

Firmware Upgrade

Supplement to Mastering the Nikon D7000

This supplemental information is intended for readers of *Mastering the Nikon 7000* only. Please do not distribute this extra material to anyone other than a legitimate owner of the book. *Mastering the Nikon D7000* is available at the following website: <http://www.rockynook.com/book/203/mastering-the-nikon-d7000.html>

Upgrading Your Camera's Firmware

From time to time, Nikon will release a firmware upgrade for your camera. You may want to install this upgrade because it often fixes bugs, speeds things up, and even adds features to your camera. There have been two firmware upgrades made available by Nikon as of July 6, 2011. You should choose the latest one. It is not necessary to do the first and then the second. The second update contains the first.

My upgrade instructions below the firmware update information sections contain images from firmware update D7000_101.bin. You can follow the instructions for either update. Read everything over carefully before doing an update. If you feel nervous, please take your camera to a service facility and pay to have the upgrade done. It isn't hard though, so you should have no problems if you do it yourself.

The primary steps that must be done to prepare for the upgrade are as follows:

1. Download the upgrade
2. Unzip the .exe file by double-clicking it (it's a self-uncompressing ZIP file). Firmware update 1.01 is called F-D7000-V101W.exe. Firmware update 1.02 is called F-D7000-V102W.exe (for Windows users).
3. Get the file ending in ".bin" and copy it to a freshly formatted memory card's root directory. Do not put the file into a DCIM folder, or any other folder on the memory card. It must be in the root for the camera to find it.
4. Insert the memory card into slot 1 of your D7000 (remove any other cards first).
5. Follow the instructions under FIG 1's screen samples below.

Information on Firmware Update "D7000_0101.bin" (First update)

Reason for update:

- Bright spots were sometimes noticeable with live view mode or movie recording of especially dark scenes or subjects. Occurrence of this issue has been reduced.

Link to download the Firmware Update 1.01 (first update):

http://support.nikon.com.mx/app/answers/detail/a_id/17110/~/d7000-firmware%3A-a%3A1.01,-b%3A1.01

Information on Firmware Update "D7000_0102.bin" (Second update)

Reason for update:

- Noise reduction processing is now performed with shutter speeds slower than 1 s (previously 8 s) when **On** is selected for **Long Exp. NR** in order to reduce the bright spots that occur with shooting of still images at slow shutter speeds.
- An issue that prevented the opening of movies recorded with the D7000 in certain movie editing software applications has been resolved.
- When the camera was connected to a television via the A/V cable and a movie was played back, playback was normal the first time but when the movie was played two or more times, the sound was played back at extremely low volume and seemed to play intermittently. This issue has been resolved.

- When white balance for RAW images created using the camera's image overlay function was fine tuned with Capture NX 2 or ViewNX 2, the images acquired a magenta cast. This issue has been resolved.
- An issue that caused **0.00"** to be displayed for heading information when the GP-1 GPS unit was connected to the camera has been resolved so that ---.-- is now displayed.
- When **Viewfinder virtual horizon** was the role assigned to the Fn button or the preview button and the applicable button was pressed, errors in the virtual horizon indicator were displayed. This issue has been resolved.
- The following errors in Help displays have been resolved.
 - o "Maximum sensitivity" help was displayed for shooting menu>**ISO sensitivity settings>On or Off** help.
 - o German help displayed "Select focus priority for AF-S mode." for Custom Settings>**a1: AF-C priority selection help**.

Link to download the Firmware Update 1.02 (second update):

http://support.nikonusa.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/17327/~/d7000-firmware%3A-a%3A1.02,-b%3A1.02

Computer System Requirements to Download These Firmware Versions:

Windows:

- Microsoft Windows 7 Home Basic
- Microsoft Windows 7 Home Premium
- Microsoft Windows 7 Enterprise
- Microsoft Windows 7 Professional
- Microsoft Windows 7 Home Ultimate
- Microsoft Windows Vista Home Basic
- Microsoft Windows Vista Home Premium
- Microsoft Windows Vista Business
- Microsoft Windows Vista Enterprise
- Microsoft Windows Vista Ultimate
- Microsoft Windows XP Professional
- Microsoft Windows XP Home
- Microsoft Windows 98 Second Edition (SE)
- Card reader or computer equipped with built in Secure Digital (SD) memory card slot required

Macintosh:

- Mac OS 10.1.5 - 10.6.7
- USB interface (built-in only)
- Card reader or computer equipped with built in Secure Digital (SD) memory card slot required

Confirming the firmware version:

1. Turn on the D7000
2. Press the MENU button and select **Firmware Version** from the setup menu. The camera's firmware version will be displayed.
3. Turn off the D7000

Here are the screens and steps for actually doing a firmware update (see FIG 1):

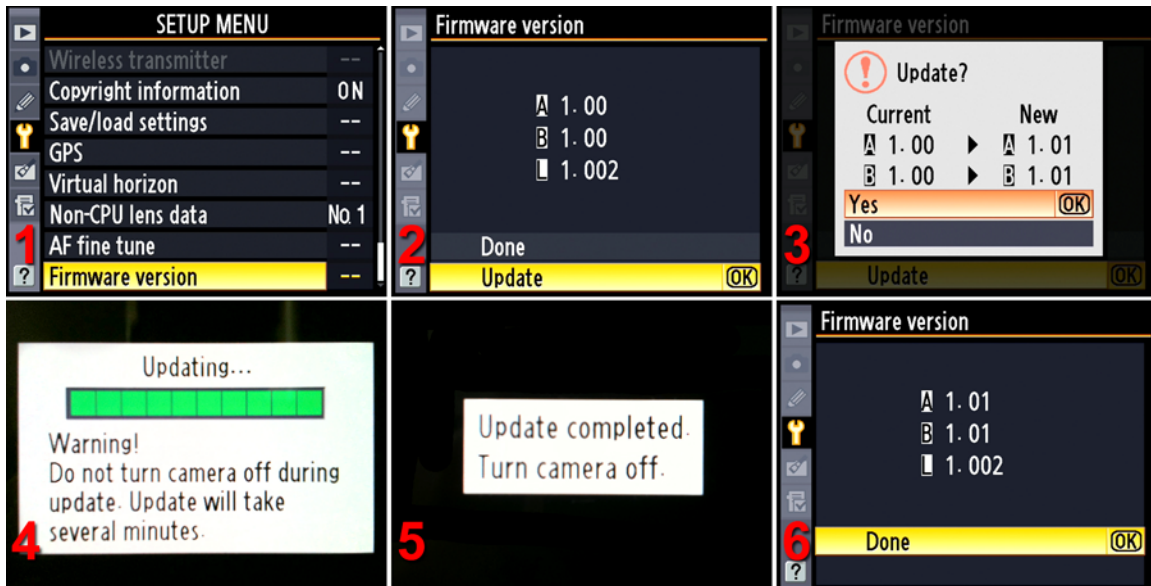


FIG 1 – Firmware version update screens

1. Make a note of the pre-upgrade A and B **Firmware version** numbers so that you can validate the update after the process is finished (FIG 1, image 2).
2. Unzip the update **F-D7000-V101W.exe** (or F-D7000-V102W.exe) by double-clicking the self-unzipping .exe file. It is NOT necessary to do both. Just use the latest. I include info on both because some people prefer to only do specific updates. A folder called "D7000Update" will be created inside the folder containing the update .exe file. Inside the folder you will find D7000_0101.bin or D7000_0102.bin, according to which version of the update you are doing.
3. Turn off the camera and remove the memory card. Insert it into your computer's memory card reader. Transfer any picture files.
4. Take the card out of the computer and put it back into the camera and format it. Then, put it back into the computer reader. The point is we want to get the pictures off the card, format the card in camera, and then put it back into the computer to copy files to it.
5. Now copy the firmware update files (i.e., D7000_0102.bin) into the root folder (top level) of your camera's memory card. Do not put it in the DCIM or MISC folders! It must be in the root of the memory card in order for the camera to find it.
6. Make sure that you have a fully charged battery powering the camera.
7. Turn off the camera and insert the memory card containing the firmware update file.
8. In FIG 1, image 2, you'll notice that there is now an **Update** choice that appears below the **Done** selection.
9. Select **Update** and scroll to the right (see FIG 1, image 2).
10. Choose **Yes** from the menu and press the **OK button** (see FIG 1, image 3). **DO NOT TURN THE CAMERA OFF DURING THE UPGRADE PROCESS OR IT MAY NEED TO BE SENT TO NIKON BEFORE IT WILL WORK AGAIN!** You will receive instructions on when it is safe to turn the camera off.

11. You'll see the update taking place with a screen like the one in FIG 1, image 4. The green progress bar will move from left to right while the update is happening. Do not touch the camera while this update is taking place.
12. The update process will be finished when the progress bar reaches the right side. A final screen will pop up informing you, *Update completed. Turn camera off* (see FIG 1, image 5). It is now safe to turn the camera off and back on. When it comes back on, the new firmware will be running.
13. Check the **Firmware version** again to see if the update is in place (see FIG 1, image 6).
14. Format the memory card containing the upgrade files immediately.
15. Take pictures with your camera's new firmware in place.

The steps above are merely an outline of the more comprehensive Nikon instructions that come with each firmware update. The steps could change, so please check the Nikon instructions and understand them before starting the process.

My Recommendation: There's a lot of discussion on Internet forums about whether or not it's a good idea to install firmware updates. Personally, I always update my cameras as soon as a new firmware version is available. Nikon publishes the major features covered by the update on their website. Do a Google search on "firmware update Nikon D7000" and then look for the **<http://support.nikontech.com>** website. You'll find upgrade information there, including downloadable files and instructions.

The reason I always upgrade my camera is because I figure that Nikon is not going to publish every little bug it has fixed in each firmware upgrade, and I want all mine fixed. I've never yet—in nine years of upgrading the firmware on my Nikons—had a failure or problem. I just followed the published directions and all was fine. It's an easy process!