

Photo Techniques

Produce quality images every time

Occlusal plane



Frankfort horizontal plane

Porion to Orbitale

Porion – superior external margin of the auditory meatus
Orbitale – inferior border of the bony orbit



Light control – two controls make this possible, aperture and shutter settings

Aperture priority (depth of field)

Controls the amount of light that enters the camera – measured in f-stops

Portraits – larger aperture opening

Close-ups – smaller aperture size

F4 F5.6 F8 F11 (smaller size)
Blur Sharper
background focus

Shutter priority

Controls the amount of light by the length of time the shutter remains open

2 (1/2 second), 4 (1/4 second), etc.

Over exposed (too light): increase speed

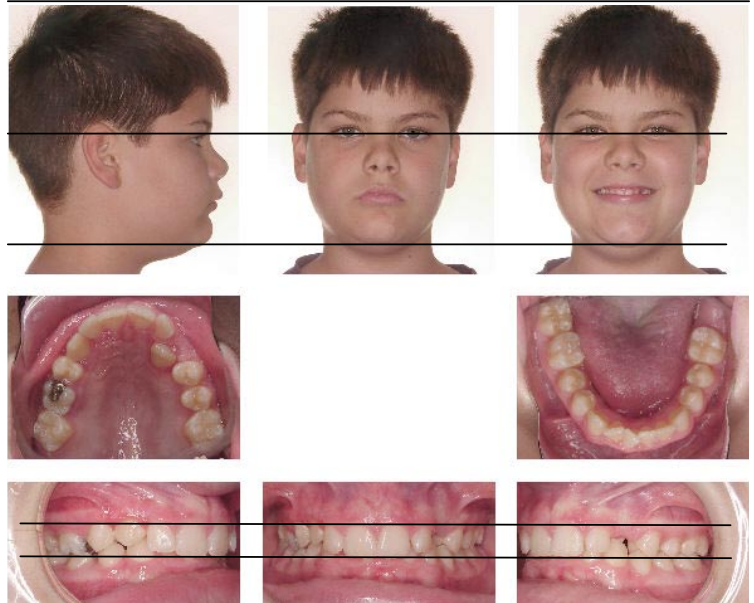
Under exposed (too dark): decrease speed

Auto focus cameras

Must use ambient (room) lighting to light focal area as much as possible.

Auto focus cameras & occlusal mirrors

Do not have the front teeth in the viewfinder (only the mirrored image) because the camera will focus on the front teeth and not the mirrored image.



Extraorals

- ✓ Distance from the portrait light box - patient 1 to 1.5 feet from box
- ✓ Patient posture - sit up straight
- ✓ Remove all facial jewelry
- ✓ Hair behind the ears
- ✓ Camera perpendicular to the subject
- ✓ Frankfort horizontal plane or relaxed head position
- ✓ Front head position - view the right and left ears equally
- ✓ Front eye position - line up eyes horizontally
- ✓ Profile position - same as cephalometrics x-ray position (FH)
- ✓ Face position in viewfinder - keep all images the same size

Intraorals - right & left

- ✓ Glove non-camera hand
- ✓ Occlusal plane - parallel to the floor
- ✓ 1st molar relationship - must see
- ✓ Opposite lateral incisor - should see very little, if any
- ✓ Teeth size - keep the same size in viewfinder
- ✓ Distance from camera to teeth - not too close (auto-focus cameras may not focus), image will wash out

Upper and lower occlusals

- ✓ Mirror - warm mirrors using a heating pad
 - prevent scratches, clean with cotton cloth not paper towels
 - should not rest mirror on the molars when taking occlusal images
- ✓ Tongue behind the mirror, if possible
- ✓ Anterior labial tooth surface – none or very little should show
- ✓ Use lamp on ring flash, if available

Avoid common mistakes

Do not over crop images, take images too close or cut off teeth