

Camera step tests

The following are typical stages in a camera step test.

They are intended as a general guide to give you an understanding of the common steps.

step/comments and examples

1. select range of originals for testing

- 'average' pages
- different coloured paper
- pages where text is very light (low contrast), or very dark (high contrast)
- pages using pencil or different coloured inks

2. film each item at increasing steps of exposure levels



3. note voltage level or shutter speed of each exposure step

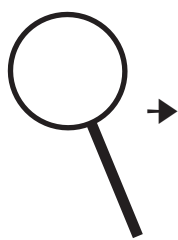
- A** level 1
- A** level 2
- A** level 3

4. process film

- process the film to manufacturer's standards
- (see chart 3)

5. check images for best density

- a densitometer should be used to obtain the most precise readings (check relevant standards)



- 1
- 2
- 3

Densitometer



6. note best levels and match them with similar items

e.g.

- cream pages → level 1
- cream pages → level 2
- cream pages → level 3

- note the exposure levels that give the best density
- the exposure levels which result in images with the best densities are then selected for filming similar items