

## Canon 600D Video Guide

The Canon 600D is a well rounded DSLR ideal for shooting video. It features an 18MP CMOS sensor granting the ability to shoot Full High-Definition video as well as a handy flip out screen that can be angled to suit your personal shooting style.

### Getting Started

To start up the camera simply insert a charged battery and SD card into the camera. The battery port can be found on the right hand side of the camera base and the SD card slot on the right hand side of the camera body.

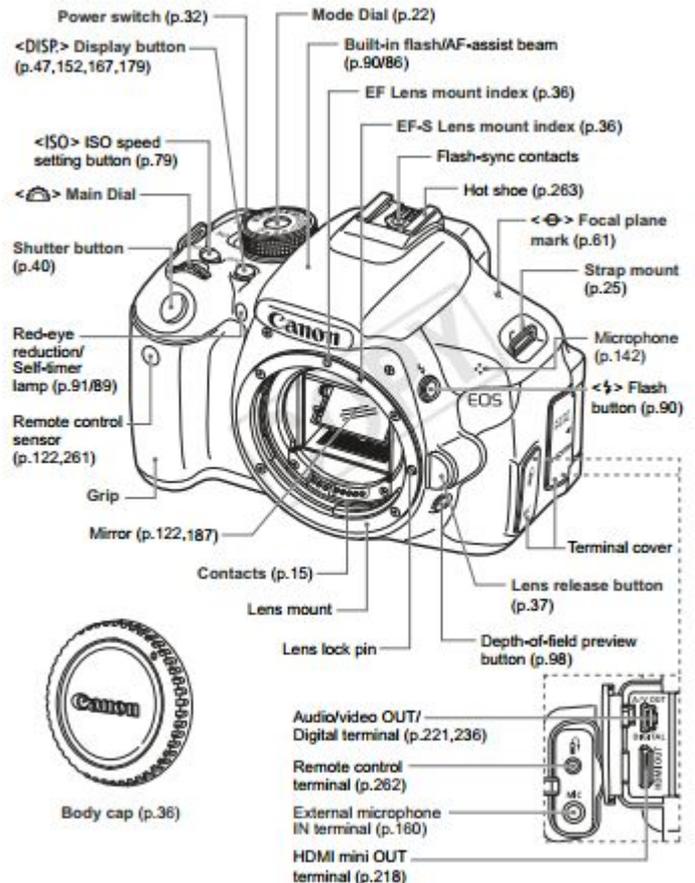
Once you have inserted the battery and SD card simply find the camera's power switch which is located on the top, right hand side of the camera body, and flick it to the 'ON' position. The camera should power on. Next turn the mode dial, located adjoining the power button to Video Mode, denoted by a video camera symbol. The screen should then display an image of your targeted frame.

To start recording straight away, ensure the camera is set to auto focus, via the AF-MF switch on the camera lens. Switch the camera to the AF position, point it at your targeted subject, half press the shutter button to focus your subject. When you are happy with the focus, simply press the record button which can be found on the back of the camera, denoted by an image of a two tone camera. The camera will then begin recording as shown by a red circle displayed on the top right hand side of the screen. To stop recording, simply press the record button a second time.

### Focus

The Canon 600D boasts a range of features to help improve the sharpness and user control when shooting video.

To get a more dynamic experience using the auto-focus, you can use the directional control buttons on the rear of the camera body to move your AF point around the frame, giving you freedom to focus your subject automatically without requiring them to remain in the centre of the frame. This gives you more control when it comes to framing your shots.

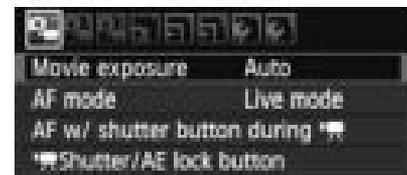


Alternatively, Manual Focus can be selected by moving the focus switch on the lens to MF. This mode gives you much more control over the focus and is ideal for making minor tweaks to the sharpness of the image. To use the manual focus, simply point the camera at your subject and using the focus ring located on your lens, turn it until you reach the required focus depth. The location of the focus ring may vary dependant on the specific lens you are using although in the case of the standard 18-55 kit lens that is often sold with the camera, the focus ring can be found on the very end of the lens.

When using manual focus, it can often be helpful to implement the digital zoom feature to ensure a clear sharp image. To do this press the digital zoom buttons which can be found in the far top right corner on the rear of the camera body. Zoom into the maximum depth to ensure the image is sharp, making adjustments where necessary until you are happy with the image, then simply press the digital zoom button again to return to your original framing.

## Exposure

The Canon 600D as standard is set to implement automatic exposure when shooting video. However to gain more control over this feature, press the menu button to bring up a number of video shooting options. Select the first option of 'Movie exposure' and using the directional and 'SET' buttons, change this setting from Auto to Manual.



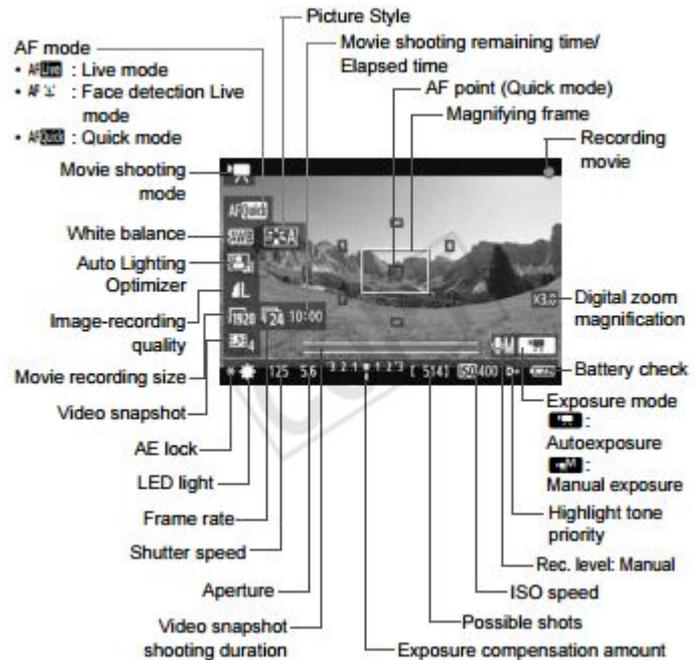
Once this option is set, press the menu button again to return to the viewfinder screen and notice the exposure meter featured at the bottom of the screen. Half pressing the shutter will give you an exposure reading between -3 to +3. Ideally you should aim to get your exposure market directly between these two values at 0, unless you intend to shoot with a darker image although this often isn't recommended. Using the Aperture, ISO and Shutter Speed settings, you can adjust the exposure of the shot to suit your desired needs.

On the top of the camera, the selection wheel can be used to cycle through the various shutter speeds to dictate how long your camera will allow light into the sensor while you shoot. A higher shutter speed means your sensor is exposed longer and the shot becomes brighter whereas a lower shutter speed gives an adverse effect. Alternatively, to change the Aperture simply turn the selection wheel whilst holding the aperture button found on the rear of the camera body, denoted by the letters AV. The aperture dictates the size of the iris. I higher aperture means a smaller iris and in turn, less light being allowed to enter the find the sensor, making the image darker.

The ISO settings can be changed by pressing the ISO button located on the top of the camera, which will then let the operator choose an ISO setting between 100 or 6400. The ISO dictates the sensitivity of the sensor to light. A higher ISO will mean brighter images but also carries the side effect of more grain, where as a lower ISO will develop a darker yet clearer image. Alternatively, AUTO may be selected to let the camera decide the best ISO setting for the scene.

## Frame Rate and Resolution

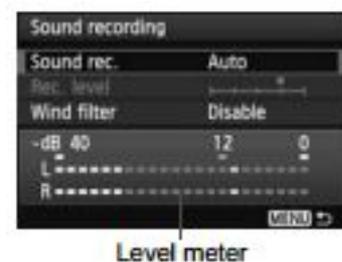
The Canon 600D features full HD video recording and a selectable frame rate between 24fps and 50fps. The current settings can be found on the left side of the display when in video shooting mode. If the current settings aren't showing, the INFO button will cycle through display information until the various settings are displayed. To select your desired shooting mode, simply press the Q button to bring up the selection tool. Using the directional buttons, cycle through the options until you reach the second from bottom setting displayed in the image. Press the set button to select the option and using the selection wheel, cycle through the various settings until you reach the desired option and press the SET button to select it. The most common setting to use would be 1920 - 25 as this



shoots in full HD with at 25 fps which is the best standard for common PAL recording. However 1920 - 24, 1280 - 50 and 640 - 25 is also available for NTSC regions, higher speed HD recording and SD recording respectively. The Canon 600D's sensor shoots video in progressive format in keeping with it's Full HD standard. This feature cannot be changed.

## Audio

The Canon 600D features limited audio settings using it's internal microphone which can be overridden by an external mic, using the 3.5mm mic on the left side of the camera's body. As standard, the camera records audio levels automatically but a manual feature is accessible via the settings menu. When opening the settings menu using the MENU button, use the directional buttons to navigate to the second tab and down to sound recording. From this menu, you may select sound recording to Auto, Manual or Disable. When using Manual, sound levels must be adjusted from this menu using the Rec. level setting and the Level meter at the bottom of the screen.



## External Hardware

The Canon 600D records directly onto an SD card which can be inserted and removed as necessary. Due to the high write speeds of the camera only SD cards rated class 6 or higher will be functional alongside the camera.

Canon 600D's use a standardised EF lens fitting, meaning a number of lenses are available for use with the camera. Zoom lenses are considered more versatile however true focal length lenses provide a cleaner, more high quality image.