

Blackmagic Design Camera Control Panel

Basic camera exposure/color adjustment

Use this procedure to make basic iris and gain adjustments from the Blackmagic Design camera control panel. Always work on the correct camera section, make small changes while watching the camera image.



Panel overview with four camera-control sections.

Important: Do not change shutter, ND, color correction, white balance, or other controls unless specifically instructed.

Prepare the Correct Camera Section

Each vertical section controls one assigned camera. Confirm the camera before touching iris or gain.



A single camera section showing the camera number, iris controls, and exposure controls.

- 1. Check the camera image.** Look at the camera-control monitor or multiview and identify the camera that needs correction.
 - 2. Locate the matching panel section.** Use the camera number and section display to confirm you are working on the intended camera.
 - 3. Activate only the section you need.** Press PANEL ACTIVE if the section is inactive. Confirm the button is no longer red before making an adjustment.
 - 4. Watch the image continuously.** Make small adjustments and stop as soon as the exposure looks correct and matches the other cameras.
- Never assume all four sections are active or assigned the same way. Verify the camera number every time.**

Adjust the Iris

The iris controls the amount of light allowed through the lens. Use the large joystick-style knob for iris adjustment.



Left: large iris knob and travel slot. Right: iris readout and PANEL ACTIVE status.

1. **Confirm the correct camera section is active.** The PANEL ACTIVE button should not be red while you are making the adjustment.
2. **Move the large knob gently up or down.** Watch the camera image while moving the knob. The iris value on the panel changes as the lens opens or closes.
3. **Stop when the exposure is correct.** Use small movements. Match the camera to the other cameras and avoid sudden brightness changes on air.

Iris Quick Reference

What you see	Control	Operator response
Iris needs correction	Large iris knob	Move the knob up or down while watching the monitor.
Image looks correct	No further change	Stop adjusting and leave the value where it is.

Adjust Gain and Deactivate the Panel

Gain Adjustment

If a camera is too dark or too bright and gain needs to be corrected, use the MASTER GAIN up and down arrows shown beside the gain display.



MASTER GAIN display and up/down arrow buttons.

- **Camera too dark:** press the up arrow to increase gain one step at a time.
- **Camera too bright:** press the down arrow to decrease gain one step at a time.
- **Watch the monitor** after every step. Higher gain can add visible image noise, so use only the amount needed.

Deactivate Every Section After Use

When the panel is not being used, it must not remain active. Deactivate all four camera sections individually.



Inactive state: the PANEL ACTIVE button on each section is red.