

Making Everything Easier!™

Canon® EOS Rebel T4i/650D

FOR
DUMMIES®

Learn to:

- Navigate the camera's menus, buttons, and touchscreen controls
- Take control of exposure and focus to capture amazing images
- Easily download, print, and share your photos

IN FULL COLOR!

Julie Adair King

Author of Digital Photography For Dummies



Canon® EOS Rebel T4i/650D For Dummies®

Visit

www.dummies.com/cheatsheet/canoneosrebel4i650d to view this book's cheat sheet.

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by Julie Adair King



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About the Author

Julie Adair King is the author of many books about digital photography and imaging, including the best-selling *Digital Photography For Dummies*. Her most recent titles include a series of *For Dummies* guides to popular Nikon, Canon, and Olympus cameras. Other works include *Digital Photography Before & After Makeovers*, *Digital Photo Projects For Dummies*, *Julie King's Everyday Photoshop For Photographers*, *Julie King's Everyday Photoshop Elements*, and *Shoot Like a Pro!: Digital Photography Techniques*. When not writing, King teaches digital photography at such locations as the Palm Beach Photographic Centre.

An Ohio native and graduate of Purdue University, she now resides in West Palm Beach, Florida, and does not miss Midwestern winters even a little bit (although she very much misses friends who have not yet made the journey south).

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Introduction

In 2003, Canon revolutionized the photography world by introducing the first digital SLR camera to sell for less than \$1,000, the EOS Digital Rebel/300D. And even at that then-unheard-of price, the camera delivered exceptional performance and picture quality, earning it rave reviews and multiple industry awards. No wonder it quickly became a best-seller.

That tradition of excellence and value lives on in the EOS Rebel T4i/650D. Like its ancestors, this baby offers the range of advanced controls that experienced photographers demand plus an assortment of tools designed to help beginners be successful as well. Adding to the fun, this Rebel also offers the option to record full high-definition video, plus an articulating, touchscreen monitor that's not only useful but also just plain cool.

The T4i/650D is so feature-packed, in fact, that sorting out everything can be a challenge, especially if you're new to digital photography or SLR photography, or both. For starters, you may not even be sure what SLR means, let alone have a clue about all the other techie terms you encounter in your camera manual — resolution, aperture, white balance, and ISO, for example. And if you're like many people, you may be so overwhelmed by all the controls on your camera that you haven't yet ventured beyond fully automatic picture-taking mode. That's a shame because it's sort of like buying a Porsche Turbo and never pushing it past 50 miles per hour.

Therein lies the point of *Canon EOS Rebel T4i/650D For Dummies*. In this book, you can discover not only what each bell and whistle on your camera does but also

when, where, why, and how to put it to best use. Unlike many photography books, this one doesn't require any previous knowledge of photography or digital imaging to make sense of concepts, either. In classic *For Dummies* style, everything is explained in easy-to-understand language, with lots of illustrations to help clear up any confusion.

In short, what you have in your hands is the paperback version of an in-depth photography workshop tailored specifically to your Canon picture-taking powerhouse. Whether your interests lie in taking family photos, exploring nature and travel photography, or snapping product shots for your business, you'll get the information you need to capture the images you envision.

A Quick Look at What's Ahead

This book is organized into four parts, each devoted to a different aspect of using your camera. Although chapters flow in a sequence that's designed to take you from absolute beginner to experienced user, I also tried to make each chapter as self-standing as possible so you can explore the topics that interest you in any order you please.

Here's a quick look at what you can find in each part:

Part I: Fast Track to Super Snaps

This part contains four chapters that help you get up and running. Chapter 1 offers a brief overview of camera controls and walks you through initial setup and customization steps, including how to use the nifty touchscreen monitor. Chapter 2 explains basic picture-taking options, such as shutter-release mode and image quality settings, and Chapter 3 shows you how to use the camera's simplest exposure modes, including Scene Intelligent Auto and Creative Auto. Chapter 4 explains the ins and outs of using Live View, the feature that lets you compose pictures on the monitor, and also covers movie recording.

Part II: Working with Picture Files

As its title implies, this part discusses after-the-shot topics. Chapter 5 explains picture playback features, and Chapter 6 guides you through the process of transferring pictures from your camera to your computer and then getting pictures ready for print and online sharing. You can also get help with converting pictures shot in the Canon Raw file format (CR2) to a standard format in Chapter 6.

Part III: Taking Creative Control

Chapters in this part help you unleash the full creative power of your camera by moving into semi-automatic or manual photography modes. Chapter 7 covers the all-important topic of exposure; Chapter 8 offers tips for manipulating focus and color; and Chapter 9 provides a quick-reference guide to shooting strategies for specific

types of pictures: portraits, action shots, landscape scenes, close-ups, and more.

Part IV: The Part of Tens

In famous *For Dummies* tradition, the book concludes with two top-ten lists containing additional bits of information and advice. Chapter 10 takes a look at ten more ways to customize your camera, and Chapter 11 offers a review of features that, though not found on most “Top Ten Reasons I Bought My Rebel T4i/650D” lists, are nonetheless interesting, useful on occasion, or a bit of both. Closing things out is a glossary that serves as a quick reference to the terminology you encounter as you explore digital photography and your camera.

Icons and Other Stuff to Note

If this isn't your first *For Dummies* book, you may be familiar with the large, round icons that decorate its margins. If not, here's your very own icon-decoder ring:



↙ A Tip icon flags information that saves you time, effort, money, or another valuable resource, including your sanity.



↙ When you see this icon, look alive. It indicates a potential danger zone that can result in much wailing and teeth-gnashing if it's ignored.



✓ Lots of information in this book is of a technical nature — digital photography is a technical animal, after all. But if I present a detail that’s useful mainly for impressing your geeky friends, I mark it with this icon.



✓ This icon highlights information that’s especially worth storing in your brain’s long-term memory or to remind you of a fact that may have been displaced from that memory by another pressing fact.

Additionally, I need to point out a few other details that will help you use this book:

- ✓ **Other margin art:** Replicas of some of your camera’s buttons and onscreen graphics also appear in the margins of some paragraphs and in some tables. I include these images to provide quick reminders of the appearance of the button or option being discussed.
- ✓ **Software menu commands:** In sections that cover software, a series of words connected by an arrow indicates commands you choose from the program menus. For example, if a step tells you, “Choose File⇒Export,” click the File menu to unfurl it and then click the Export command on the menu.
- ✓ **Choosing camera menu and screen options:** In many cases, you can select a camera setting by tapping its name or symbol on the touchscreen or by using the *cross keys* — those four keys that surround the Set button — to highlight the name or

icon and then pressing the Set button. To avoid having to spell all that out every time I describe a camera function that can be accessed either way, I use some verbal shorthand and simply tell you to choose the setting in question.

- ✓ **Book updates:** Occasionally, I need to make updates to technology books. If this book does have technical updates, they will be posted at www.dummies.com/go/canoneosrebel4i650updates.

eCheat Sheet

As an added bonus, you can find an electronic version of the *For Dummies* Cheat Sheet at www.dummies.com/cheatsheet/canoneosrebel4i650d. The Cheat Sheet contains a quick-reference guide to all the buttons, dials, switches, and exposure modes on your camera. Log on, print it out, and tuck it in your camera bag for times when you don't want to carry this book with you.

Practice, Be Patient, and Have Fun!

To wrap up this preamble, I want to stress that if you initially think that digital photography is too confusing or too technical for you, you're in very good company. *Everyone* finds this stuff a little mind-boggling at first. Take it slowly, experimenting with just one or two new camera settings or techniques at first. Then, every time you go on a photo outing, make it a point to add one or two more shooting skills to your repertoire. With some time, patience, and practice, you'll soon wield your

camera like a pro, dialing in the necessary settings to capture your creative vision almost instinctively.

So without further ado, I invite you to grab your camera and a cup of whatever it is you prefer to sip while you read, and start exploring the rest of this book. Your Rebel T4i/650D is the perfect partner for your photographic journey, and I thank you for allowing me, in this book, to serve as your tour guide.

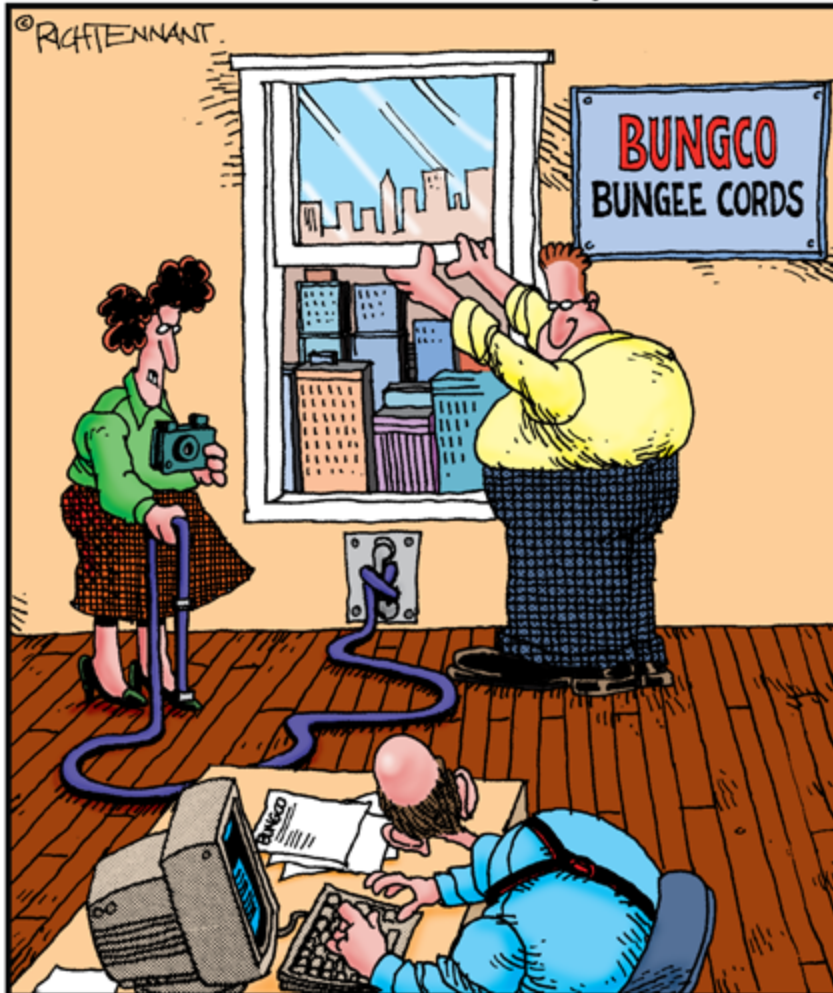
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Part I

Fast Track to Super Snaps

The 5th Wave

By Rich Tennant



"Come on, Walt-time to freshen the company Web page."

In this part . . .

Making sense of all the controls on your camera isn't a task you can complete in an afternoon — or, heck, in a week or maybe even a month. But there's no reason not to take great-looking pictures today. By using the point-and-shoot exposure modes, you can capture terrific images with very little effort. All you do is compose the scene, and the camera takes care of almost everything else.

This part shows you how to take best advantage of your camera's most-automatic photography modes and also addresses some basic setup steps, such as adjusting the viewfinder to your eyesight and getting familiar with the camera menus, buttons, and dials. In addition, chapters in this part explain a few picture-taking settings that come into play in any exposure mode — and show you how to use your camera's Live View and movie-making features.







1

Getting the Lay of the Land



In This Chapter

- ▶ Using an SLR lens
- ▶ Adjusting the viewfinder and monitor
- ▶ Practicing touchscreen gestures