

## Light Painting

### 1. [Wikipedia definitions](#)

Light painting is a photographic technique in which exposures are made by moving a hand-held light source or by moving the camera. The term light painting also encompasses images lit from outside the frame with hand-held light sources.

### 2. [Digital After Dark](#)

**A:** Using a controlled light source to illuminate an object that the camera records.

**B:** Directing a light source into the lens for the camera to record.

**C:** Purposely moving the camera while it is recording a light source.

The key terms here are “controlled,” “directing,” and “moving.” If you photograph a nighttime street scene and accidentally knock over your tripod during the exposure, you’ll record objects being illuminated by lights, light rays coming directly into the camera, and light streaks from the moving camera, but you won’t be light painting. To do that, you must purposely move the lights or the camera during the exposure.