

Extending the Dynamic Range of Your Digital Images . . . In Pursuit of Portraying “Truthful/Realistic” Intent

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Image Editing Workflow Starts in Mind & Camera

Record RAW Data Files at Native ISO

ETTR . . . avoid clipping image highlights
consider bracketing to capture all the data from darkest to brightest
maintain a steady camera/image stabilization/increase SS if handholding
set the histogram with “blinkies” to appear on LCD screen

Edit RAW Files in “Lightroom” or Other Software

Tone Mapping/Image Merging

if yes, then Merge to HDR

File Preparation Phase

Camera Calibration Panel

Lens Correction Panel

Transform Panel

File Development Phase

Basic Panel (White Balance | Tone | Presence)

General Area Selection Tools

HSL Panel | B&W | Split Toning | Tone Curve Panel

File Finishing Phase

Effects Panel | Detail Panel

Plugins

Rick suggests it's ultimately all about Contrast