


Cubelite Shooting Recipes

Aperture Priority Mode

For the most consistent and accurate photographs you must have a camera that can be operated in a manual mode, where you can take control to get great shots, over and over. Here is a general recipe you can use to get good looking shots.

Camera Type

Are you using a point and shoot camera, a DSLR, or single lens reflex camera? If your camera lets you remove your lens and replace them with longer or wider lenses, you have an SLR. DSLR are more sophisticated camera's and can handle settings point and shoot cameras cannot. However, most current point and shoot camera's do a fantastic job, they are small and less expensive.

Point and Shoot	DSLR or SLR
<p>1. Turn camera to aperture priority mode and set your F-Stop to about F8.</p> <p>In this mode we dial in the F-Stop and the camera figures out the shutter speed. By choosing F8, or the closest we can get to F8, we keep everything in the booth in focus. Check your manual to see how to place your camera into aperture priority mode and how to get to F8.</p>	
<p>2. Turn your flash off</p> <p>Using a flash would defeat the purpose of using the photo diffusion material. Keep the Cubelite glare free by making sure your flash is turned off.</p>	
<p>3. Set ISO to 100</p> <p>This is the film speed equivalent setting and on point and shoot cameras shouldn't go above 100 as the pictures may get a grainy look to them. Take the camera off of Auto and put it at ISO 100.</p>	<p>3. Set ISO to 100, if necessary go to 400</p> <p>SLR camera's have a bigger chip to capture images on then point and shoot cameras. DSLR's can be pushed to tolerances a point and shoot cameras can never achieve. Start at an ISO of 100. On tricky scenes that appear dark, go up to 200. Although many DSLR's can be pushed to extremely high ISO's, you shouldn't ever need to go above 400.</p>
<p>4. Set metering mode to Center Weighted</p> <p>Many cameras' offer multiple ways of metering a scene. The proper one to choose when shooting in a Cubelite is center weighted. In this mode the camera evaluates the area directly around the point of focus in determining how to adjust the shutter speed. If you use spot metering only the center of the focus area is used to meter and may not allow for items at the edge of your scene. On the other hand, multiple metering zones would take the entire booth into the metering equation and, seeing all the surrounding white space would over compensate, dulling the image and graying the background.</p>	
<p>5. Custom White Balance your camera</p> <p>This is critical to getting pure whites and accurate color. If your camera doesn't support a custom white balance in order to get pure white backgrounds you may have to turn off any light that isn't tungsten or halogen based. By letting the camera meter off of a neutral tone within your Cubelite, you can ensure you get pure white backgrounds. Check your camera manual to see if they recommend using a grey or white surface to white balance against. If neither is mentioned, use the grey side of the grey white card. Frame the card so that only the interior of is showing in your lens (not the black border). Then check your camera manual on how to set and use a custom white balance. Some manufacturers call this preset or measured white balance, but everyone uses the same icon which looks like this. </p>	
<p>6. Overexpose the shot by +1</p> <p>Use the exposure compensation control and dial in a plus 1. We do this because the light losses an F-Stop when shining through the side of the Cubelite photo diffusion material. Doing this ensures that your white backgrounds are bright white. After taking the picture if the image looks too dark, set the exposure compensation to +1 1/3. If it looks to light set the exposure compensation to +2/3. Most professionals take all three shoots then make a decision on which is best once they can view the images on their computers. This is called bracketing.</p>	