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Nikon D3100 For Dummies

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Unlock all the secrets of the powerful new Nikon D3100 DSLR camera. Author Julie King knows how to teach newbies, and in this handy guide she’ll help you get the very most out of the powerful new Nikon D3100. Say you’re already an experienced photographer? The helpful tips and tricks in this friendly book will get you quickly up to speed on the D3100’s new 14-megapixel sensor, continuous video/live focus, full HD video, expanded autofocus, and more. As a seasoned instructor at the Palm Beach Photographic Center, Julie anticipates all questions, whether you’re a beginner or digital camera pro, and offers pages of easy-to-follow advice. Helps you get every bit of functionality out of the new Nikon D3100 camera Walks you through its exciting new features, including the 14-megapixel sensor, continuous video/live focus, full HD video, expanded autofocus, and the updated in-camera menu. Explores shooting in Auto mode, managing playback options, and basic troubleshooting. Explains how to adjust the camera’s manual settings for your own preferred exposure, lighting, focus, and color style. Covers digital photo housekeeping tips—how to organize, edit, and share your files. Tap all the tools in this hot new DSLR camera and start taking some great pix with Nikon D3100 For Dummies.

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Customer Reviews
A great simple, straight to the point, easy to understand book covers all the basics. Although the camera comes with a manual this book does a great job covering all the basics and where to find
them in your camera. It also discusses which settings are more important to play with and which can be left to run on Auto (the camera has 1645 possible controls so this information is invaluable). Covers the basics for artistic creation as well. Between this book to learn to operate the camera and the Ken Rockwell site ([...]) is all you need to cover all the basics.

I recently upgraded from a Kodak EasyShare Z981 14MP Digital Camera to the Nikon D3100. Boy, DSLR’s sure can be intimidating when you’ve never shot with one in your life. I didn't know the difference between aperture and dentures. There are so many options and settings, and all I wanted to do was take some good pictures. This book is great because it starts off immediately with the top 10 things to do with your new camera, everything from the importance of charging your camera to changing the ISO and white balance. Not only does it show you how to make the changes step-by-step, but it also tells why those changes are important. One of the other things I really liked is that the author gives you assignments at the end of each chapter. There’s only so much you can really learn from reading this book, but the assignments ensure you play with the camera and learn how each setting affects the quality of your shots. One of the things I wish this book did however is stick with the 18-55 lens that the camera comes with. In the book he uses many different lenses to capture some amazing shots, and it makes me want to buy all those expensive lenses that I can’t afford. All in all, I believe this is a must have for any beginner. I read this book over Christmas and it really helped us take some great indoor shots of the family. Greatest thing that this book helped us do...it taught us how to get away from using the “Auto” setting.

It is a very easy to read introduction to the camera and to general principals of digital photography. I'm not sorry I read it. But I agree with another reviewer that it is not as comprehensive about all of the features of the d3100. There is nothing about taking video (and he admits that he didn't intend it for video). You have to go to the publishers website to get two “bonus” chapters. While on that site I noted that the author wrote a book of the exact same title except that it was for another camera. I could only assume that is why the detail is missing -- probably so that pretty much the same generic photography lessons (which are okay) can be applied to more than one book on various cameras that have similar features. I've ordered another book by Dave Busch that seems far more comprehensive. If you want a very non-threatening, easy to read introduction to digital photography which references and has pictures of the d3100, then this is okay to start with. You will probably wish to go further, as I did. Follow up 5-23-11 -- The Dave Busch is much more comprehensive and more about just the D3100, and yet is also easy to follow. I would recommend it over this book.
After purchasing the D3100 SLR camera, this book proved to be a great reference and guide. It starts off with all the basics and explains all the features of the camera. The manual that accompanied the camera is nothing compared to this book. If you are a beginner, this book is perfect as it walks you through step by step. If you are an intermediate to expert SLR, this book is a great tool that shows you some of those forgotten tricks. This book has tons of information and what made it great was that it was an easy read, no confusing camera technical verbiage. Simply put, you can not go wrong with this book.

This book was really helpful to me. It covers in excellent detail all of the features of the camera. The full-color photos are essential and greatly beneficial. I have not once thought, "I don't understand," while reading. The entire book has been really easy to follow, even for a beginner. The topic arrangement of the book is nice too. The first five chapters are designed to get you familiar with the controls, buttons and features and also to get you started shooting using auto modes. This may sound straightforward, but there is a lot of camera terminology that I didn't know before this book that is essential to understanding even basic controls. This book does a great job at explaining these terms in clear, everyday language. Even better, there is just enough repetition to remind you of things without being annoying. The remaining chapters deal with advanced shooting modes. I haven't gotten to this part (I'm currently on Chap. 5), but I am assuming that it is just as good as the rest of the book. It should be noted, however, that I've read 130ish pages already and I want to finish the rest. It is an easy-to-read, enjoyable book. One thing this book does is discuss photography in general. It doesn't, for instance, go into color theory. I'm glad it doesn't; that would be way too much all at once! It is intended to introduce you to the camera, not the art of photography.

I have owned this book for a week or so now and I have read it cover to cover several times already. This book was exactly what I was looking for in terms of assistance in understanding the capabilities of my new DSLR. Shakespeare once said that "brevity is the soul of wit." I think this quote sums up the content of this book. Well written, easy to understand and straight to the point. If you are even remotely interested in this book just save your time and stop reading the other reviews. The book is worth your money and will be a helpful tool in expanding your knowledge of photography.

A nice BOOK, provides reasonable details about the Camera's operation itself. Lots of example
Pictures and their Camera settings. I did however, expect a little more in detail about the Camera's "usage" and the "how to's" (meaning the Nuts & Bolts mechanics of "how" to select each of the various combinations) of operation with the Camera, and a little less in simply viewing Mr. Revells personal Photos.

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