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photography

Three Flash Tips For Natural Light Photographers

(That you won't find on Google...)

#1. SET YOUR FLASH TO MANUAL

ETTL is like using automatic mode on your camera! It takes over and sets everything for you, resulting in images that can be either overexposed or so dark that you can't tell you had a flash in the first place.

Set your flash to Manual mode,
that way YOU control your flash-
Not your flash controlling you!



#2. LOWER YOUR FLASH POWER

Now that you have control of your flash, lower the intensity a notch- or five! Flash should rarely be used at full power, and never when it your On Camera flash.

Flash power is expressed in stops, similar to aperture and shutter speed. Try lowering your flash power to 1/16 or even 1/32 and move on to tip #3.

#3. USE YOUR BOUNCE CARD!

Don't ever point a flash at someone!
Seriously. Don't. Do. It.
Only do that if you want that harsh,
deer in the headlights look that pops
into your mind when you think of
using flash.

Instead, point your flash straight up at
the ceiling, and use your bounce card
to gently push light toward your subject.
This will result in softer, more dispersed
light and less harsh shadows.

Sure, using one on camera flash is not an ideal lighting setup for natural light images, but the next time someone asks you to grab a quick photo of them at a dark reception or family event, try these three tips out to UP your flash game!