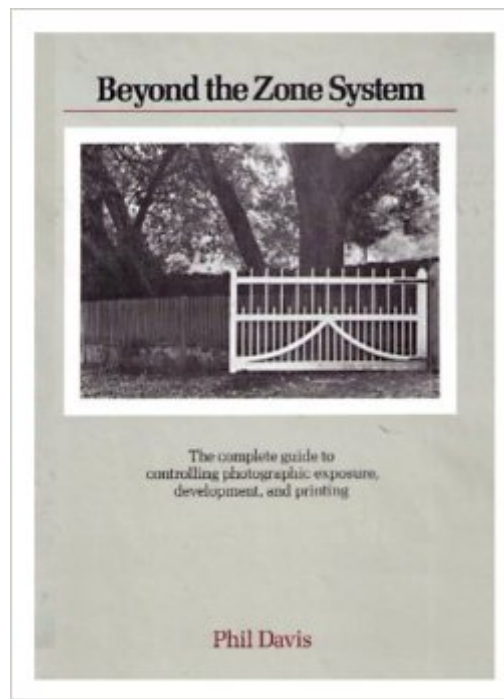


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# Beyond The Zone System



## Synopsis

This fourth edition of *Beyond the Zone System* makes the science of photographic sensitometry both accessible and useful to interested photographers. It will appeal to any serious photographer interested in knowing how the materials and processes of black-and-white photography work. Instead of describing rote procedures to be followed blindly, this book provides the basis for understanding what needs to be done and why. This book relates theory to practice in a way that promotes a true partnership of science and art. *Beyond the Zone System* bridges the gap between the more theoretical aspects of the photographic process and the popular empirical procedures used by many photographers in the attempt to predict and control the quality of their photographs in practice. This book is intended primarily for photographers who use large-format cameras and black-and-white sheet film, but the basic information about how the B&W photographic materials and processes work will be useful to users of any B&W film format. *Beyond the Zone System*, 4th ed. will appeal to any serious photographer interested in knowing how the materials and processes of black-and-white photography work. Instead of describing rote procedures to be followed blindly, this book provides the basis for understanding what needs to be done and why. This book relates theory to practice in a way that promotes a true partnership of science and art. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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## Customer Reviews

First of all, I rarely see a book to which I'd give five stars, but this certainly deserves them! Besides that, the greatest praise I can give to a book is to make it as stained and tattered as my copy is! This means I've carried it with me everywhere so I would have it to read every spare second I had. I think the name of the book is misleading. Had I known what this book was really about, I would have gotten it a long time ago. The Zone System (the seminal reference is probably *THE NEGATIVE* by Ansel Adams) is fairly straightforward, and some authors hash it to death and try to make it more complicated than it is. I thought this book was another "make something simple more complicated" books like that, but it's not. It might better be called "Sensitometry for Photographers." It is a technical book on sensitometry - characterizing how photographic film and paper respond to exposure and development - and how to use that information to your benefit. It answers questions I've been asking for a long time, such as, "How is the ISO speed determined for film," and, "Why do B&W photographers rate their film at a speed lower than ISO?" The book eventually does describe the Zone System and explains technically what it is doing, but doesn't try to complicate the system. The book discusses how the light meter determines exposure, and how to make a densitometer from a spot meter. It also introduces a simple and handy "incident zone system" using an incident meter that provides good exposure without a well-developed sense of visualization on the part of the photographer. Be warned: This book IS technical in nature and involves a lot of graphs.

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