

The **Shutter Speed** is how long the sensor is exposed to light. It's measured in fractions of a second (or in seconds for very long exposures).



Very high shutter speeds (e.g. 1/1000) will freeze motion – things that are moving very fast will freeze in place. Spilling water will separate into drops.

The image at left was shot at 1/1500th.
(28mm, f6.7, ISO400)



This image was taken on the London underground. Here the very slow shutter speed has given a nice painterly effect, but usually the result is just a blurred mush.

- Very slow shutter speeds will blur motion
- Slow shutter speeds are hard to hold due to camera shake. Camera shake is what happens when you cannot hold the camera still for the entire time the shutter is open. Obviously, the longer the shutter is open the harder it is to hold the camera steady.