

# DJI Mini 4 Pro-Essential Camera Settings for Cinematic Footage

## 1. Turn Off Digital Enhancements

By default, the Mini 4 Pro applies digital sharpness and noise reduction, which can make the footage look artificial. Turning these off results in a cleaner, more cinematic look.

- Go to Camera Settings > Style
- Reduce Sharpness and Noise Reduction to -2

## 2. Switch from AUTO to PRO Mode

To manually adjust settings for full creative control:

- Turn on the Mini 4 Pro & controller
- Select Video mode
- Press the AUTO button in the bottom-right to switch to PRO mode

## 3. Set White Balance to Manual

Auto white balance can cause unwanted shifts in colour during a shot. To avoid this:

- Turn Auto White Balance OFF
- Set White Balance to 5000K - 5500K (adjust based on time of day & lighting conditions)
- Use Auto White Balance temporarily to get a reference, then lock it in manual mode

## 4. Best Resolution & Frame Rate for Cinematic Footage

For the most cinematic look:

- Resolution: 4K (highest detail & quality)
- Frame Rate: 24fps (industry standard for film-like motion)
- Shutter Speed: 1/48s (or closest option, 1/50s)

## 5. Adjust for Region (NTSC vs. PAL)

- US (NTSC Region): 24, 30, 60 fps (matches 60Hz power system)
- UK (PAL Region): 25, 50 fps (matches 50Hz power system)
- For most, 24 fps is best for a cinematic feel, even in PAL regions.

## Slow Motion Settings

For smooth slow-motion shots:

- 48fps → Slow down to 24fps (50%) for a cinematic slow-mo effect
- 60fps → Slow down to 30fps (50%) for smooth playback
- 60fps → Slow to 24fps (40%) for a dreamy, slow-motion effect

## 6. Use D-Log M for Maximum Dynamic Range

D-Log M is the flattest colour profile, preserving details in highlights and shadows. This provides flexibility for colour grading and achieving a professional, film-like look.

- Enable D-Log M in Colour Profile Settings
- Use 'Colour Display Assist' to preview a corrected image while filming

## 7. Keep ISO as Low as Possible

Low ISO reduces digital noise and maximizes image quality. The Mini 4 Pro performs best at ISO 100.

- ISO 100 (ideal for daylight conditions)
- Increase ISO only in low-light situations (but avoid excessive noise)

## 8. Follow the 180-degree Shutter Rule

For smooth, natural motion blur:

- 24fps → 1/48s shutter speed
- 25fps → 1/50s shutter speed
- 30fps → 1/60s shutter speed
- 60fps → 1/120s shutter speed

If it's too bright, use **ND filters** instead of increasing shutter speed.

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## Cinematic Composition Tips

To elevate your footage beyond just good settings, focus on composition, movement, and lighting.

### 1. Use the Rule of Thirds

Enable Gridlines > Rule of Thirds in camera settings. This helps with balanced framing:

- Landscapes: Position the horizon along the upper or lower third.
- Subjects Below the Horizon: Tilt the gimbal down to keep the sky in the upper third.
- Moving Objects: Place them on the left or right third to add direction and narrative.

### 2. Capture Smooth & Controlled Movements

- Use slow, deliberate stick movements to avoid jerky motion.
- Use ActiveTrack (60 fps) for smooth tracking shots.
- Enable Cruise Control to maintain a consistent speed without stick adjustments.

### 3. Leverage Leading Lines & Depth

- Use roads, rivers, and paths to guide the viewer's eye.
- Frame shots with foreground, midground, and background for depth.

### 4. Film During Golden Hour

- Best light: Sunrise & Sunset (soft, warm tones and dramatic shadows)
- Set White Balance to 6000K for warmer tones.

### 5. Master Cinematic Camera Movements

- Slow Tilts & Pans: Gradual upward tilts reveal landscapes dramatically.
- Orbiting Shots: Use Point of Interest mode to circle subjects smoothly.
- Parallax Effect: Move sideways while keeping the subject centred for depth.
- Bird's Eye Shots: Top-down views create abstract, striking visuals.
- Slow Ascending/Descending Shots: Adds a sense of discovery.

### 6. Plan Your Opening & Closing Shots

- Opening Shot: Fly forward into a location to reveal it.
- Closing Shot: Fly backwards to exit, creating a natural ending.