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# Filters Explained

Quick Reference Guide



### SCREW IN FILTERS VS FILTER SYSTEMS

Filters come in two types: 1) individual screw in filters, CPL filters and UV filters are often purchased like this and 2) filter systems like LEE, Cokin and Nisi. Filter systems are often more economical in the long run and can be used across many lenses and sizes simply, by buying a new lens ring.



### UV FILTER

UV filters were once used to reduce haze in colour film photography. However, they no longer offer any optical benefit and are more often used to offer some protection for your lens against scratching. They are being slowly phased out by lens protectors.



### CIRCULAR POLARIZING FILTER

A CPL filter is one of the most versatile filters in photography and is used to remove reflections from water and glass, as well as increasing contrast and separation. This filter will also increase saturation and can be used to compensate for dust, pollen and haze in the atmosphere. It can be used across many genres of photography.



### ND FILTER

An ND filter is used to create slow shutter speed effects, like misty water or streaking clouds and can have a dramatic effect on an image. They come in many different densities or darkness levels that allow for longer exposures, even during bright daylight hours.



### ND GRAD FILTER

Similar to an ND filter, ND Grad filters are used to create balanced exposures that allow for more sky detail. They are an absolute must for any budding landscape photographer.

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