

Canon EOS-1DS MkIII

HANDLING & EASE OF USE This heavyweight beast is made to keep going even when it's treated roughly. It's big, solid and heavy – in other words it's a working tool designed for pros who are going to put it through a punishing routine on a regular basis. Despite the weight, it is comfortable to hold thanks to the large grip on the right side and on the base, which is used when holding the camera vertically.

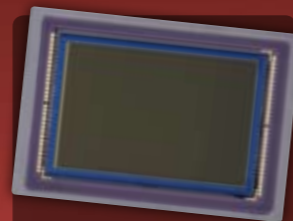
Like all its pro models, this Canon's push-button controls are unlike those found on consumer EOS models. While the control set-up will most likely prove daunting to DSLR newcomers, pro Canon users will be right at home with the top-plate controls.

The rear array of buttons have seen a number of changes to make it easier and quicker to access major features and this updated system is pretty intuitive and along with the clean menu system on the large 3in LCD screen, makes camera operation quick and relatively simple for experienced SLR photographers. The viewfinder is excellent – the magnification of 0.76x and coverage of 100% makes for accurate composition and the screen is bright and clear, with exposure information along its base and an exposure scale, frame counter and battery indicator on the right. In summary, the MkIII handles beautifully. **SCORE 22/25**

EF LENS RANGE

The EOS-1DS MkIII is compatible with over 50 EF lenses, but cannot be used with the EF-S lenses designed for EOS models using the smaller APS-C sensors. The full-frame sensor means that there is no effective focal length increase, which will be particularly appealing for wide-angle lovers

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FULL-FRAME CMOS

(Shown actual size)
The 21.1-megapixel CMOS sensor measures approx. 36x24mm, the same as a 35mm film frame. Each pixel is 6.4x6.4 microns. Its pixel resolution is far higher than other 35mm-based DSLRs and more like that of a medium-format digital back.

WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT FULL-FRAME?

- ✓ The bigger the sensor, the larger the pixels. Bigger pixels generally allow for higher ISOs, wider dynamic range and sharper results.
- ✓ Full-frame sensors don't have a crop factor with lenses, which is especially advantageous for those who use wide-angle lenses.

START-UP TIME / SHUTTER LAG

It's worth noting how quick this camera is in operation. Switch it on and it's ready to shoot in 0.2 seconds, while shutter lag is a mere 55 milliseconds!



IMAGE DETAIL: This ornate door is the entrance to London's Natural History Museum. The image below is a magnified view from the centre of the above shot and reveals the detail that can be captured. Exposure: 1/180sec at f/8 (ISO 100).

