

50 mm f/1.4 AF- Nikkor D	<p>5 (DX:D1X)</p> <p>5 (DX:D2X, D200)</p> <p>4.5 (FX: D3, D3X)</p> <p>IR:</p> <p>2 (DX: D200 modified)</p>	<p>This AF lens is encased in a dreadful plastic barrel, but manages to focus quite smoothly with my preferred manual operation. It delivers crisp and sharp images even set wide open, and by f/4 the sharpness is all you could wish for. Image contrast and detail hold up well to f/11 and just begin to lose "bite" at f/16. Vignetting is minimal on the D1X and so is the geometric distortion, which is of the barrel type. Mounted on an F5, however, the barrel distortion may be a bit more visible.</p> <p>The lens focuses quite close, but when shooting up close the images loses some of its crispness. Not entirely unexpected for such a fast lens.</p> <p>Fast lenses tend to be susceptible to flare and the 50/1.4 AF is no exception, so you should shield the front element from being hit by direct sunlight if at all possible. Ugly ghosts are easily invoked if there are any dust specks left on the front element, so keeping the lens immaculately clean is mandatory.</p> <p>The rendition of the out-of-focus areas can be nice when aperture is large, but tends to be much harsher when the lens is stopped far down. You definitely need to watch the background rendition using the DOF preview .</p> <p>With the FX:D3, performance is excellent but I have reduced the rating a trifle since corner fall-off is slightly more in evidence on this camera.</p> <p>IR: Definitely not recommended for IR use since there is a nasty central hot spot.</p>
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