

HDR

Photography

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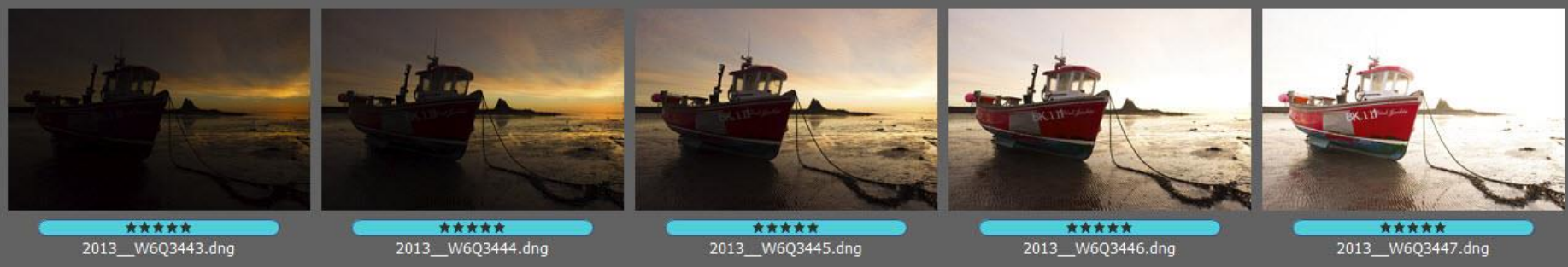
Prepare Your Camera for HDR

Set your auto-bracketing sequence to $- 0 +$

This then takes images in the sequence under exposed to overexposed.

1. Easier to take images (depends on camera make)
*Canon Live-View system for example.

2. HDR Image sets are easier to locate in catalogue
Here are my images in bridge.
Blue denotes HDR set.
5 stars denotes a 5 image set.



Shooting HDR

Set your camera Drive to Motor drive if using Auto Bracketing.

This reduces the delay between shots and therefore reduces possible movement between shots which may cause merging problems (such as clouds).

Set Your Exposure.

Aperture priority mode is the best option for shooting an HDR sequence, because you want the aperture to remain consistent between shots, otherwise your photos may have varying levels of sharpness.

Choose an aperture that works for your scene—remember that narrow apertures keep the scene sharp. Most HDR photos are landscape images, taken with an aperture of f/11 or more.

You could also shoot in manual mode (and if you don't have AEB on your camera model, you'll have to use manual), and keep the aperture consistent and vary the shutter speed between photos.

Shooting HDR

- 1.** Average exposure is a good starting point, then expand to capture highlights and shadows.
- 2.** Ideally, you should take at least three shots, one each exposed for the highlights, mid-tones and shadows.
- 3.** If your camera has Auto Exposure Bracketing, turn it on and tell the camera how many images you would like to bracket.

Shooting HDR

How many shots do you need?

The most common answer is three.

The real answer is ... it depends.

1. It depends on the contrast ratio of the scene.
2. It depends on the exposure value (EV) increments you use between exposures.
3. It depends on the camera you use.
(some sensors capture a greater dynamic range than others).

Most scenes need 3.

Some scenes need 5.

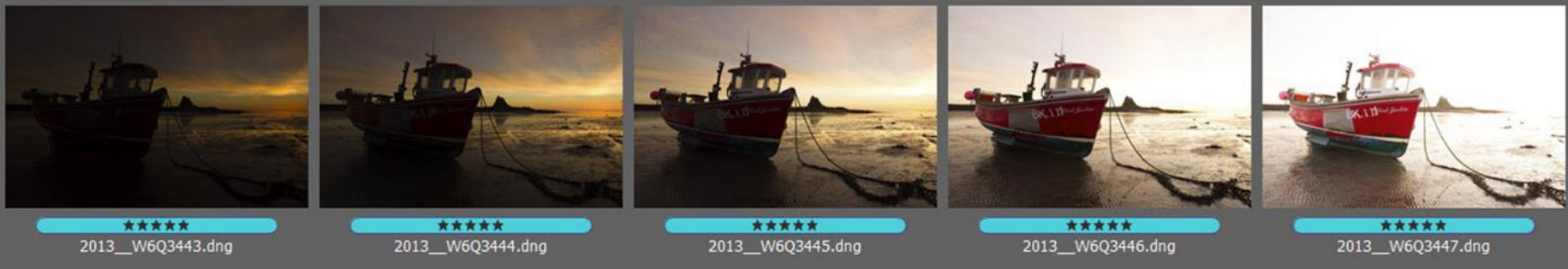
Only a few scenes need 7 or more.

How far apart in EV (exposure value) should separate exposures be?

1.5 stops. (Really any value between 1 and 2 stops.) While you won't get better image quality if you use more shots separated by less exposure value (less than 1 stop), you also won't compromise it. While you can also use higher increments (more than 2 stops) be careful – you may produce banding in smooth areas, particularly those with gradations.

We now have our set

- - 0 + +



Forward to the HDR Processing