

# Exploring the Nikon D5200

The D5200 is different from most other Nikon cameras because, in order to implement the Vari-angle LCD monitor, the amount of buttons and dials has been minimized, and most options are accessed via the D5200 menu system and the multi-selector.

This makes for a very streamlined camera, but there are still a number of buttons, dials, knobs, and switches with which you should become familiar. Additionally, there are ports and general features that are common to dSLR cameras, but which may be new to you. If you have upgraded from the D5100, you'll be instantly at home with the D5200. However, if you are stepping up from the D5000, you will notice a distinct change in the button layout on the rear of the camera.



*Image courtesy of Nikon, Inc.*

**The Vari-angle LCD monitor is specific to the 5000 series of Nikon dSLR cameras.**

# Key Components of the D5200

As I mentioned previously, the D5200 doesn't have the plethora of buttons and dials that other Nikon camera models do, so the controls on the camera are important. Most of them perform numerous duties depending on the camera mode, so understanding how each control functions is key to controlling your camera quickly so that you don't miss a shot. The following sections break the camera features down into segments and go over each control.

## The top of the camera

Most of the important buttons are on the top of the D5200. This makes it easier to find them, especially when you have your eye to the viewfinder. This is where you find the dials to change the shooting modes, as well as the all-important shutter-release button and the relatively new Movie record button.

The following list includes the controls/buttons on top of the camera:








- ▶ **On/Off switch.** Located concentric to the shutter-release button, this switch turns the camera on and off. Push it to the right to turn the camera on or to the left to turn the camera off.
- ▶ **Shutter-release button.** In my opinion, this is the most important button on the camera. Pressing this button halfway activates the camera's autofocus and light meter. Fully depressing this button releases the shutter, and a photograph is taken. When the camera has been idle, and has "gone to sleep," lightly pressing the shutter-release button wakes it up. When the Auto info display is set to On, half-pressing and holding it turns the Info Display off, while releasing it turns the Info Display on. When the image review is on, lightly pressing the shutter-release button turns off the LCD screen and prepares the camera for another shot.
- ▶ **Movie-record button.** When the camera is in Live View mode () , you press this button (which has a simple red dot on it) to start recording video. Press it a second time to stop recording.
- ▶ **Exposure compensation () /Aperture () button.** Press this button while spinning the Command dial to modify the exposure set by the D5200 light meter when it is in the Programmed auto () , Shutter-priority auto () , or Aperture-priority auto () modes. Turning the Command dial to the right increases the exposure, while turning the dial to the left decreases the exposure. When set to Manual exposure mode () , you can press this button and rotate the Command dial to adjust the aperture settings.



Image courtesy of Nikon, Inc.

### 1.1 The controls on top of the camera.

- **Info button** (info). Press this button to display information on the LCD screen. The information display shows all of the exposure and camera setting options.
- **Release mode** (M/). Press this button to display the release mode options on the LCD screen. Use the multi-selector to choose an option.

**CROSS REF** See Chapter 2 for a complete list and description of the Release modes.

- **Live View mode switch** (LV). Of all Nikon cameras, the D5200 has my favorite implementation for Live View mode (LV). A quick flick of the Live View mode switch (LV), which is right next to the Mode dial, puts the camera in Live View mode (LV), so you can shoot stills or videos using the LCD monitor as a viewfinder.

- ▶ **Mode dial.** This is an important dial. Rotating the Mode dial allows you to change your shooting mode quickly. You can choose one of the scene modes, the Effects mode, one of the semiautomatic modes, or Manual exposure mode, which lets you pick the exposure settings.

**CROSS REF** For a detailed description of all exposure modes, see Chapter 2.

- ▶ **Hot shoe.** This is where you attach an accessory flash to the camera body. The hot shoe has an electronic contact that tells the flash to fire when the shutter is released. A number of other electronic contacts allow the camera to communicate with the flash, enabling the automated features of a dedicated flash unit such as the SB-700.
- ▶ **Stereo microphone.** The D5200 is the first Nikon camera to employ a built-in stereo microphone.
- ▶ **Speaker.** This small speaker allows you to hear the sound of the video playback. The fidelity isn't very good, but it will give you a close approximation of what the sound will be like.
- ▶ **Focal plane indicator.** This marks the plane where the front of the sensor lies. Nikon uses this as the mark of the closest focus length of a lens, and when measuring distances for manual flash calculations, this is where the measurement to the subject from the camera should start.

On top of the kit lens, you find the following three features:

- ▶ **Focus ring.** Rotating the focus ring allows you to focus the lens manually. The location of the focus ring varies by lens. With old AF (non-AF-S) lenses, and even older manual-focus lenses, you turn the ring to focus the lens. Newer AF-S lenses, such as the kit lens, have a switch labeled A and M. Select M before attempting to manually focus. If you don't switch it over first, you can damage the lens. Some higher-end AF-S lenses have a switch labeled A/M and M. With these lenses set to the A/M position, you can manually override the autofocus at any time without damaging the lens.

**CROSS REF** For more information on lenses and compatibility, see Chapter 4.

- ▶ **Zoom ring.** Rotating the zoom ring allows you to change the focal length of the lens. Prime lenses do not have a zoom ring.
- ▶ **Focal length indicators.** These numbers indicate (in millimeters) to which focal length your lens is zoomed.

## The back of the camera

The back of the camera is where you find the buttons that mainly control playback and menu options, although a few buttons control some of the shooting functions. Most of the buttons have more than one function. Additionally, you use many of them in conjunction with the Command dial or multi-selector. On the back of the camera, you also find several key features, including the all-important LCD screen and viewfinder.

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*Image courtesy of Nikon, Inc.*











### 1.2 The controls on the back of the camera.

The following are all of the controls on the back of the camera:

- **Vari-angle LCD monitor.** This is the most prominent feature on the back of the camera. This 3-inch, 930,000-dot liquid crystal display (LCD) is a very bright, high-resolution screen. The LCD is where you view all of the current camera settings and review your images after shooting. It also displays the video feed for Live View mode (**LV**) and video recording. The Nikon D5000 series cameras are the only ones that feature this type of display, which allows you to position and swivel the screen, which aids in composing photos at odd angles when shooting photos or video.

- ▶ **Viewfinder.** This is what you look through to compose your photographs. Light coming through the lens is reflected from a series of five mirrors (called a *penta-mirror*), enabling you to see exactly what you're shooting. The rubber eyepiece around the viewfinder gives you a soft place to rest your eye and blocks any extra light from entering the viewfinder as you compose and shoot your images.
- ▶ **Dioptric adjustment control.** Just to the right of the viewfinder (hidden behind the eyecup) is the diopter adjustment control. Use this control to adjust the viewfinder lens to suit your individual vision strength (not everyone's eyesight is the same). The best way to do this is to look at the viewfinder display and rotate the dial until the information in the viewfinder display is sharp.
- ▶ **AE-L/AF-L (  )/Protect (  ) button.** The Auto Exposure/Autofocus Lock (  )/Protect (  ) button locks the Auto Exposure (AE) and Autofocus (AF). You can customize this button in the Custom Setting menu (  ) f2 to provide AE/AF Lock, AE Lock only, AE Lock (hold), AF Lock only, or AF-ON. AE Lock (hold) locks the exposure when you press the shutter-release button once; the exposure remains locked until you press the button again or the shutter releases. AF-ON engages the AF in the same way that half-pressing the shutter-release button does. When the camera displays an image in Playback mode, press this button to lock the image and protect it from being deleted.

**CROSS REF** See Chapter 3 for more detailed information about the AE-L/AF-L button (  ).

- ▶ **Info edit button (  ).** Press this button once to bring up the information display on the LCD screen. Press it again to use the multi-selector to adjust the camera settings.
- ▶ **Command dial.** You use this dial to change a variety of settings, depending on the button with which you are using it. By default, it changes the shutter speed when the camera is in Shutter-priority auto (  ), Programmed auto (  ), and Manual exposure (  ) modes. When shooting in Aperture-priority auto mode (  ) it changes the aperture setting. It can also adjust exposure compensation and change the flash mode.
- ▶ **Playback button (  ).** Press this button to activate playback. By default, it displays the most recently taken photograph. You can also view other pictures by pressing the multi-selector left (  ) and right (  ).
- ▶ **Multi-selector.** This is another button that serves several purposes. When playing back images, you use it to scroll through the photographs you've taken or to view image information, such as histograms and shooting settings. When the D5200 is in Single-point AF (  ) or Dynamic-area AF (  ) mode, you can use the

multi-selector to change the active focus point. You can also use the multi-selector to navigate through the menu options.

- ▶ **OK button (OK).** When viewing menus, press the OK button (OK) to select the highlighted menu item. In Playback mode (▶), press the OK button (OK) to display the Retouch Menu (■) options. When actively shooting, press the OK button (OK) to reset the active focus point to the center.
- ▶ **Memory card access lamp.** This light blinks when the memory card is in use. Under no circumstances should you remove the memory card when this light is on or blinking. You could damage the card or your camera, and lose any information in the camera's buffer. If the buffer is full when you switch the camera off, the camera will stay powered on, and this button will continue blinking until the data finishes transferring from the buffer to the memory card.
- ▶ **Delete button (■).** If you are reviewing your pictures and find some that you don't want to keep, press this button to delete them. To prevent you from accidentally deleting images, the camera displays a dialog box asking you to confirm that you want to erase the picture. Press the Delete button (■) a second time to erase an image permanently.
- ▶ **Zoom in button (Q).** When reviewing your images or using the Live View option (Lv), you can press the Zoom in button (Q) to get a closer look at the details of your image. This is a handy feature for checking the sharpness and focus of your shot. When the camera is zoomed in, use the multi-selector to navigate around within the image. To view your other images at the same zoom ratio, you can rotate the Command dial. To return to full-frame playback, press the Thumbnail/Zoom out button (Q). You may have to press the Thumbnail/Zoom out button (Q) multiple times, depending on how much you zoomed in previously.
- ▶ **Thumbnail/Zoom out button (Q).** When reviewing images, press this button to switch from full-frame playback (that is, viewing the whole image) to viewing thumbnails. The thumbnail view displays 4, 9, or 72 images. You can also view images by calendar date. When you're viewing the menu options, press this button to display a help screen that explains the functions of that particular menu option. This button also zooms out of an image on which you have zoomed.
- ▶ **Menu button (MENU).** Press this button to access the D5200 menu options. There are a number of different menus, including Playback (▶), Shooting (■), Custom Setting menu (⚙), and Retouch (■). Use the multi-selector to choose the menu you want to view, and then press the OK button (OK) to enter the specific menu screen.
- ▶ **Rear Infrared receiver.** This receiver picks up the infrared signal from the optional wireless remote, the ML-L3.

## The front of the camera

While this is the main business end of the camera, there really aren't many controls here. The most important part is pointed right at you — the lens.



*Image courtesy of Nikon, Inc.*

### 1.3 The front of the Nikon D5200.

The features are as follows:

- ▶ **Lens release button.** This button disengages the locking mechanism of the lens, allowing the lens to be rotated and removed from the lens mount.
- ▶ **AF-assist illuminator.** This is an LED that shines on the subject to help the camera focus when the lighting is dim. The AF-assist illuminator only lights up when in Single Servo AF mode (**AF-S**) or Full-time-servo mode (**AF-F**) and the center AF point is selected. This LED also lights up when you set the camera to Red-Eye Reduction flash (⚡👁) using the camera's built-in flash.



- **Front Infrared receiver.** This receiver picks up the infrared signal from the optional wireless remote, the ML-L3.
- **Reflex mirror.** This is where the dSLR gets its name. The reflex mirror is used to reflect light coming through the lens up through the viewfinder so the photographer can see exactly what is coming through the lens. When making an exposure, the reflex mirror flips up, exposing the shutter; this opens and exposes the sensor to light.

## The left side of the camera










































On the left side of the camera (with the lens facing away from you, as you would normally hold it), you find the output terminals and a few other important buttons. The terminals connect accessories or link your camera to a computer or other external source for viewing. The terminals are hidden under a rubber cover that helps keep out dust and moisture.



*Image courtesy of Nikon, Inc.*

### 1.4 The left side of the Nikon D5200.

The features are as follows:

- ▶ **Flash pop-up/Flash mode (  )/Flash compensation button (  ).** When you're using the Programmed auto (  ), Shutter-priority auto (  ), Aperture-priority auto (  ), or Manual (  ) exposure modes, press this button to open and activate the built-in flash. Pressing this button and rotating the Command dial on the rear of the camera allows you to choose a flash mode. Depending on the Shooting mode (  ), you can choose from among the default Front curtain sync (  ), or the Red-Eye Reduction (  ), Red-Eye Reduction with Slow Sync (  ), Slow Sync (  ), Rear-curtain sync (  ), or Rear-curtain Slow Sync (  ) modes. After the flash pops up, press this button in conjunction with the Exposure Compensation button (  ) while rotating the Command dial to adjust the Flash Compensation (  ). This enables you to adjust the flash output to make the flash brighter or dimmer depending on your needs. When you shoot in the Automatic (  ) or scene modes, the flash automatically activates, but some flash sync modes aren't available in some scene modes. The following flash modes are available when using the scene modes:
  - **Automatic (  ), Portrait (  ), Child (  ), and Close-up (  ).** In these flash modes, you can use the default, Auto-flash (  ), Auto with Red-Eye Reduction (  ), or set it to Off.
  - **Night Portrait Scene mode (  ).** In this mode, you can select Red-Eye Reduction (  ), the default, Auto with Slow Sync (  ), or Off (  ).
  - **Programmed auto (  ), Aperture-priority auto (  ).** In these modes, you can select Red-Eye Reduction (  ), Red-Eye Reduction with Slow Sync (  ), Slow Sync (  ), or Rear-curtain Slow Sync (  ).
  - **Shutter-priority auto (  ), Manual (  ).** These modes allow you to use Red-Eye Reduction (  ) or Rear-curtain sync (  ).
- ▶ **Function button (  ).** You can set the Function button (  ) to a number of settings so that you can access them quickly, rather than searching through the menu options manually. You can set the button to change the ISO sensitivity (default), image quality, white balance, or Active D-Lighting settings via the Info display. Depending on which option you select, you can press the Function button (  ) and rotate the Command dial to change the settings. You can change the setting options in the Setup menu (  ) in Custom Setting menu (  ) f1.

**CROSS REF** For the complete list of options you can control with the Function button, see Chapter 3.

- ▶ **Lens mounting mark.** Most lenses have a white or red mark to help you align it, so you can then rotate and lock it into place. Use this white mark to line up with the mounting mark on the lens.
- ▶ **Microphone port.** You can use this port to connect an external microphone, which records sound for your videos at a better quality than you can get from the built-in microphone.
- ▶ **USB port/AV out port.** This is where you plug in the USB cable to attach the camera to your computer, and transfer images directly from the camera to the computer. You can also use the Nikon Camera Control Pro 2 software to control the camera from a computer. Using the included EG-CP16 A/V cable, you can also use this port to connect your camera to a standard-definition TV.
- ▶ **GPS/Accessory port.** This accessory port allows you to connect the optional Nikon GP-1 or a third-party GPS accessory for geo-tagging your images. This is also where you can connect an accessory remote, such as the Nikon MC-DC2, or the WR-R10 wireless remote control.
- ▶ **HDMI port.** This terminal is for connecting your camera to a high-definition (HD) TV or monitor. It requires a type C mini-pin HDMI cable, which is available at any electronics store.

If you purchased the camera with a kit lens, there are a few switches on it. (If you're using a different Nikon lens or one from a third party, the switches may be different or there may be none at all.)

The following switches are on the lens:

- ▶ **Autofocus switch.** You use this switch to choose between using the lens in Auto or Manual focus.
- ▶ **VR switch.** This switch allows you to turn Vibration Reduction (VR) on or off. When you're shooting in normal or bright light, it's best to turn VR off to reduce battery consumption.

## The right side of the camera

On the right side of the camera (with the lens facing away from you, as you would normally hold it), you find the memory card slot cover. To open the cover and insert or remove a memory card, slide it toward the back of the camera.



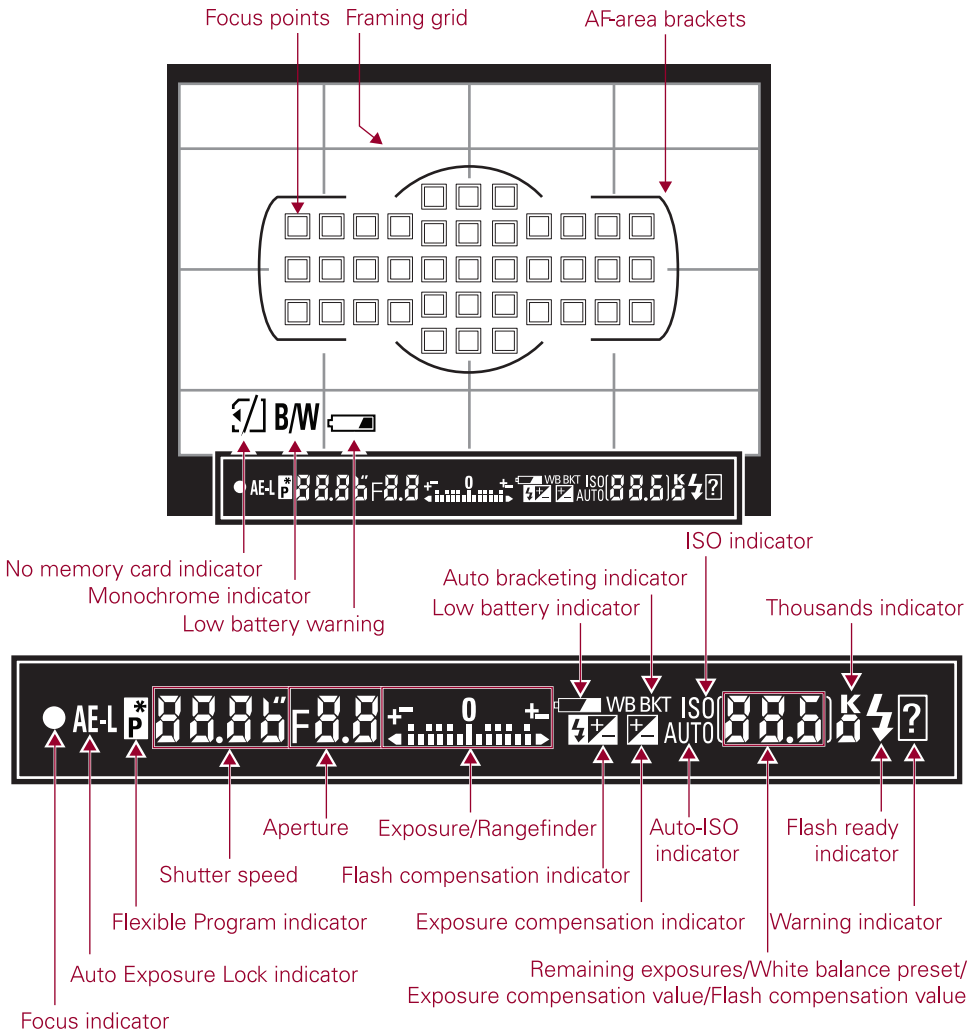
**1.5** The memory card slot.

## The Viewfinder Display

The viewfinder display is kind of like the heads-up display in a jet plane. It allows you to see a lot of useful information about the settings of the camera. This aids you in setting up the shot without having to take your eye away from the viewfinder to check on your settings. Most of the information also appears in the Information display, but it is less handy when you are looking through the viewfinder composing a shot.










Here is a complete list of the information you find in the viewfinder display:



















- **Framing grid.** When you turn on this option in Custom Setting menu (🔧) d2, a grid displays in the viewing area. Use the grid to line up elements of your composition to ensure they are straight (or not).



## 1.6 The viewfinder display.

- **Focus points.** The first thing you are likely to notice when looking through the viewfinder is a small rectangle near the center of the frame. This is your active focus point. Note that only the active focus point is shown full time when you use the Single-point ( $\square$ ), Dynamic-area ( $\square$ ), or 3-D tracking ( $\square$ ) autofocus settings. When you set the camera to Auto area AF mode ( $\square$ ), you don't see the focus point until you press the shutter-release button halfway and the camera achieves focus.

- ▶ **No memory card indicator** () . You see this icon if there is no memory card in the camera. This warns you that no images can be recorded.
- ▶ **Monochrome indicator** (B/W) . This icon appears only when you set the Picture Control to Monochrome (B/W).
- ▶ **Low battery warning** () . When the camera's battery is nearly depleted, this icon appears. If it is flashing, the battery is completely exhausted and you can't take any more pictures.
- ▶ **AF-area brackets** . These brackets indicate the boundaries of the autofocus points. The autofocus system does not recognize anything that lies outside the brackets. In the middle of the AF-area brackets on the top and bottom, there is a semicircle, which is the 12mm, center-weighted metering circle.
- ▶ **Focus indicator** . This green dot lets you know whether a scene is in focus. When the camera achieves focus, the green dot lights up; if the camera is not in focus, the dot isn't displayed.
- ▶ **Auto Exposure Lock indicator** () . When this indicator lights up, you know that the Auto Exposure is locked.
- ▶ **Flexible Program indicator** (P\*) . This indicator appears when you use the Programmed auto mode (P) and Flexible Program is activated.
- ▶ **Shutter speed** . This indicator shows how long the shutter is set to stay open, from 30 seconds (30") up to 1/4000 (4000) second. If the Function button is set to Auto area AF mode () , this shows one of the following autofocus mode settings: Auto Servo AF () , Continuous Servo AF () , or Single Servo AF () .
- ▶ **Aperture** . This indicator shows the current aperture setting. The words *aperture* and *f-stop* are used interchangeably. The aperture setting indicates the width of the lens opening and appears as a number (1.4, 2, 2.8, 4, 5.6, and so on).
- ▶ **Exposure Indicator/Exposure compensation display/Rangefinder** . When the bars are in the center, the camera is at the proper settings to get a good exposure. By default, when the bars are to the left, the image is underexposed, and when they are to the right, the image is overexposed (you can reverse this in Custom Setting menu [  ] f5). This option only appears when in Manual (M) mode, when Exposure Compensation () is applied, or if the camera is under- or overexposing at the current settings. This display also doubles as a digital rangefinder to help you when manually focusing lenses. If the display is on the left, the focus is falling in front of the subject; if the display is on the right, the focus is behind the subject. Rotate the focus ring until the rangefinder option is centered and you see a 0 above the innermost 2 rangefinder lines. The focus indicator also appears when the camera achieves focus.

- ▶ **Low battery indicator** () . This appears when the battery is low. When the battery is completely exhausted, this icon blinks and the shutter-release button is disabled.
- ▶ **Flash compensation indicator** () . When this indicator appears, Flash compensation is on. You adjust FEC by pressing the Flash mode button () in conjunction with the Exposure Compensation button () and rotating the Command dial.
- ▶ **Auto-bracketing indicator (BKT)** . This indicator appears when Auto-bracketing is engaged. Bracketing is set up in Custom Setting menu () e2. You can activate it in the Info Display menu.
- ▶ **Exposure compensation indicator** () . When you see this icon, exposure compensation is applied to the exposure setting. To set exposure compensation, press the Exposure Compensation button () and rotate the Command dial.
- ▶ **ISO indicator** () . If you set the Function button () to ISO (the default), this indicator appears when you press the button to let you know that the numbers you see are the ISO numbers. This also occurs when Custom Setting menu () d3 is set to On.
- ▶ **Auto ISO indicator** () . This indicator appears when you activate Auto ISO () to let you know that the camera is controlling the ISO settings. You can turn on Auto ISO () in the ISO sensitivity settings, located in the Shooting menu () .
- ▶ **Remaining exposures/White balance preset/Exposure compensation value/Flash Exposure Compensation value** . By default, this set of numbers lets you know how many more exposures can fit on the memory card. The actual number of exposures may vary according to file information and compression. When you press the shutter-release button halfway, the display shows how many exposures can fit in the camera's buffer before it is full and the frame rate slows down. The *buffer* is in-camera RAM that stores your image data while that data is written to the memory card. This also shows the White Balance preset recording indicator (**PRE**), as well as the Exposure compensation () and Flash compensation () values. When Custom Setting menu () d3 is set to On, the ISO setting appears here until you press the shutter-release button halfway; it then displays the number of exposures remaining in the buffer. When you connect the camera to a computer, *PC* appears here.
- ▶ **Thousands indicator** () . This indicator lets you know that there are more than 1,000 exposures remaining on your memory card.

- ▶ **Flash-ready indicator (🔦).** When this indicator appears, the flash, whether it is the built-in flash or an external Speedlight attached to the hot shoe, is fully charged and ready to fire at full power.
- ▶ **Warning indicator (❗).** When an error occurs with the camera, this icon flashes. Press the Help button (❓).

## The Information Display

The Information display (referred to as the Info display for brevity) shows all of the relevant shooting and camera information. You can also change some of the most important camera settings quickly in the Info display without having to enter the camera menu system, which can take up important time when shooting.

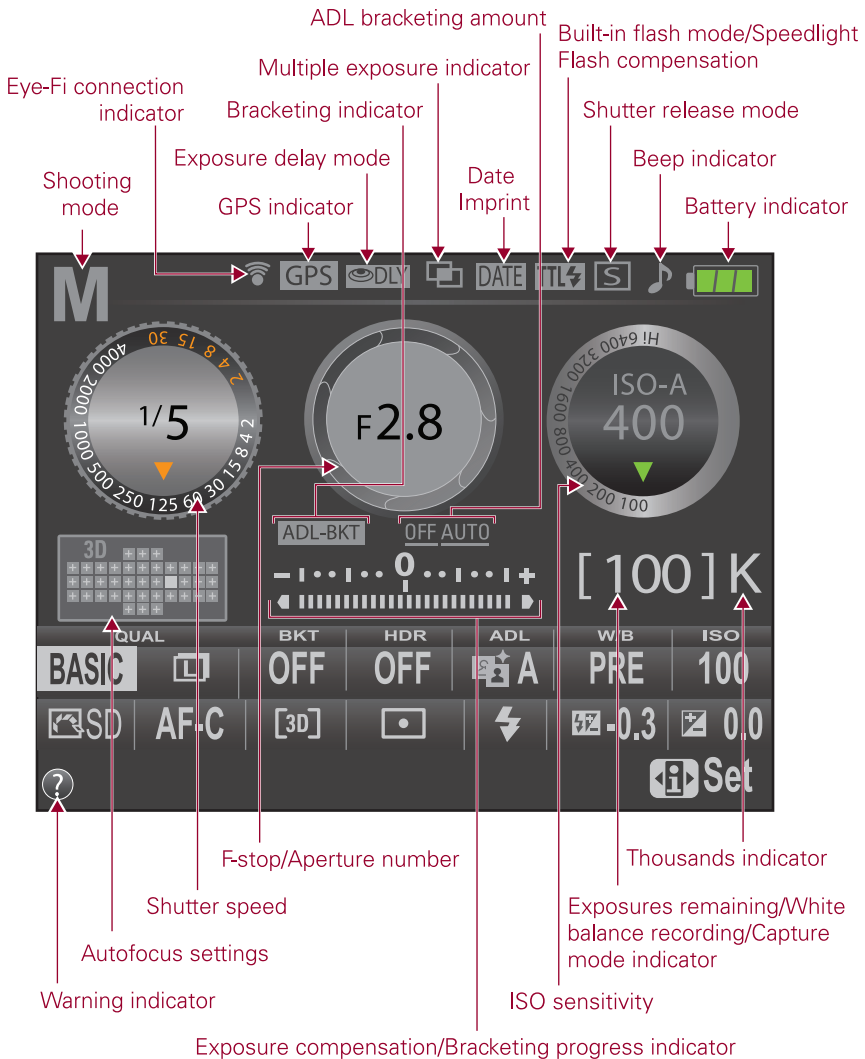
You activate the Info display by pressing the Info button (info), located on top of the camera directly behind the shutter-release button, or by pressing the Info edit button (i), located directly to the right of the viewfinder. Once the Info display is activated and appears on the monitor, press the Info edit button (i) to enter the Info edit menu, which allows you to change some key settings on the camera (see Figure 1.8). By default, when the Info edit display is active, using the multi-selector highlights the setting you want to change and the D5200 displays the Screen tips to guide you through what each setting does. Once the setting you want to access is highlighted, press the OK button (OK) to view the options for that specific setting.

The information remains on display until no buttons have been pushed for about 10 seconds (the default), or you can press the shutter-release or Info (info) buttons. This display shows you everything you need to know about your camera settings. Additionally, the camera has a sensor built in that tells it when you are holding it vertically, and the Info display is shown upright, regardless of which way you are holding your camera.

The main display area shows the following important settings:


















- ▶ **Shooting mode.** This indicator displays the Shooting mode that your camera is currently set to. This can be one of the scene modes (in which case it displays the appropriate icon), or one of the semiautomatic modes, such as Programmed auto (P), Shutter-priority auto (S), Aperture-priority auto (A), or Manual (M), in which case it displays the corresponding letter. This display changes when you rotate the Mode dial.





### 1.7 The Information display.

- **Shutter speed.** This shows the length of time that the shutter remains open during the exposure. This indicator displays the shutter speed setting using a graphic similar to what you might see on a vintage film camera. As the shutter speed changes, the dial appears to move as well.

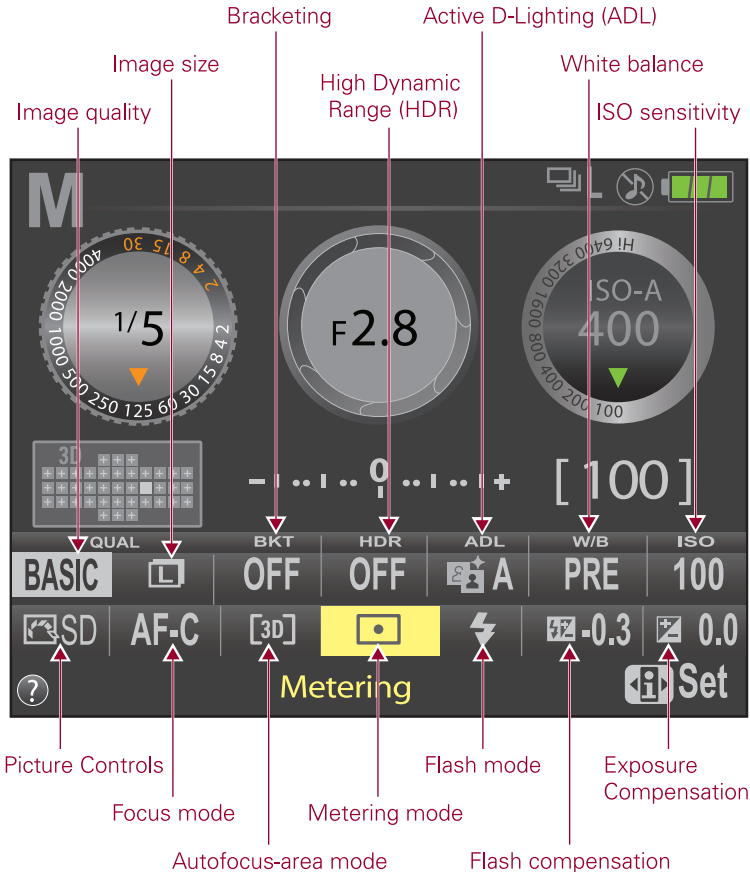
- ▶ **F-stop/Aperture number.** The terms aperture and f-stop are used interchangeably. *Aperture* is the opening in the lens that allows light into the camera. This indicator displays the aperture at which the camera is set. Lower numbers are wider openings that let in more light, and higher numbers are smaller openings that let in less light. As a visual aid, this displays what the aperture might look like if you were looking inside the lens.
- ▶ **ISO sensitivity.** This indicator shows you the ISO sensitivity settings. If the camera is set to ISO-Auto, you notice that ISO-Auto blinks above the sensitivity number.
- ▶ **Autofocus settings.** This area displays info about the autofocus settings, the Auto area AF mode () , as well as the active focus point when the camera is in Single Servo autofocus mode (). It also displays the active focus and surrounding points when in the Dynamic-area autofocus () and 3-D tracking () modes.
- ▶ **Bracketing indicator.** When the Auto-bracketing feature is engaged, this indicator shows the type of bracketing that is being applied: Autoexposure () , Active D-Lighting () , or White balance () . The auto-bracketing choices are made in Custom Setting menu () e2.
- ▶ **ADL bracketing amount.** When auto-bracketing is set to Active D-Lighting, this indicator displays the amount of ADL bracketing.
- ▶ **Exposure/Exposure compensation/Bracketing progress indicator.** When shooting in Manual exposure mode () , this is displayed and used as a light meter to assess your exposure. When in any other mode, including scene and effects modes, this is only displayed if the settings indicate an under- or overexposure. When in Programmed auto () , Shutter-priority auto () , or Aperture-priority auto () mode, this icon only appears when exposure compensation () is applied. When auto bracketing is on, this is a visual display of the progress of the bracketing series.
- ▶ **Exposures remaining/White balance recording () /Capture mode indicator ().** By default, this displays the approximate number of photos that can be recorded to the memory card. When the camera is making a White balance preset, this area displays that icon (). When the camera is connected to a computer using Nikon Camera Control Pro 2, the Capture mode indicator () appears.

- ▶ **Thousands indicator (K).** When a memory card is inserted that allows more than 1,000 images to be recorded, this icon appears.

On the top bar of the Information display, the following indicators display some of the less critical settings, as well as some options related to additional accessories:

- ▶ **Eye-Fi connection indicator.** This indicator is displayed when an optional Eye-Fi wireless SD card is being used.
- ▶ **GPS indicator.** When an optional Nikon GP-1 device or another compatible GPS device is connected via the accessory port this indicator is shown. When the indicator is flashing, the GPS unit is searching for a signal. If a signal connection is being maintained, the indicator stays on.
- ▶ **Exposure delay mode.** When Custom Setting menu (d5) is turned on, the mirror is raised for 1 second before the shutter opens to allow the camera vibration to stop before taking a photo to avoid blur. When the delay mode is activated, this indicator is displayed.
- ▶ **Multiple exposure indicator.** When the Multiple exposure setting is activated, this indicator appears. You can set Multiple exposure in the Shooting menu (c).
- ▶ **Date imprint.** When the camera is set to add the time and date to the image, this indicator is shown. The date option is turned on in Custom Setting menu (d6).
- ▶ **Built-in flash mode/Speedlight Flash compensation.** When the built-in flash is activated, the exposure mode, Manual (M) or TTL (TTL), is displayed here. It also appears if you attach a Speedlight and apply Flash compensation with the controls on the Speedlight, rather than with those on the camera.
- ▶ **Release mode.** This displays the Release mode (e) to which the camera is set.
- ▶ **Beep indicator.** This icon has two versions: Beep on (b) and Beep off (b). One or the other appears at all times. You set this option in Custom Setting menu (d1).
- ▶ **Battery indicator.** This indicator shows the amount of power left in the battery, but lacks any other in-depth information.


The Information edit display is where you go to change your most commonly used settings. Press the Info edit button (**i**) twice to access these settings and change them quickly. Use the multi-selector to highlight the desired option, and then press the OK button (**OK**) to view the settings options.















**1.8 The Info edit display.**

The following options are available in the Info edit menu:

- **Image quality.** This is where you set the image quality file type. You can set the camera to record RAW files, JPEG files, or RAW+JPEG simultaneously. This is also where you set the JPEG compression. The JPEG compression options are Fine, Normal, and Basic.

- ▶ **Image size.** When you record JPEGs, you can set the camera to record different files sizes. This option isn't available when shooting RAW files only.
- ▶ **Bracketing.** This option shows the bracketing settings options. When you set Custom Setting menu (  ) e2 to Auto Exposure bracketing (AE), the bracketing increment appears here. When you set it to White Balance bracketing (WB) or Active D-Lighting (ADL), this shows whether auto bracketing is on or off.
- ▶ **High Dynamic Range (HDR).** This allows you to activate the camera's built-in HDR option. You can set it to Auto, Extra High, High, Normal, Low, and Off. The HDR setting allows the camera to capture two exposures and blend them together. This creates an image with a greater amount of range from the shadows (dark) to highlight (bright) areas of the image.
- ▶ **Active D-Lighting (ADL).** This option allows you to capture more detail in the highlight and shadow areas when shooting in high-contrast situations. This is similar to HDR, but it only uses one exposure and the effect is much more subtle. You can set Active D-Lighting (ADL) to Auto, Extra High, High, Normal, Low, and Off.
- ▶ **White balance.** This is where you select the white balance settings.
- ▶ **ISO sensitivity.** This option changes the ISO sensitivity settings.
- ▶ **Picture Controls.** Picture Controls affect the coloring, saturation, sharpness, and other qualities of the images. You change them using this menu option.

**CROSS REF** For more detailed information about Picture Controls, see Chapter 2.

- ▶ **Focus mode.** Use this menu option to change the focus mode from Auto Servo (  ), Single Servo (  ), or Continuous Servo (  ).
- ▶ **Autofocus area mode.** This option changes the autofocus area mode. You can choose from the following options: Single-point AF (  ), Dynamic area 9-point (  ), Dynamic area 21-point (  ), Dynamic area 39-point (  ), 3-D tracking (  ), or Auto area AF (  ).
- ▶ **Metering mode.** You change the metering options here. You have the following three options: Matrix (  ), Center-weighted (  ), or Spot (  ) metering.
- ▶ **Flash mode.** This is where the flash mode options are set. The options differ depending on the selected exposure mode.

- ▶ **Flash compensation.** You can set the Flash compensation (⚡⎓) here. Flash compensation increases or decreases the amount of light emitted by the flash. This option is only available in the Programmed auto (P), Shutter-priority auto (S), Aperture-priority auto (A), or Manual (M) exposure modes.
- ▶ **Exposure compensation.** This is where you can adjust the exposure compensation (⎓) to fine-tune the exposure. This option is only available in the Programmed auto (P), Shutter-priority auto (S), Aperture-priority auto (A), or Manual (M) exposure modes.