


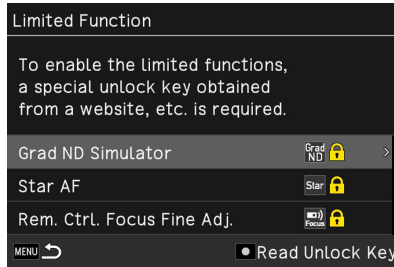
Astrophoto Assist User's Manual

Function Overview

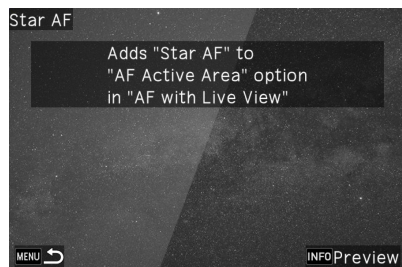
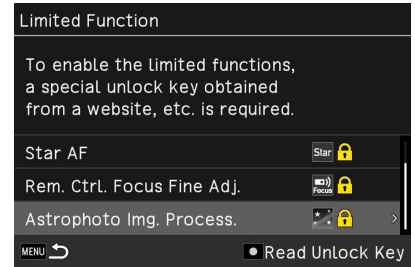
- “Astrophoto Assist” is a premium function that packages “Star AF”, “Remote Control Focus Fine Adjustment”, and “Astrophoto Image Processing” features. By loading the unlock key for “Astrophoto Assist” in [Limited Function] of the  6 “Maintenance” menu, “Star AF”, “Remote Control Focus Fine Adjustment”, and “Astrophoto Image Processing” become available.



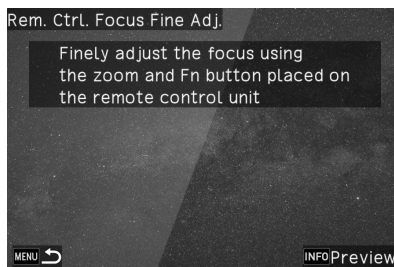
 6 “Maintenance” screen



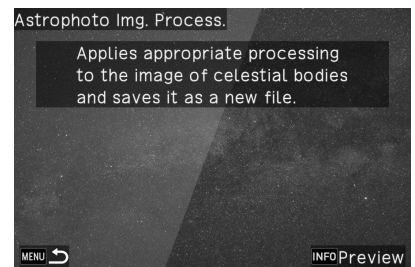
“Limited Function” screen



Star AF



Remote Control Focus Fine Adjustment



Astrophoto Image Processing

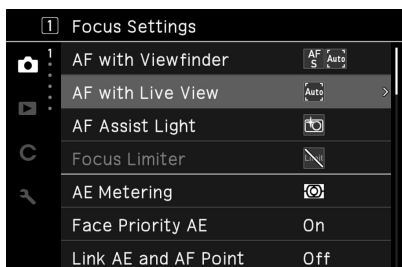
Star AF


Function Overview

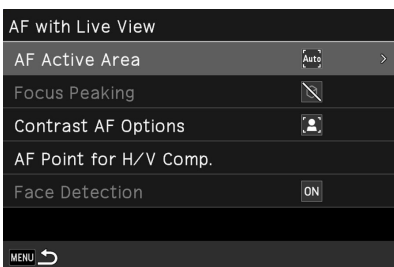
- With “Star AF”, the camera automatically focuses on stars which are generally difficult subjects to focus on. Subjects other than stars are not supported.
Make sure to securely mount the camera on a tripod, etc.
* This function works only with autofocus lenses.
* This function can be used only with Live View.

Preparation for Shooting

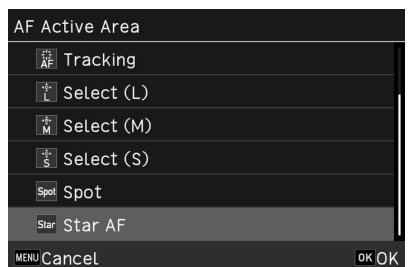
- Set [AF Active Area] to [ Star AF] in [AF with Live View].



Select [AF with Live View] in the  1 “Focus Settings” menu.



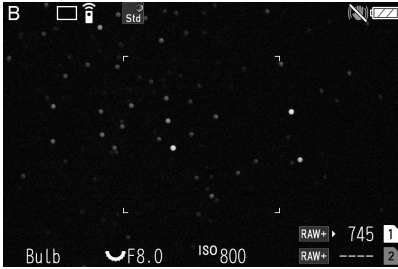
Select [AF Active Area] in [AF with Live View].



Select [ Star AF] in [AF Active Area].

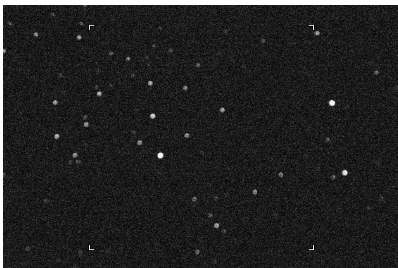
Shooting Procedures

1. Switch the camera to Live View.
2. Adjust the angle of view (zoom) and composition so that the desired stars are in the AF frame. Make sure only stars are in the AF frame.



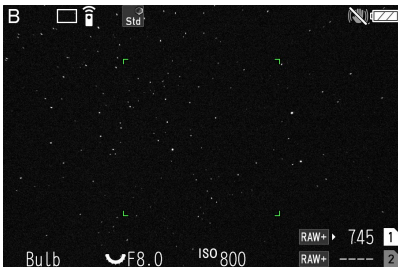
"Star AF" mode screen

3. Secure the camera to a tripod, etc. to make sure it does not move.
4. Either press the shutter release button halfway, press the AF button, or press the shutter release button on the remote control unit to start focusing.
5. The AF active area is magnified during focusing. (Focusing takes time. Keep the camera still until it is complete.)



Screen during focusing

6. When focusing is complete, the AF frame turns green and the focus is locked. (Do not operate the lens after focusing is complete.)



Screen after focusing is complete

7. Press the shutter release button fully or press the shutter release button on the remote control unit to release the shutter. When the AF frame is green (focus is locked), autofocus is not performed even if the shutter release button is pressed halfway.
- To unlock the focus, press the MENU button, or press the shutter release button halfway and then release it. The AF frame color returns from green to white (the state it was in before "Star AF" was started).

Caution

- Focusing takes approx. 10 to 20 seconds.
- When taking multiple frames with same composition, switch to manual focus after focusing is complete.
- If autofocus is complete but the stars are not in focus, the AF frame turns red and then returns to white after a certain amount of time passes.
- Focusing may fail in locations with ambient brightness (significant light pollution, etc.) or if you cannot see stars with the naked eye.
- If the stars still are not in focus after using "Star AF" multiple times, try adjusting the composition slightly or making other adjustments.

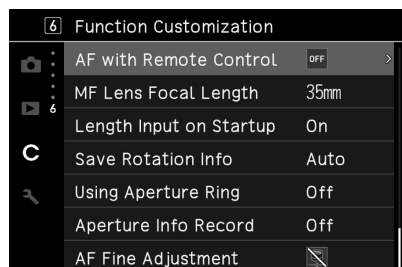
Remote Control Focus Fine Adjustment

Function Overview

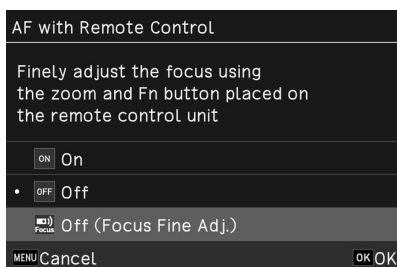
- “Remote Control Focus Fine Adjustment” is a function to fine-tune the focus with the optional Remote Control Waterproof O-RC1 without operating the lens or camera. This function is useful for astrophotography, macro shooting, and other situations where direct contact with the lens makes subtle focusing difficult. Make sure to securely mount the camera on a tripod, etc.
* This function works only with autofocus lenses.

Preparation for Shooting

- Remote Control Waterproof O-RC1
- Set [AF with Remote Control] to [Off (Focus Fine Adj.)].



Select [AF with Remote Control] in the **C** 6 “Function Customization” menu.



Select [Off (Focus Fine Adj.)] in [AF with Remote Control].



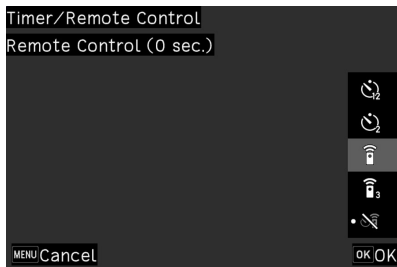
Remote Control Waterproof O-RC1

Shooting Procedures

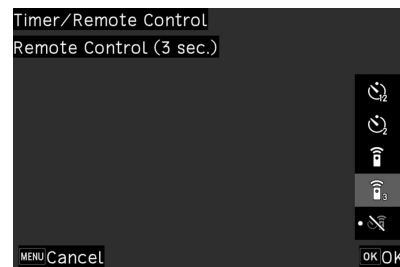
1. Set the drive mode to a mode for remote control use ([Remote Control (0 sec.)] or [Remote Control (3 sec.)]).





Drive menu



Drive menu [Remote Control (0 sec.)]



Drive menu [Remote Control (3 sec.)]

2. Set the focus mode switch for the camera and lens to AF.
3. Press the zoom button  on the remote control unit to change the focus to the near side, or the Fn button  to change it to the far side.
4. Press each button as many times as necessary until the subject is in focus. (The focus does not continue changing even if the button is pressed and held.)
5. Press the shutter release button on the remote control unit to release the shutter.

Caution

- Both the optical viewfinder and Live View are available for shooting. It is recommended to use the magnified view with Live View for checking the focus accurately.
- The focus may not change when pressing the button of the remote control once depending on the lens status. Press the button multiple times until the focus changes.
- Each time the button is pressed, the focus changes slightly. For quick focusing, first roughly set the focus manually.
- If you try to release the shutter other than with the remote control unit, autofocus may be activated unintentionally.

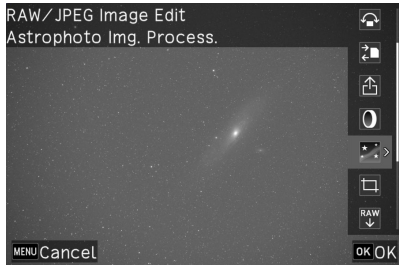
Astrophoto Image Processing

Function Overview

"Astrophoto Image Processing" is a function that allows you to select and adjust new image processing options for astrophotography and save the processed image as a new JPEG file. The following five processing options are provided: [Shading Correction], [Uneven Correction], [Background Darkness], [Star Brightness], and [Celestial Body Clarity].

Processing Procedures

1. Display the image to apply "Astrophoto Image Processing" to in the single image display, press the AE Lock button to display the playback function selection screen, and select [Astrophoto Img. Process.].



Playback function selection screen

2. Select the image processing option to use and adjust each parameter.
To reset all the five image processing settings to their default values (no image processing), press the Green button (RESET ALL) on the "Astrophoto Image Processing" selection screen.
To reset each image processing parameter to its default value, press the Green button on each image processing screen.

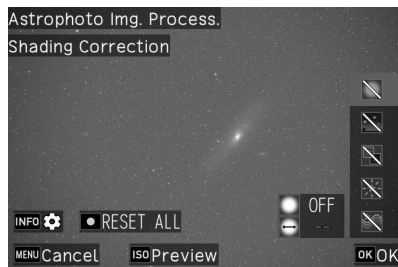


Image processing selection screen

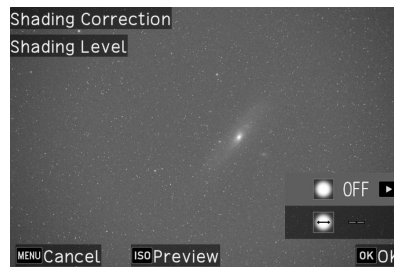


Image processing parameter setting screen

3. Each setting is reflected each time it is changed. To hide icons and display the image in full screen, press the ISO button. You can also use the rear dial to change the image magnification to check the effect of image processing.
4. When all image processing settings are complete, press the OK button to save the image as a new file.



- "Astrophoto Image Processing" saves the most recent parameter settings.
When applying image processing to a different image, reset the settings as necessary.

Caution

- "Astrophoto Image Processing" can be applied to RAW or JPEG images captured on this camera. "Astrophoto Image Processing" only processes JPEG images, so when a RAW image is selected, the image is first developed into a JPEG image in the camera under the conditions at the time of shooting, and then that JPEG image is processed.
- "Astrophoto Image Processing" cannot be directly applied to RAW images captured with HDR shooting. Develop the RAW images to JPEG images with the camera beforehand and then apply "Astrophoto Image Processing" to them.
- Additional "Astrophoto Image Processing" can be applied to an image to which "Astrophoto Image Processing" has already been applied. However, because it is applied to JPEG images, the image quality may degrade with each image processing. It is recommended to complete all processing at the same time whenever possible.

Astrophoto Image Processing

Shading Correction

- "Shading Correction" corrects lens peripheral illumination fall-off.
- By default, [Shading Level] is set to OFF (no correction) on the shading correction setting screen. The shading level can be set in 11 levels, including OFF and +1 to +10. The larger the value, the stronger the correction.



OFF (no correction)



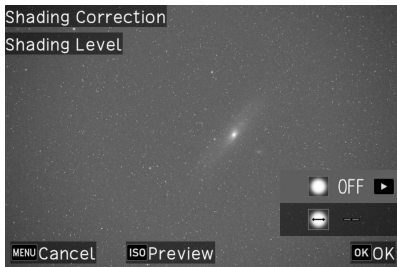
+5



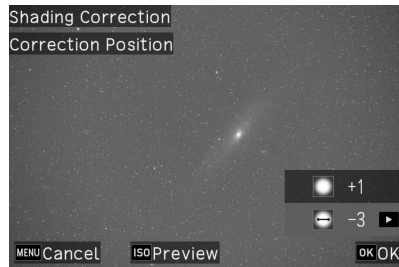
+10

Shading correction (images after correction)

- When the shading level is set to OFF, the correction position cannot be configured.

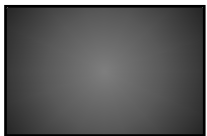


Shading level selection screen

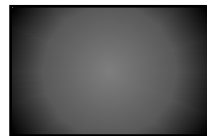


Upper: Shading level
Lower: Correction position

- The correction position can be set in 7 levels of -3 to +3. If a negative value is set, peripheral illumination fall-off correction is applied gradually from the center. If a positive value is set, steep peripheral illumination fall-off correction is applied outside the frame.



-3



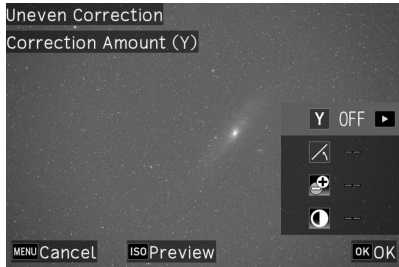
+3

Correction position
(images of correction target)

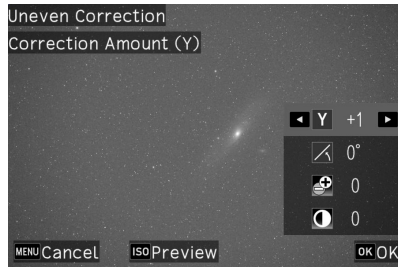
Astrophoto Image Processing

Uneven Correction

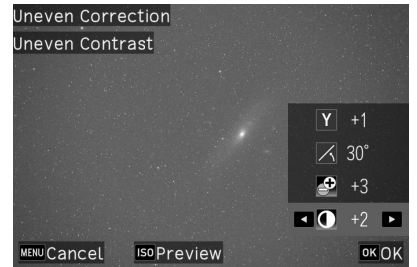
- “Uneven Correction” corrects the uneven brightness caused by light pollution, etc.
- By default, the uneven correction is set to OFF (no correction).
- The correction amount (Y: brightness) can be set in 21 levels, including OFF and +1 to +20. The larger the value, the greater the correction.
- When the correction amount is set to +1 to +20, the [Angle], [Highlight Level], and [Uneven Contrast] parameters can be set.



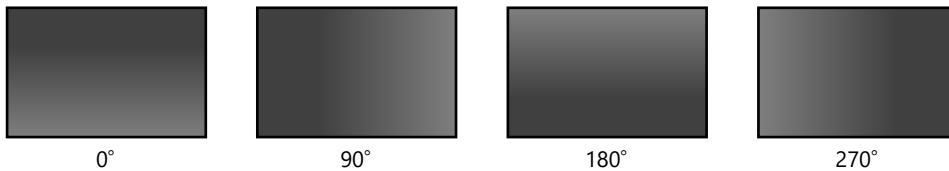
Uneven correction setting screen (no correction)



Uneven correction setting screen (brightness correction)

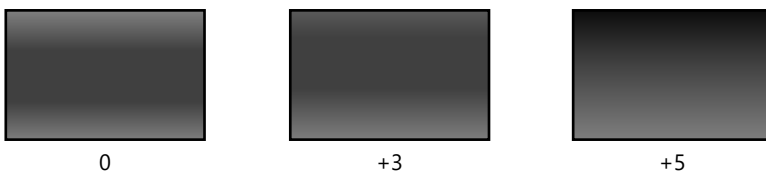


- “Angle” sets the direction of uneven correction. When the angle is set to 0°, 90°, 180°, or 270°, the bottom, right, top, or left side of the screen is corrected, respectively. (If [Highlight Level] is set to 0, correction is applied symmetrically, so the same results are achieved for 0° and 180°, and for 90° and 270°.)



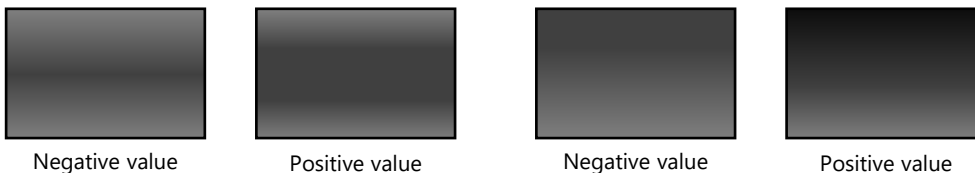
Correction direction for brightness (when [Highlight Level] is set to +5)

- “Highlight Level” sets the bias of uneven correction in 6 levels of 0 to +5. If it is set to 0, the correction is unbiased. The correction is applied equally to the top and bottom or to the left and right. The larger the highlight level value, the stronger the correction applied in the direction set in [Angle]. On the other hand, a negative correction value is applied to the opposite side of the direction set in [Angle].



Example of [Highlight Level] (when [Angle] is set to 0°)

- “Uneven Contrast” adjusts the uneven correction sharpness. This can be set in 7 levels of -3 to +3. Setting a negative value weakens the contrast, applying correction from the inside of the frame, whereas setting a positive value strengthens the contrast, applying stronger correction outside the frame.



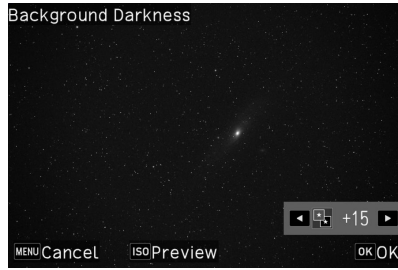
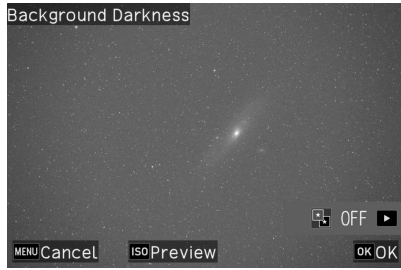
Example of [Uneven Contrast] (when [Angle] is set to 0° and [Highlight Level] is set to 0)

Example of [Uneven Contrast] (when [Angle] is set to 0° and [Highlight Level] is set to +5)

Astrophoto Image Processing

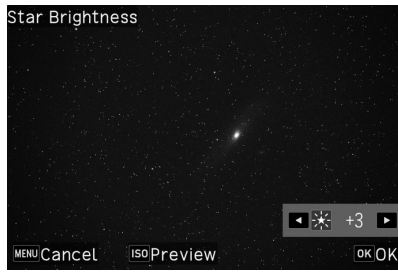
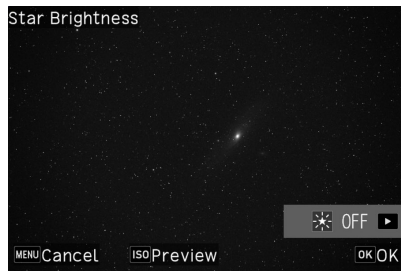
Background Darkness

- "Background Darkness" corrects backgrounds other than stars that appear white in astrophotography.
- The correction amount can be set in 21 levels, including OFF (no correction) and +1 to +20. The larger the value, the darker the background.



Star Brightness

- "Star Brightness" adjusts the brightness of stars (bright sections) in astrophotography.
- The correction amount can be set in 6 levels, including OFF (no correction) and +1 to +5. The larger the value, the brighter the stars.
- Because this process brightens bright sections, the effects can be easier to obtain by sufficiently darkening the background with [Background Darkness] in advance.



Celestial Body Clarity

- "Celestial Body Clarity" adjusts the contrast of faint celestial bodies such as the Milky Way, nebulae, and other parts of the galaxy for greater sharpness.
- The correction amount can be set in 6 levels, including OFF (no correction) and +1 to +5. The larger the value, the greater the clarity.

