

SOPH[Ö]RT

PHOTO-TIPS
POLAROID 600

INTRO

We've gathered the 12 most important tips for creating beautiful Polaroid pictures.

This is the accumulated know-how of our experience of hundreds of tours with Polaroid cameras. You can find updates, sample photos, videos and further information on **www.blog.sophort.com** and **www.sophort.com/video**

Questions? Drop us a line:
support@sophort.com

Your Sophort Team

TIP #1:

BACKLIT

Avoid shooting right into the sunlight. Try to have the light on your subject to come from behind you or from the side to prevent the loss of detail and highlights. If you shoot into the light-source the contrast between lighter and darker areas is getting bigger and you'll end up with a silhouette of your subject.

TIP #2:

GET THE PERFECT EXPOSURE

The exposure for pictures without flash is set by the automatic electric eye from your camera. It defines the shutter speed and lens opening according to the light conditions. If the scene is unevenly lit, then the picture will be unevenly exposed, being either too bright or too dark. Try to take pictures where the lighting is even – about as bright on the background as on the subject.

If the background is a large part of the picture and is brighter than the subject, the electric eye will set the correct exposure for the background, not your subject. The subject will be too dark. To avoid this we recommend getting close to the subject.

If the background is a large part of the picture and is darker than the subject, the electric eye will set the correct exposure for the background. The subject will be too bright. This time getting close will prevent your subject from being too bright in the final picture.

See photo-tip #7 for more reasons to get close!

TIP #3:

HOW TO NOT BLUR YOUR PICTURES

Hold the camera steadily until the picture leaves through the exit slot. This is especially important when there isn't much light available. In dim light the camera shutter stays open longer than in bright light. Any movement of the camera while the shutter is open will result in a blurred picture.



We therefore recommend holding the camera in your left hand, your palm on the bottom of the camera.

This will simulate a tri-pod and gives your camera extra stability. Be careful to not block the film exit slot at the front of the camera! Press the “flash override shutter button” from the bottom. There’s the most space for your finger!

TIP #4:

SHOOTING IN COLD WEATHER

When it's cold outside (below 13 degrees Celsius or 55 degrees Fahrenheit) it is crucial to warm your camera and your pictures. You can achieve this by carrying the camera inside your coat (preferable) or in your bag. In addition we highly recommend putting the Polaroid picture as close to your body as possible once it has left the camera, at least your coat's inner pocket. Be careful to not bend the picture. The warmer you keep the picture the better the colors and contrast will be.

TIP #5:

SHOOTING IN HOT WEATHER

When it's hot outside (more than 28 degrees Celsius or 83 degrees Fahrenheit) we recommend keeping the picture out of the sunlight and/or at a cool place (i.e. in the film box next to a cold beverage in your bag) once it exited the camera for development. This will help minimizing unwanted orange or red tinted pictures.

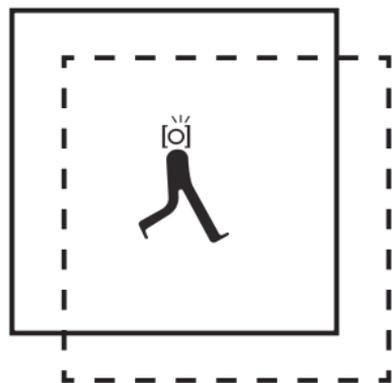
TIP #6:

THE PARALLAX ERROR

The Polaroid 600 camera will take the picture through the lens, but you'll see the scene through the viewfinder next to the lens. This results in a so-called parallax error. This error is bigger the closer you are to your subject, it's less visible the more far away you are.

If you are for example framing your subject in the middle of the viewfinder, your camera in fact "sees" it closer to the left, upper corner. To work around that we recommend avoiding full frontal framing of your subject.

Rather go for a side angle. You could also frame the subject a little bit more to the left, leaving space on the right side of the



what you see

what your camera sees

viewfinder. Another note: Your camera doesn't show you the full scene it'll capture in the viewfinder. It'll add a little bit on all sides. This makes the parallax error seem smaller. In short: We think it's very hard to successfully work around the parallax error. Our tip: Don't worry too much about it – rather embrace the imperfection :)

TIP #7:

GET CLOSE AND MAKE YOUR SUBJECT THE MAIN FOCUS OF YOUR PICTURE

To make the most of your instant-shots we recommend getting close to your subject and making your subject the main interest of your picture! Frame it in your viewfinder as big as possible and keep the background simple. Don't think too much about it: Often the simple things work best in a Polaroid.

TIP #8:
**WHY DO I HAVE TO PROTECT MY
IMPOSSIBLE PICTURES FROM LIGHT
AND HOW DO I DO THAT?**

After the photo got ejected, quickly turn the camera by 180 degrees or take the picture with the darkslide (put it on the side with the developing picture). Then quickly place the picture in a bag, pocket, book or let it develop face down (be careful to not bend it).

Avoid exposing and developing in direct sunlight; this will cause overexposure and reddening of the final result. The Impossible instant-photos are no longer sensitive to light after a few minutes but it will take about 30 minutes to fully develop the Polaroid.

It might even develop further after that point! The long development process is mainly caused by the so-called opacification layer. It is a blue layer within the film, which protects the lower (light-sensitive) layers from light.

Instant film contains a regular film negative, which is why the photo is sensitive to light until it is fully developed. Think of the opacification layer, or opacifier, as a chemical curtain that needs to be drawn over the film to protect the image you've created.

The opacifier isn't perfect protection: Therefore we recommend using the "Impossible Frog Tongue", a device that can be installed in most Polaroid cameras, which helps to further protect your pictures.

You can buy it here:

www.shop.sophort.com

You can find videos and pictures explaining the process in detail at **www.blog.sophort.com** and **www.sophort.com/video**

TIP #9:

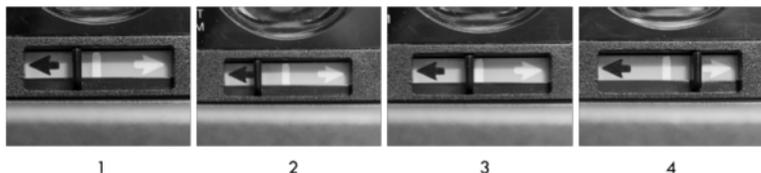
HOW TO GET GREAT COLORS IN A POLAROID

There is one key ingredient to colorful pictures: Color! If you want to have saturated colors in your Impossible instant picture the subject must be colorful. How to get good colors in cold weather? Check out tip #4. Tip #8 is also helpful!

TIP #10: EXPOSURE CORRECTION

Your camera has a slider to control how bright or dark your picture should be. Adjust it to manually tell your camera to change the exposure of the next picture. With the Impossible color film we recommend leaving the slider in the middle position.

Your pictures turn out too light? Move the slider towards the black arrow (1). You might want to move the slider as shown in picture (2) when either the sun or the setting is very bright.



Your pictures turn out too dark? Move the slider towards the middle position (3). Usually with the color film you wouldn't move the slider towards the white arrow (4).

TIP #11:

TAKING PICTURES INDOORS

If you want to take a picture indoors, use the flash by pressing the flash shutter button. You can find more information in the “Manual Polaroid 600” that came with your package.

There are circumstances where you'd rather not use flash indoors, for example when you want to snap a Polaroid of something that's lit by a natural light source, such as a window.

TIP #12:

TAKING PICTURES OUTDOORS

Outdoors, under normal light conditions, use the flash override shutter button. It is located right beneath the flash shutter button. You can find more information in the “Manual Polaroid 600” that came with your package. Just press it all the way to take your picture.

There are some outdoor situations that might require you to use the flash, for example if you want to make a portrait when not much light is available, when the subject is backlit or when your subject is located in a doorway or under a bridge.

**Have fun exploring the wonders
of instant photography!**

Film | Cameras | Accessories
www.shop.sophort.com

Questions & Feedback
support@sophort.com



SophortHQ

www.sophort.com

Imprint: Sophort OG
Türkenstraße 23/1/8, 1090 Vienna, Austria