

Mastering the menu

IN THE SECOND OF OUR SERIES ON MENUS, OLYMPUS USER LOOKS AT WHAT'S ON THE MODE DIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS OF AN ADVANCED COMPACT CAMERA – THE C-8080 WIDE ZOOM. SIMILAR SYSTEMS CAN BE FOUND ON MOST OTHER COMPACTS AND EVEN ON E-SYSTEM SLR CAMERAS

LIKE ANY NEW gadget, when you buy a camera it can seem a little daunting at first – that's why our step-by-step guide is here to help you get to grips with some of the great features Olympus cameras have to offer. This issue we

shed light on the mode dial, which includes Scene modes, Flash functions, Macro and the Self-timer functions. Remember, a more detailed explanation of your camera's functions can be found in its instruction manual.

Macro

The Macro mode allows you to get in close to your subject and makes focusing on smaller subjects quick and easy. To enable the Macro mode function: Hold down the AF/∞/MF button to the left of the LCD, use the control dial to select and simply take your finger off the macro button.



Remember that if you use the flash in macro shooting, shadows may appear and the correct exposure may not be achieved.

Super-Macro

In Super-Macro mode, photographs can be taken as close as 5cm (2") from the subject and can capture subjects on the screen measuring up to approximately 4.8cm x 3.6cm (1.9" x 1.4"). Normal



shooting is possible in Super-Macro mode, but the zoom cannot be used.

To enable the Super-Macro, hold down the AF/∞/MF button and select . Release the AF/∞/MF button to set and the camera will then auto focus for you.

Manual Focus Super-Macro

Manual Focus Super-Macro is the same as Super-Macro but has manual focusing for more control.

Hold down the AF/∞/MF button and select . Release the AF/∞/MF button to set. The distance indicator is displayed on the screen. Use the up and down arrow buttons to adjust the focus; the central section of the screen is enlarged to make focusing easier. Press OK to lock the focus position and appears in red on the screen.

Note: The built-in flash is unavailable during Super-Macro shooting. An external flash can be used, but vignetting may occur.



Self-timer

The self-timer function means you can be included in your photograph. Make sure you fix the camera securely on a tripod to ensure you achieve the best results.

1. Hold down the button to the left of the viewfinder and use the control dial to select your chosen option.
2. Fully depress the shutter button to start self-timer shooting. A red lamp on the front of the camera illuminates for approximately 10 seconds and then starts blinking. After blinking for approximately two seconds, the picture is taken.

The self-timer mode is cancelled automatically after just one shot; to manually cancel the timer before the shot is taken press the self-timer button. Self-timer shooting in the Sequential Shooting mode will result in five frames at the most, regardless of the setting.

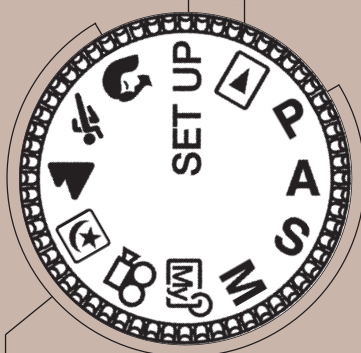


SET UP mode

Use this mode to perform basic camera settings, such as date/time and beep sound. When the camera is turned on, this mode menu is displayed on the monitor.

Playback mode

Use this mode to view pictures you have taken on the monitor.



Shooting modes

Use one of these when you want to take pictures. Read on to find out what they all do...

The mode dial

The shooting modes on the mode dial include situation-related modes (Scenes) and setting-related modes. We'll begin by explaining what the different setting-related modes do:

P Program shooting When P is selected, the camera automatically sets the correct aperture value and shutter speed for the brightness of the subject. Other functions, such as flash mode, can be adjusted manually.

A Aperture priority shooting You set the aperture and the camera does the rest. By decreasing the aperture value (F number), the distance in front of and behind the subject that is appreciably sharp (known as the "depth of field") will be reduced, producing a picture with a more blurred background. Increasing the value increases the depth of field, resulting in a picture in which the background will be more in focus.

S Shutter priority shooting allows you to set the shutter speed manually. The camera sets the aperture automatically. Setting the shutter speed higher lets you capture fast-moving action without blur. The subject will be clear and sharp, as if it were not moving. Setting the shutter speed lower blurs a moving subject, giving the impression of movement.

M Manual shooting allows you to set the aperture and shutter speed manually. To check the exposure, refer to the exposure differential displayed on the monitor. This is shown as a +ve

(for overexposure) or -ve (for underexposure) figure in the top right corner; if the exposure is correct the figure disappears. The manual shooting mode gives you more creative control, allowing you to make the settings you need to get the type of picture you want, regardless of optimum exposure. Use the Bulb setting to take pictures with exposures of up to eight minutes. **My Mode** allows you to save your favourite settings as your own personal mode and use these customised settings when taking pictures. Current settings can also be saved for retrieving by this mode.

Movie record allows you to record movies. The camera automatically determines the aperture and shutter speed. Sound is recorded at the same time. The focus and zoom are locked. If the distance to the subject changes, focus may be compromised.

The situation-related modes (Scenes) on the mode dial allow you to select pre-programmed settings for different situations:

Portrait shooting will result in an in-focus subject with a blurred background – suitable for taking portrait-style photographs.

Sports shooting employs fast shutter speeds to help reduce the blur of fast-moving subjects as much as possible.

Landscape shooting A deep depth of field will ensure that the foreground and the background are in focus. Blues and greens are vividly reproduced in this mode, so it is perfect for taking

shots of landscapes and other outdoor scenes.

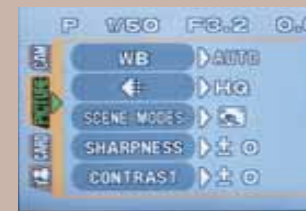
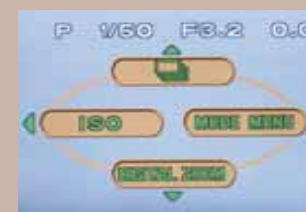
Night Scene shooting adopts a slower shutter speed than normal to improve brightness and accuracy when taking photographs in the evening or at night. Remember to use a tripod to stabilise the camera when shooting in this mode.

For more advanced shooting, the Scene modes (except Sport) can be selected through the menu on the LCD. Using this method gives you the option of selecting either P, A, S, M, or on the mode dial as well, in order to refine the settings of your selected scene.

To select a Scene mode through the menu:

1. Press the OK button to display the top menu on the screen.
2. Select Mode Menu using the right arrow button. Now scroll down to select the Picture tab, scroll right and select Scene Modes.
3. Scroll across again and use the up and down arrow buttons to choose between NORMAL, Portrait shooting, Landscape shooting or Night Scene shooting and press OK.
4. Press OK again to exit the menu.

This method allows you to control the shutter speed and aperture, and have the colour reproduction, sharpness and contrast automatically adjusted by the camera to suit the chosen subject.



Flash

You can select a Flash mode that is best suited to the lighting conditions and adjust the amount of light emitted using the flash intensity control.

1. Press the flash pop-up button.
2. Hold down the Flash mode button to the left of the screen and use the control dial to set the Flash mode by scrolling up or down. The Flash mode will change in the sequence shown below:

- Auto** Auto (Auto-flash)
- Red-eye reduction flash
- Fill-in flash
- SLOW SLOW (slow synchronisation)
- Flash off

Use the control dial to select the Flash mode you want.

3. Depress the shutter button half way. When the flash symbol lights up on the screen, the flash is ready.
4. Fully depress the shutter button to take the picture.

- The flash working range is:
T (zoom in) Approx. 0.2-4.0 m (0.7-13.1 ft)
W (zoom out) Approx. 0.8-5.8 m (2.6-19 ft)
- **Auto**, and are not available in S (shutter speed priority) and M (manual) modes on the mode dial. Please also note that no flash modes are available in Sequential Shooting mode.

• The flash may not achieve optimum results in the Macro mode, especially with wide-angle shooting. TO FIND OUT WHAT EACH OF THE DIFFERENT FLASH MODES DO, SEE OUR FEATURE ON PAGE 7!

