

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH A PANORAMA

1. First of all you should photograph your images by holding your camera in the vertical position. This will help give your images some height when you stitch them together (Photomerge) and later on print them from your photo editing software. You should also use a Tripod with a rotating head to help keep your images level.
2. Next I take a meter reading with my camera. Let's say that I get a reading of 125th of a second at f8. Now I set my camera on the "Manual" setting and set it for 125th of a second at f8. This is important because it will insure that your camera will maintain the same exposure as you pan from left to right as the light levels change.
3. Survey the area that you would like to photograph. I like to use the horizon as a reference to keep my images as level as possible. In my cameras viewfinder I have some reference squares that are used to measure the light levels of the image. I set one of the squares on the horizon and keep it there as a reference as I pan my camera from left to right. Stay in the same position as you take a series of photographs so that the pictures are from the same viewpoint.
4. Use a consistent focal length. Avoid using the zoom feature of your camera while taking your pictures.
5. To make it easier later on to find your panoramic image sequence shoot the 1st image of your shoe. Now shoot your Panorama and when you are finished again shoot an image of your foot. Now you will know the start/stop sequence of the panoramic images.
6. Starting on the left shoot your 1st image. Move to your right. The second image should overlap the first by approximately 1/3. The 3rd image should overlap the 2nd by approximately 1/3 again. Keep overlapping each image by approximately 1/3 until you are finished.

