

SMILE LITE MDP TIPS & TRICKS

MOBILE DENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The instructions of use supplied with your device is the best learning platform for using your Smile Lite MDP.

It is therefore very important to read them before first use, and read them again after you have made your first tests.

This «tips & tricks» guide has the aim of allowing you to save time at discovering some great features.



Smile Line ☺
made in switzerland



The word of the inventor of Smile Lite MDP: Prof. Louis Hardan



Dear colleagues, dear friends and users of Smile Lite MDP,

After some 5 years of experiments with the use of smartphones in dental photography, I had the opportunity to start the development of Smile Lite MDP with the community Styleitaliano and the Swiss company Smile Line SA.

It is a huge pleasure and pride for me to introduce you a tool that development was 100% focused on dental photography with smartphones (MDP = mobile dental photography).

Smile Lite MDP is a total revolution for dental photography because of its extreme simplicity of use, the professional results it is possible to reach and also because of its economical aspect.

When making the comparison with traditional photography with an SLR (single lens reflex) camera, the Smile Lite MDP can be described as a mini photo-studio that is able to cover the major needs of the user for :

- A ring flash
- A dual flash
- Photography with softbox
- Photography with a polarizing filter
- Photography using softbox and polarizing filter combined
- Short videos

Further in this document, you'll discover a few examples of images with the relevant explanations. I have absolutely no doubt on the fact that this will constitute an excellent basis for allowing you too the production of highly professional pictures. This is today on my opinion a need for communication with patient and with the lab and of course for your own patients' documentation !

At this point, I would like to draw the attention of everyone on the fact that photography, generally speaking, is a vast topic and it is therefore complicate to establish one precise protocol. It is the reason why more and more practical courses are proposed everywhere. Best results will be reached of course with the experience, by being patient and proceeding with tests. I invite you to be curious, to enjoy playing with light and shadow and discover the phenomenal possibilities of the cameras on today's smartphones.

Wishing you a lot of pleasure at your first steps with Smile Lite MDP !

Sincerely,

Prof. Louis Hardan

DIFFERENT LIGHTING POSSIBILITIES

Central LEDs

The picture on the left was shot with the central LEDs at full power (lateral LEDs off). The result is similar to what would have been achieved with a ring flash. A Flexipalette contrastor was used as a black background, along with lip retractor.

Image with polarizing filter

The picture on the right was shot with central LEDs at full power and the polarizing filter (lateral LEDs off). A Flexipalette contrastor was used as a black background, along with lip retractor.

Lateral LEDs

The lateral LEDs (left and right) are at full power (central LEDs off). The result is similar to what would have been achieved with dual flashes. A Flexipalette contrastor was used as a black background, along with lip retractor.

Details in the body are obvious.

Image with polarizing filter and diffusers

This picture was shot in a «hybrid technique», combining the use of the polarizing filter and the diffusers (all LEDs on – don't hesitate to play with the power of lateral light). This kind of image is extremely complex to get with an SLR camera. A Flexipalette contrastor was used as a black background, along with lip retractor.

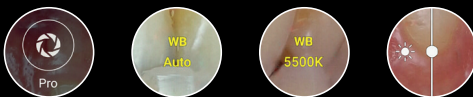
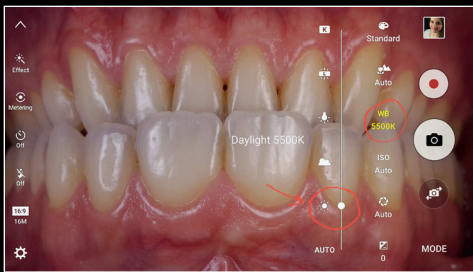
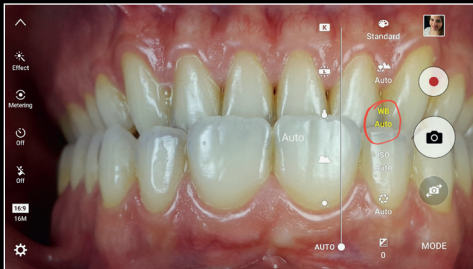
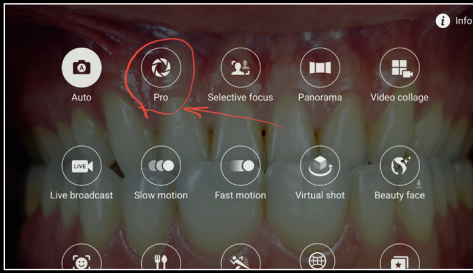
Image with diffusers

This picture was shot with lateral LEDs at full power with the diffusers on (central LEDs off). A Flexipalette contrastor was used as a black background, along with lip retractor. The diffused light provides a shadow effect which allows you to see surface texture on the teeth and the gum.

Image of posterior area

The picture on the right was shot with all LEDs at full power, in order to get enough illumination in the posterior area. The use of retractors is of course mandatory. Depending on the case, we'll choose to work with a Flexipalette contrastor, a PhotoCAD retractor and/or an occlusal mirror.





PRO Mode

Each model of smartphone is equipped with a different camera that has a different interpretation of colors. Depending on the model used, it is advised to switch to the PRO-Mode on the camera app in order to get colors that are as close as possible to the reality.

Samsung devices

(the 3 screenshots on the left)

The native camera app allows the user to switch from AUTO to PRO-Mode. When choosing the PRO-Mode, it is possible to adjust the white balance. If needed, our advice is to change the « auto » white balance to « daylight » [symbolized by a little sun or the figure 5500k].

iPhones or other smartphones that do not allow access to the settings of the white balance

Apple, with its native camera App for iPhones doesn't allow access to the settings of the white balance. There are however many camera apps available on AppStore that allow you to work with your iPhone in a professional way. The app «Camera+ » is an example among many that allows you numerous settings and fine tuning (depending on the model of iPhone, sometimes images shot without WB modification are very acceptable).

For other Android devices that may not have any PRO-Mode, Google Play proposes many «expert » or « pro » camera apps too.

Photo shooting distance

Ideal distance may vary depending on the model of smartphone used. Train and make your own experiments for appreciating what is best for your smartphone. This allows you also a better control of light in order to avoid over exposure.

In average, 15cm is the suggested distance between camera and teeth to avoid teeth distortion.

Shooting angle for an anterior view

For all anterior views of the teeth, the smartphone must be as parallel as possible to the vestibular side of the teeth, in order to avoid distortion on the picture.

Anterior view with polarizing filter

Only the central LEDs should be on and at maximum power (important: lateral LEDs are off). For optimal results, other strong sources of light must be avoided (pay attention to outside light/window, scialytic, ceiling light).

Light settings

Basic setting recommended for a picture of anterior teeth is lateral LEDs at full power and central LEDs turned off. It is obvious that in some cases, depending on teeth axis or positionning, it will be recommended to turn on central LEDs at first or second power step. Or even at full power for pictures showing vestibular side of anterior and posterior teeth (orthodontics documentation).

Generally speaking it is advised to make your own tests of light setting, with and without diffusers for a better understanding of the possible results.

Never use the native flash of your smartphone: it mistakes brightness and color.

Photo shooting

Being at an average of 15cm from the patient and after having selected the type of light, zoom in on the phone's display in order to see only the teeth and gum. If you feel that light effect is not pleasant, then move forward or backward for the best possible effect. Then tap on the screen for a central focus and shoot.

Recommended accessories

Diffusers and polarizing filter are recommended accessories as they allow you greater possibilities for your pictures.

Flexipalette contrastors and PhotoCAD retractors are today a must for professional pictures.

High quality mirrors (front side mirror) for occlusal views of the teeth.

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