

Camera Focus Modes

Most cameras have at least three focus options. Manual focus, one-shot autofocus, and servo autofocus all have very different uses, and choosing the right focus can help you guarantee the best possible photo.

One-shot Autofocus

This mode is good for shooting a subject that isn't moving. Once the camera locks onto the desired area of focus it will stay focused at that distance until the shutter button is released. This allows you to select your point of focus, then recompose the shot to get a better composition without the auto focus refocusing on another area of the photo.

Servo Autofocus

This mode is best used for moving subjects, it will lock on to the subject but constantly be refocusing as the subject moves closer or further from the camera. The exact settings and names of the settings vary between different models of camera so consult your manual to see what your camera has to offer.

Here are two examples demonstrating the use of **Servo Autofocus** vs. **One-shot Autofocus**.

In the first example **Servo Autofocus** is used with the camera drive set to **Continuous**. Notice how the camera maintains focus on the subject as she approaches the camera.



In this example, **One-shot Autofocus** is used with the camera drive set to **Continuous**. Notice how the subject starts out in focus but rapidly goes out of focus as she approaches the camera.

