The Power of Great Portraits is in Your Hands

Make a closer connection with your subject. Introducing the Tamron SP 85mm F/1.8 lens with Vibration Compensation.

SP 85mm F/1.8 Di VC USD (Model F016)
For Canon, Nikon and Sony* mounts
Di: For APS-C format and full-frame DSLR cameras
* Sony mount model without VC
The Perfect Lens for Portraiture

Just as a painter instinctively reaches for the right brush, a portrait artist reaches for an 85mm lens. The focal length is ideal for producing a pleasing image with true-to-life facial features in accurate proportion. While a wide-angle lens makes close objects appear larger than they are, and longer telephotos compress and flatten features, the 85mm medium telephoto is just right. Plus the working distance between you and your subject is perfect for making the personal connection that’s often missing when using a zoom.

The Tamron SP 85mm F/1.8 is the world’s first* 85mm fast-aperture lens with image stabilization. Its unique design allows us to include our VC (Vibration Compensation) system—without the lens becoming too large or heavy. What’s more, our SP 85mm F/1.8 delivers edge-to-edge viewfinder brightness for ease of composition and superior low-light performance. The fast aperture of the F/1.8 also offers the perfect balance of subject sharpness and bokeh, that dreamy blur which separates your portrait subject from the background.

* Among 85mm F/1.8 interchangeable lenses for full-frame DSLR cameras as of January 2016. Data source: Tamron


To meet and surpass the needs of modern cameras with high resolution and high pixel densities, the SP 85mm F/1.8 employs LD and XLD low dispersion glass elements to correct critical aberrations. Superb optical design makes color fringing inconspicuous, achieving sharp and clear image quality at any illumination level. eBAND and BBAR coatings work in concert with wide-ranging anti-reflection techniques to increase light transmission, reduce flare and ghosting, and to prevent reflections inside the lens barrel.

The SP 85mm F/1.8 is designed to provide tack-sharpness of the subject for stunning clarity and flawless image quality. At the same time, Tamron’s design philosophy embraces the notion that photographers—particularly portrait photographers—use background blur, bokeh, as a creative element to concentrate emphasis on the subject. Through numerous simulations conducted for wide-ranging blur effects, such as a gentle, melting transition from the focused to the out-of-focus areas, Tamron has created a soft and natural blur effect that achieves perfect harmony with the inescapable sharpness.

Hold Steady with Vibration Compensation

The SP 85mm F/1.8 is the world’s first* lens with a fixed focal length of 85mm and a fast aperture of F/1.8 that’s equipped with the VC system. Camera movement—often too minute to be perceptible to the photographer—is the leading cause of unpleasant photographs. In addition, newer DSLR cameras with higher pixel densities are more susceptible to subtle camera shake.

This technology makes it possible to take photographs handheld in dim light and to make optimal use of slower shutter speeds and increased depth-of-field without extreme increase of the camera’s sensor sensitivity (ISO equivalent). This is especially important in portraiture because lighting is often low and the photographer needs the spontaneity of not using a tripod or disruptive flash units.

* Among 85mm F/1.8 interchangeable lenses for full-frame DSLR cameras as of January 2016. Data source: Tamron

Resists Moisture, Repels Smudges

Moisture-Resistant Construction, including special seals at areas of possible ingress, provides added protection. A highly durable Fluorine Coating, applied to the surface of the top element, prevents condensation and repels smudges, grime and fingerprints.

Expand Your Options with TAP-in Console

The future is here. Now you can update firmware, customize autofocus positions and adjust the mechanical setup and preferences of the SP 85mm F/1.8 by simply attaching it to the TAMRON TAP-in Console and connecting it via USB to a personal computer.
The SP Series Prime Lens Lineup
(35mm, 45mm, 90mm Macro and 85mm)

SP series lenses are built to achieve optimal performance—including functionality, handling and physical design. All deliver maximum sharpness, clarity and optical fidelity and are compatible with both full-frame and APS-C type DSLRs. Every SP lens features VC to combat camera shake.

SP 85mm F/1.8 Di VC USD (Model F016)

Model ......................... F016
Focal Length ................... 85mm
Max. Aperture .................. F/1.8
Angle of View (diagonal) ....... 28°33’ for full-frame format
Max. Diameter .................. Φ84.8mm
Length* ......................... 91.3mm (3.6 in) Canon
Weight  ......................... 700g (24.7 oz) Canon
Aperture Blades ................ 9 (circular diaphragm**) 
Min. Aperture................... F/16
Stabilization Performance ...... 3.5 Stops (CIPA Standards Compliant)
Standard Accessories .......... Lens hood, Lens caps
Compatible Mounts .......... Canon, Nikon, Sony***

Specifications, appearance, functionality, etc. are subject to change without prior notice.

* Length is the distance from the front tip of the lens to the lens mount face. ** The circular diaphragm stays almost perfectly circular up to two stops down from maximum aperture. *** Sony mount model without VC.

Note: Information valid as of Jan. 2016. Information in this publication is subject to change at any time without prior notice.

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Management on Quality and Environment
Tamron is certified with international standards ISO 9001 for quality and ISO 14001 for environmental management at its headquarters, domestic sales offices, China plant as well as two production facilities in Asahikawa, Japan, and is fully committed to striving for continued and sustainable improvement at all levels and facets of its business operations.

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