



Neutral Density Light Control

Neutral Density Filters are a must for any shooter regardless of your image acquisition format. Because of the challenges new sensors have presented to us, knowing what type of Neutral Density filter to use on what camera is now more important than ever before. (Please refer to our technical sheet on Full Spectrum IRNDs). However, controlling the overall brightness of your image for your required shooting "T" or "F" stop is not the whole story.

Locations, whether interior or exterior, present challenges and variations in how natural light needs to be controlled. This is where knowing and having a diverse range of other neutral density filters to effect light control and environments are invaluable.

In today's world of "Fixing it in Post", the fundamental physics of light's transmission onto your acquisition format has not changed. Producing a correctly or creatively light balanced image full of the image data you require is not only cost effective but also time saving.

This is why Tiffen has a full range of Neutral Blended Ratio Attenuators and Soft and Hard Edge Color-Grad® Neutral Density filters to combat whatever your location has to throw at you.

NBRA (Neutral Blended Ratio Attenuator):

This (graduated) filter allows you to control light across the entire image without, in most cases, the need to find a suitable edge to be set against. Since the graduated edge is across the filter, light gently rolls off over your image. Its use and look is dependent on your focal length. NBRA's also lend themselves to camera movement compared to Soft or Hard Edge Grads. NBRA's combined with Color-Grad® filters such as Straw, Antique Suede, Coral or any warm color, will give a very pleasing and effective sunrise or sunset effect. This combination reduces over exposure in the entire image starting in the sky, or reversing the combination will warm the sky and the NBRA will cut light in the foreground like a real sunrise or sunset when the sun is behind a horizon or building. The same effect may also be more effective with a full cover color.

Soft Edge Color-Grad® Neutral Density:

Soft Edge Grads are a must for establishing wide angle location shots where large over exposed sky prevails, which have no data without the use of a ND filter. However, Soft Edge Grads can be used in an array of locations and environments, such as interior shots with excessive light coming in from large windows.

Hard Edge Color-Grad® Neutral Density:

Hard Edge Grads can be used in a diverse range of technical and creative modes. The normal use for Hard Edge Grads is to produce the look of a Soft Edge Grad on a long focal length lens. Hard Edge Grads can also be used to quickly drop off light on a standard or shorter focal length lens in what is commonly known as architectural use.

These filters are manufactured using Tiffen's proprietary lamination process, which means each effect is captured between two pieces of glass. This allows Tiffen to grind and polish both surfaces providing the cinematographer with perfect parallelism and worry free handling. These filters are available in 0.3, 0.6, 0.9 and 1.2 densities in standard motion picture filter sizes.

