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Inside Canon EOS Utility 3 software

© George Cairns

January 2015

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The release of Canon's Digital Photo Professional (DPP) 4 software in mid-2014 was accompanied by an updated version of its EOS Utility software – version 3. EOS Utility 3 acts in tandem with DPP 4 and enables you to download images from a camera's memory card to your computer, remotely control the camera to capture new images or edit camera settings, such as the image owner's name. You can then organise and process the imported images in Digital Photo Professional 4. EOS Utility 3 features improvements to form and function and the increased integration between Canon's two free apps helps to streamline the shooting, importing and editing process. Indeed, you can now launch EOS Utility 3's Live View window and remote camera shooting panel from within the Digital Photo Professional workspace, which allows the two packages to work together as a tighter team. CPN writer George Cairns takes a closer look at the capabilities of EOS Utility 3 and how it works alongside DPP 4...

Remote control via a WiFi connection



© George Cairns [Enlarge image](#)

Screen showing pairing an EOS camera over a WiFi/LAN connection. By pairing a WiFi-compatible Canon camera with EOS Utility 3 you can enjoy wirelessly controlling your camera while it is in range of your WiFi network.

If you have a WiFi-enabled camera, such as the Canon EOS 6D, then you can enjoy using EOS Utility 3's remote shooting capabilities to capture and import images into Digital Photo Professional 4 without physically tethering your camera to a computer. In this article we'll look at how the EOS Utility 3 software enables you to control a wide range of camera functions from the comfort of your computer screen, whether the wirelessly-linked camera is in a studio or even outdoors... if your router's WiFi signal will stretch that far!

By controlling a tethered camera using the EOS Utility you can fine-tune colour, exposure and focus during the shoot, which will reduce your image processing time at a later date. By changing your camera's aperture remotely during a shoot you can overcome focus problems that would be hard to fix using Digital Photo Professional. We'll show you how EOS Utility 3 software enables you to take control of a range of camera functions...

You can, of course, tether your Canon to your computer via a cable and use EOS Utility 3 to take control of your camera, but by using a WiFi link you will have much more freedom. You'll need to enable WiFi on your Canon camera (if it supports this feature) and connect it to your home network (which is a similar process to connecting a smart phone to a WiFi router). Go to your camera's WiFi function menu screen and choose Connect to remote control (EOS Utility). When you choose 'Connect to Device' in your Canon's menu option a computer icon will appear on your camera's display, indicating that it is ready to connect wirelessly to a computer.



© George Cairns [Enlarge image](#)

Thanks to a WiFi connection we could trigger a garden-based Canon EOS 6D DSLR from a home office.

When launching EOS Utility 3 on your computer you'll be given the option to pair a compatible WiFi-enabled Canon camera over WiFi/LAN. The EOS Pairing Software window on your computer will display the Canon camera connected to your home network. **Once you've paired the camera and the computer via WiFi they should then talk to each other happily at any time in the future.** You can now launch EOS Utility 3 and take remote control of your camera. This is where the fun begins.

To generate remote shooting images for this article we connected a Canon EOS 6D DSLR to a home WiFi network. As an iMac was also connected to the network we could pair the camera to the computer. This enabled us to sit indoors by the computer and use EOS Utility 3 to remotely trigger our camera's shutter when a bee or butterfly landed on our outdoor target – a flower.

Getting started: three key options

As soon as you attach a camera to your computer it will launch EOS Utility 3 and you'll be presented with a re-organised menu screen. Here you can choose to download images to computer from the camera's memory card, activate remote shooting or tinker with the camera settings (such as adding your owner's name, copyright information or registering lens aberration correction data). As you roll your computer's mouse over each of the three options a text description will clarify each command's function.



© George Cairns [Enlarge image](#)

EOS Utility 3's redesigned main menu screen enables you to quickly access its three key functions – Download images to computer, Remote shooting and Camera settings.



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Clicking the 'Camera settings' option in the main menu screen enables you to set a range of options for the attached camera, including setting the date and time, adding image copyright details and registering lens aberration correction data.

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