BLACK WALL - ONE LIGHT

Location: Curve Studio C   PORTRAIT
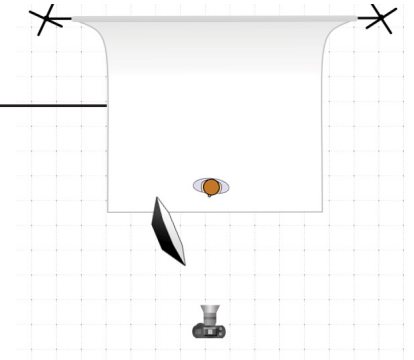
■ SETUP

- Subject about 5-6ft from wall
- Studio light about 9ft from wall
- Camera framing your subject

● TIP

Place your light on the left or right of your subject depending on the side of the face they favor, or you can place it on the side where they part their hair. When in doubt, try both.

■ SETTINGS

- **Camera:** ISO-100, f/6.3(aperture), Shutter 1/160, Focal length 50mm, white balance-Flash(5500K)
- **Studio light:** -3f on Studio Light

● TIP

Your portrait may be brighter or darker, depending on your camera. Adjust the power left or right on the studio light to get the desired look for your style.
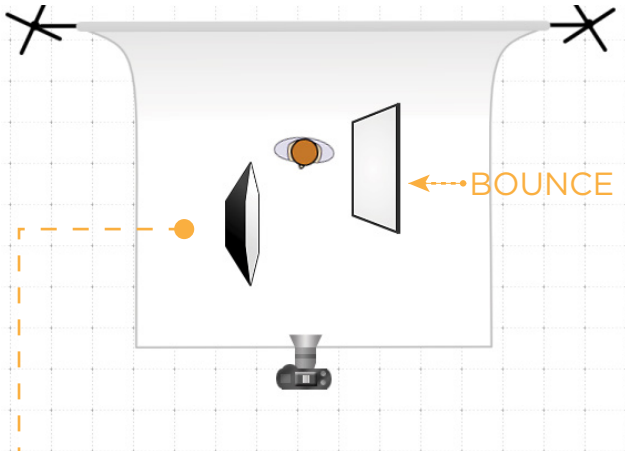
CONTROL PANEL ON STUDIO LIGHT

Setup Guide

Portrait on black with one light and bounce | Setup for 3/4 or full body portraits

■ SETUP

- Subject about 2-3ft from wall
- Studio light about 5-6ft from wall
- Camera framing your subject

BOUNCE

TIP Studio light should be facing straight across the face of the subject. This is how we eliminate spill onto the background and keep it nice and black. The bounce reflects the light back on the subject filling in the shadows (see below)

■ SETTINGS

- **Camera:** ISO-100, f/6.3(aperture), Shutter 1/160, Focal length 50mm, white balance-Flash(5500K)
- **Studio light:** -3f on Studio Light

No Bounce

With Bounce

FINAL THOUGHTS

The key to black backdrops is keeping your subject light off the background so it goes dark. You can do this by pulling your subject away from the wall or shooting the light across the subject and filling in the shadows with a bounce.

This is meant to be a simplified tutorial giving you the basics so you can get shooting and having fun while spending less time worrying about the technical side of lighting. It's best to plan a shoot with friends before clients so you can nail down what works best for you.

We hope this helps. If you have any questions feel free to email Nik at learning@nikdegraaf.com or comment on the social platform of your choice and tag @nikdegraafphoto in the comments.

Thanks for being a part of GR Studio Space