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Creativity from any point of view.

Inspiring at any angle — vari-angle LCD monitor

The D5100, with its horizontal swing-out, vari-angle LCD monitor, makes it exciting to capture the world from a unique viewpoint. Taking pictures and recording full HD movies will never be the same again.

Stimulate your creativity — special effects mode for stills and full HD movies

Explore your creative side with special effects mode that is now available in a Nikon D-SLR for the first time. Get ready for incredibly unique pictures and full HD movies!

Stunning image quality — expect more from the D5100

Demand the quality that you deserve. The D5100 captures your subjects with rich colors and fine detail, delivering incredible levels of resolution and image quality for both stills and full HD movies.

Lens: AF-S DX Zoom-Nikkor 17-55mm f/2.8G IF-ED • Image quality: RAW (NEF) • Exposure: [S] mode, 1/350 second, f/6.7 • White balance: Direct sunlight • Sensitivity: ISO 100 • Picture Control: Standard
Inspiring at any angle — the D5100 vari-angle LCD monitor helps you to capture the world in your own way

Vari-angle LCD monitor lets you take pictures from unique viewpoints

The new, large 7.5-cm (3-in.) vari-angle LCD monitor opens horizontally up to 180˚ and flips up and down from +180˚ to -90˚. Now you’re ready to view, shoot and record your subjects from unique perspectives. Try a high angle for overhead shots, waist level for candid Live View and movie shooting, or a low vantage point for a look from ground level. You can also place the D5100 on a tripod or other stable surface and still see yourself while composing self-portraits.

Create incredible movies — full HD (1,920 x 1,080/30p) movies and the D-SLR advantage

The D5100 delivers exceptional D-Movie performance with its full HD capability, full-time-servo AF (AF-F) and precise exposure control. In-camera movie editing and sound recording capability (stereo with optional microphone) are also provided. Together with D-SLR advantages like beautiful background blur, high ISO sensitivity performance and extensive NIKKOR lens compatibility, movie-making potential reaches impressive new levels.

The optional Stereo Microphone ME-1 can be used to record sound in stereo while also preventing noise caused by lens vibration being recorded during autofocus.

“I was holding the camera at waist level, adjusting my position slightly until I had great composition!”

“For a more creative look, I like to find a different angle.”

“I lowered the camera from my usual eye level and realized how different things can appear.”

See clearly, shoot confidently — Live View and full HD movie

Thanks to high resolution (approx. 921k-dot) and a wide viewing angle, the vari-angle LCD monitor lets you check your composition comfortably while using Live View or full HD movie.

A regular shot from the photographer’s eye level.
Stimulate your creativity — special effects mode features an amazing array of options for use when taking pictures or recording full HD movies.

Autofocus for sharper subjects during Live View and full HD movie shooting

The D5100 helps you focus by offering a choice of focus modes to match your subject matter — even when using Live View or shooting full HD movies. Simply use AF-F mode to keep the camera focusing automatically while recording.

Easy transition between still image and full HD movie shooting in Live View

With the D5100, Nikon reconfirms its ergonomic superiority. A new switch beside the mode dial activates Live View, and to start movie recording, simply press the dedicated button located next to the shutter-release button. You can do this while keeping a steady view of your subject.

Lens: AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6G VR • Image quality: JPEG Fine • Exposure: [Selective color] mode, 1/125 second, f/5.6 • White balance: Auto • Sensitivity: Auto (ISO 280) • Picture Control: Standard

Select up to three colors to show in the image, and the rest will remain in black and white.

Dramatic effects like this are so inspiring. Now my pictures and movies look as if they were shot using high-end cinematographic equipment! — Selective color

Now I can make a scene look like a miniature scale model! — Miniature effect

Make distant subjects appear like miniatures by strategically altering the focus area. Miniature effect movies play back at high speed.

I just wanted to soften her features by surrounding her with bright light. — High key

Create bright, glowing images filled with atmosphere.

Now my pictures can look like artistic illustrations. Just by pushing a button! — Color sketch

Make your images appear like colorful drawings. Movies shot in this mode play back like a slide show made up of a series of stills.

Sometimes when you eliminate the details, something spectacular appears. — Silhouette

Capture your subjects in silhouette against bright backgrounds.

I emphasized the mood of the scene by simply selecting this mode. — Low key

Create dark, striking images with prominent highlights.

It’s amazing: the camera can capture even such a dark scene. — Night vision

Take monochrome (black and white) images in extremely low-light conditions.

Your images should always have the look and feel you desire. One way to accomplish this is to set the mode dial to EFFECTS and choose from creative options such as Selective color, Color sketch and Miniature effect. You can take advantage of these stunning effects while you shoot.

Make your pictures and movies more fun and artistic — special effects mode

Select up to three colors to show in the image, and the rest will remain in black and white.

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It’s amazing: the camera can capture even such a dark scene. — Night vision

Take monochrome (black and white) images in extremely low-light conditions.
The images I shoot today need to be as sharp and beautiful as the moment they happen.

Image quality in a class of its own — image sensor with 16.2 effective megapixels and EXPEED 2 image processing engine

Incorporating the latest Nikon D-SLR technologies such as the DX-format CMOS sensor and EXPEED 2 image processing engine, the D5100 delivers outstanding image quality.

Clean and clear images, even in low light

The D5100 provides all the technologies you need to achieve excellent results even when available light is scarce. Its CMOS sensor offers a remarkably wide ISO range (ISO 100 to 6400*) with reduced noise. This enables you to shoot at faster shutter speeds and capture scenes and subjects with less blur. Even handheld shots and full HD movies come out looking great in low light.

Exquisite detail in both highlights and shadows — HDR (High Dynamic Range)

When shooting extreme contrasts such as sunlit clouds and a foreground deep in shadow, it was once quite difficult to render both textures equally. Not any more. With the HDR setting, the D5100 takes two shots within a single shutter release: one overexposed and one underexposed. The camera then combines the two images to reveal an extremely wide dynamic range, but with less noise and richer color gradation than ever before*.

In addition to the superior CMOS sensor, which provides premium image results, the D5100 also employs Nikon’s performance-proven EXPEED 2 image processing engine that enables lightning-fast data processing and delivers pictures and movies of exceptional image quality.

Balancing light and shade beautifully — Active D-Lighting

Useful in a variety of situations, Active D-Lighting automatically renders the highlights and shadows of high-contrast scenes so that they appear more like how they are perceived by the human eye. Leave Active D-Lighting on Auto for effortless adjustment, or select the strength level according to your shooting conditions.

If the contrast in your shooting scenario is extremely high and you want detail throughout the entire range, HDR is the right choice. Since this requires combining two consecutive shots, moving subjects are not appropriate. If you are shooting a moving subject, Active D-Lighting is recommended. You can use Active D-Lighting with high-speed continuous shooting as well, or combine it with HDR for stronger effects.

* The ISO range can be raised as high as Hi 2 (ISO 25600 equivalent), giving you more options in extremely low-light conditions.

I wanted to capture what I saw in both the dark and bright areas.

Quality images only Nikon can deliver

Look to the details to reveal the superior image quality, sharpness and high resolution.

CMOS sensor

Expeed 2

Quality images only Nikon can deliver

* Recommended to use a tripod.
More Nikon innovations to help you make and enjoy better pictures

Optimized camera settings at your fingertips — 16 Scene Modes

The D5100 has Scene Modes that match a diverse range of scenes. The five most popular modes can be found on the mode dial, while others can be selected by setting the dial to SCENE and rotating the command dial. Once you’ve decided, the camera automatically chooses the camera settings that provide the best results. With Nikon’s Scene Modes, you will never have to worry about complicated camera settings.

Let the camera select the best mode to match the scene — Scene Auto Selector

If you are shooting still pictures using Live View with Auto or Auto (flash off), Scene Auto Selector* will automatically select the most appropriate Scene Mode, choosing from Portrait, Landscape, Close up, and Night portrait. Leave it up to the D5100 to deliver optimum results, leaving you more time to concentrate on the shot.

Captures your subject precisely with wide area coverage — 11-point AF system

The D5100’s 11 focus points, including a cross-type sensor, widely cover the frame and capture the subject sharply. When using 3D-tracking (11 points) mode, the camera works together with the Scene Recognition System to keep your main subject in focus even if the composition changes.

Brilliance whenever needed — intelligent auto pop-up flash

Vital for dark or backlit subjects, the D5100’s built-in pop-up flash automatically* brightens your subject. Expect natural-looking results thanks to i-TTL flash control.

* When shooting mode is set to Auto, Portrait, Child, Close up, Night portrait, Party/indoor, Pet portrait or Color sketch.

Optical viewfinder with approx. 95% frame coverage — for a clear view and comfortable shooting without time lag

Securely capture the moment — high-speed continuous shooting at approx. 4 frames per second

Low energy consumption enables battery to last for approx. 660 frames per charge*

* Based on CIPA Standards.

Clean and clear pictures — Nikon Integrated Dust Reduction System

Less dust means clearer images. Nikon’s exclusive system helps remove dust from the optical low-pass filter in front of the sensor and move it away from crucial components inside the camera.

An extension of your hands — compact, lightweight design exemplifies Nikon’s renowned ergonomics

The camera’s form fits naturally into your hands, with intuitive controls that make extended shooting easy and comfortable.

Easy shooting for self-portraits and close-up shots — infrared receivers for remote control in both the front and rear of the camera

Remote Control ML-L3 (optional)

Sports Sunset Food

Sport Sunset

Note: The Scene Modes available with the D5100 are Portrait, Landscape, Child, Sports, Close up, Night portrait, Night landscape, Party/indoor, Beach/snow, Sunset, Dusk/dawn, Pet portrait, Candlelight, Blossom, Autumn colors, and Food.
Create your own style — Picture Control

Customize the look and feel of your photos to suit your taste with Picture Control. Choose from six settings: Standard, Neutral, Vivid, Monochrome, Portrait and Landscape. You can adjust the settings and save them for future use.

Silence when you need it — quiet shutter-release mode

Sometimes the sound of the shutter release may disturb your subject. Quiet shutter-release mode reduces the sound of the D5100's internal mechanisms, by slowing the mirror movement speed at the moment the image is captured, for example.

View your images on an HDTV — HDMI output interface

Enjoy pictures and movies on your television, and use the TV remote control unit to operate playback*. 

AF-S DX NIKKOR 55-300mm f/4.5-5.6G ED VR

This powerful super-telephoto zoom with Vibration Reduction (VR) lets you get close to distant subjects while shooting handheld. The strong compression effect makes for dynamic images. Great for sports and wildlife.

AF-S DX NIKKOR 35mm f/1.8G

Compact prime lenses like this one deliver beautiful background blur in portraits, as well as sharp handheld pictures at the maximum aperture — even in low light.

AF-S DX Micro NIKKOR 85mm f/3.5G ED VR

With its long working distance and Vibration Reduction (VR), this lens enables handheld macro photography for subjects that are difficult to approach.

12 13

Fisheye

Cross screen

Brilliance made easy — Speedlights

The D5100 comes equipped with a convenient built-in pop-up flash, but with optional Speedlights, inspired flash photography becomes even easier and more creative with every use. The compact and lightweight SB-400 flash unit ensures superior portability, and delivers i-TTL flash control and bounce flash capability, while the multifunctional SB-700 is compatible with various functions of the Nikon Creative Lighting System.

Other items in the Retouch Menu • D-Lighting • Red-eye correction • Trim (3:2, 4:3, 5:4, 16:9 and 1:1) • Monochrome (Black-and-white, Sepia and Cyanotype) • Filter effects (Film filter, Green intensifier, Blue intensifier and Soft) • Color balance • Image overlay • Straighten • Color outline • Color sketch • Perspective control • Miniature effect • Selective color

Limitless creativity

Expand your vision — NIKKOR lenses

Quality — for a world of uses

Digital SLR cameras enhance the enjoyment of shooting with a variety of interchangeable lenses. NIKKOR lenses, highly praised by photographers around the world, cover a wide range of focal lengths and provide an extensive lineup of fixed focal length, zoom, fisheye, micro and PC-E models.

Note: The D5100 is exclusively designed for use with NIKKOR AF-S and AF lenses that are equipped with an autofocus motor.

SB-400

SB-700

HDMI CEC-compatible TV only.*

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U Point® technology. Achieve a vast array of image-editing functions empowered by Capture NX 2 delivers superior operability and a quick and simple image-editing software with intuitive operation —

Quick and simple image-editing software with intuitive operation — Capture NX 2 delivers superior operability and a quick and simple image-editing software with intuitive operation —

Smart photo sharing and storage service — my Picturetown
Nikon’s own image-sharing website, my Picturetown, allows you to easily store, manage and share your images with your family and friends worldwide. Membership is free and permits storage of up to 2 GB of photos and/or movies. With an additional paid registration, you can expand your capacity to 200 GB!* Enjoy my Picturetown anytime, anywhere.

* Fees and availability may vary by country.

Approved memory cards
The following SD memory cards have been tested and approved for use in the D5100.Cards with class 6 or faster write speeds are recommended for movie recording. Recording may end unexpectedly when cards with slower write speeds are used.

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Current Olympus provides importing and browsing capability while also incorporating image-editing functions such as Resize, Brightness, Crop, Straighten and NEF (RAW) image processing. Its movie-editing functions help you create your own original movies quickly and easily, and Nikon’s own image storing and sharing service, my Picturetown, works smoothly with ViewNX 2, allowing you to log in directly from the software for easy uploading without using a browser.

Your Imaging Toolbox — ViewNX 2 (supplied)
This simple and intuitive software helps you get the most out of your Imaging Toolbox — ViewNX 2 (supplied)

System chart

Nikon LENSES

 Taking your images further

Software