects; if a portrait subject is detected, the selected subject will be indicated by a yellow border (if multiple faces are detected, you can choose your subject using the multi-selector).	Auto-Area with Face Priority: On (via OVF); Face Priority (via Live View)
	Auto-Area <i>Face Detection deactivated</i> Available in: AF-S, AF-C	Stationary and Moving Subjects where faces are not the priority	The camera automatically detects the subject and selects the focus areas. The camera will briefly display the focus points in use. To deactivate Face Detection, select OFF in Auto-Area AF Face Detection (a4) in the Custom Setting Menu.	No direct equivalent.
	Auto-Area <i>using subject tracking</i> Available in: AF-S, AF-C	Moving subjects (including Face Detection during portraits)	When Auto-Area AF is selected, press the (OK) button or tap OK on the touch screen to enable tracking. The focus point will change to a targeting box. Position the box over the target and either press (OK) again or press the AF-ON button to start tracking. The focus point will track the selected subject as it moves through the frame. To end tracking, press (OK) a third time. To exit subject tracking mode, press the  button.	3D-Tracking (via OVF); Subject-Tracking (Via Live View)

FOCUS MODES BY APPLICATION

RECOMMENDED SETTINGS

Nikon Z system cameras are equipped with advanced autofocus technologies. For optimal performance in using the Z 7, please refer to the chart below for recommended settings based on applications. These recommended settings are just suggestions and you may find that one mode performs better than another based on the specific type of photography that you shoot.

	 PIN			 WIDE-S	 WIDE-L	
Application	Pinpoint AF	Single-Point AF (AF-S)	Dynamic-Area AF (AF-C)	Wide Area AF (S)	Wide Area AF (L)	Auto Area AF
Candid photography					●	● *1
Portraits		●				● *1
Weddings / events		●		●		● *1
Landscapes		●				
Nightsapes		●				
Architecture	●	●				
Concerts, live events			●	●		
Macro (food / flowers)	●	●				
Group photos		●				●
Trains, vehicles				●	●	
Wildlife / Birds*2			●			
Sports *2			●			

*1 Enabling face detection is recommended.

*2 Shooting in Continuous L (Low) or Continuous H (High) continuous release mode is recommended.

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