

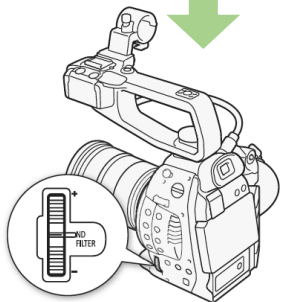
# Exposure

Exposure measures the amount of light allowed to fall on the camera's sensor.

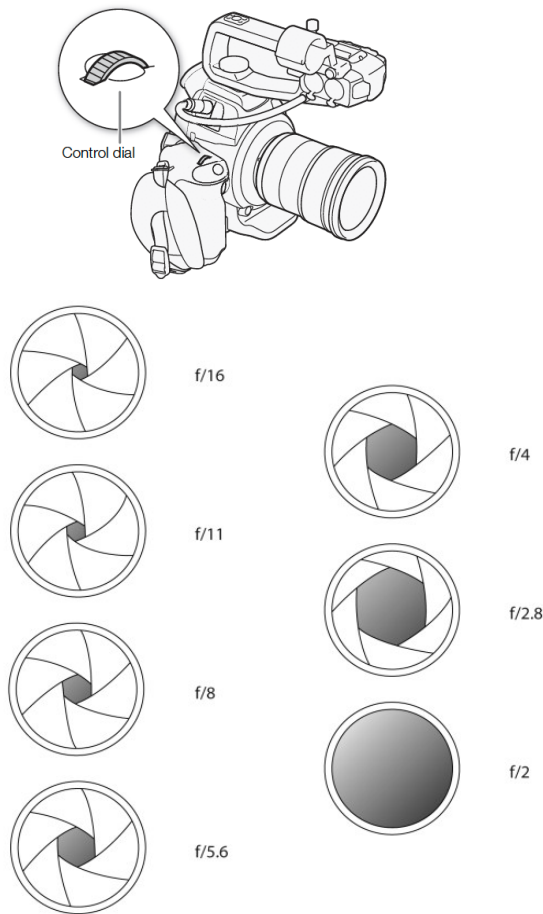
This is controlled using the **aperture** (also called iris) which is measured by the f-stop number. As the iris is opened, more light hits the sensor.

The lowest available f-stop on any given lens represents the iris opened all the way and the highest f-stop represents the smallest iris. Each successive f-number equates to a doubling of light when opening up ( $f/11$  lets in twice as much light as  $f/16$ ), while a stopping down halves the amount of light.

The size of the iris also affects **depth of field**. The wider the iris, the shallower the depth of field becomes. To shoot with a shallow depth of field but maintain good exposure an **ND filter** can be used, and/or a lower ISO.



NDs 1, 2 & 3 reduce exposure by 2, 4 & 6 stops respectively, allowing shallow depth of field even in bright, sunny conditions.



The same shot with 3 different exposures. The top is at  $f/8$ , the middle  $f/11$  and bottom  $f/16$ .  $f/8$  is the correct exposure - detail can be seen in the highlights and shadows.