

Visible Light Workflow - Copy Stand

Studio Setup

- Assess the material to be photographed
 - Determine your desired resolution
 - Identify any detail images that need to be taken
 - Identify any special handling requirements
- Determine the height of the camera and/or table
- Select background material
- Select lighting - reflectors, barn-doors, softboxes, or umbrellas
- Arrange lighting and test for even and consistent exposure using an incident light meter
- Take an image of your color target
- Adjust the light to the correct value if the color target is over- or under-exposed
- If lights are adjusted, re-capture the color target and create a custom color profile for your session
- If you are working in a digitization environment and are using a software program with the capacity to make a lens cast calibration (LCC, or flat field correction), do so at this point.
 - An LCC is a technique to create luminance uniformity. It is created by capturing a grey or white board and using a software program (such as Capture One) to analyze and adjust for the inconsistencies in lighting.
 - When making an LCC, it is important that the board is flat, perpendicular to the camera sensor, and covering the entire field of view of the camera.
 - After creating an LCC, re-capture your color target and adjust the color profile.

Capture

- Create label and include state (BT, DT, AT and date)
- Photograph the object
 - Use the lowest ISO setting (ISO 50–200, depending on the camera).
- Process and name photos in accordance with AIC and institutional guidelines.

Best Practices

- Paint or tape reference lines on the studio floor to indicate light placement. Make sure that you mark at least 2 opposite corners.
- Due to the stationary nature of a copy stand, tethered shooting is a very practical possibility and is highly recommended. “Tethered shooting allows captured images to be transferred directly to a computer and immediately displayed on a computer monitor. This feature permits accurate assessment of images as they are taken—to check framing, focus, and exposure, for example. It also allows nearly every menu function on the camera to be conveniently controlled through the computer, and it eliminates the additional step of having to manually transfer images from the camera’s memory card to the computer. Tethering software that provides both direct download and camera control is currently available only with select camera models from Canon, Nikon, Sony, Fujifilm,

and Leica. Cameras with this option are highly recommended for documentation photography” Warda et al. (2017, p.25)

- Avoid mixed lighting when optimum color accuracy is desired (e.g., do not photograph in an area with tungsten lamps and natural daylight or fluorescent light). Although digital cameras offer greater flexibility in adjusting to the color temperature of lighting, they are not always able to maintain color accuracy with mixed light sources. Warda et al. (2017, p.42)