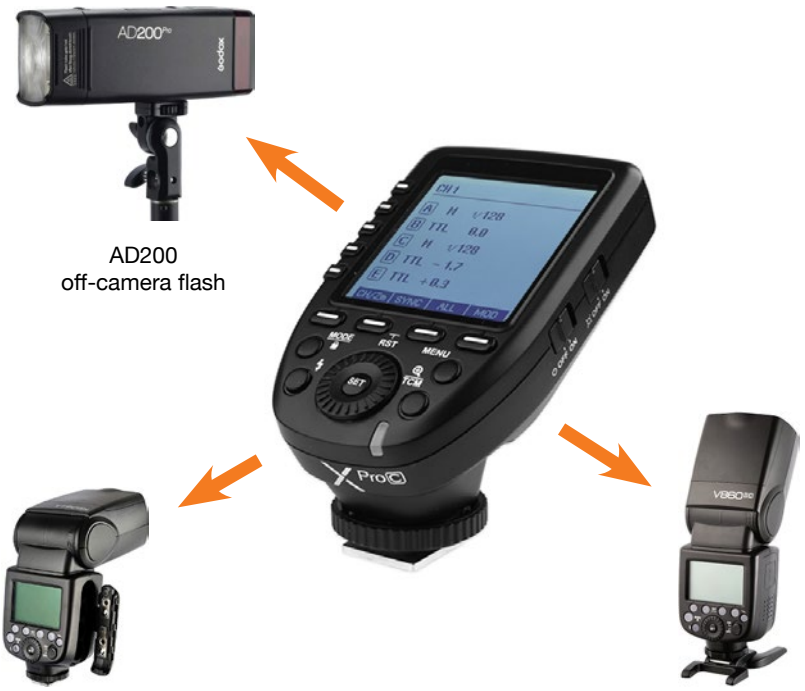
Using the Godox XPro C radio trigger with Godox Portable flash

The XPro C radio trigger can be used to control and fire any number of Godox flashes off-camera, including the models pictured here, available from the store.

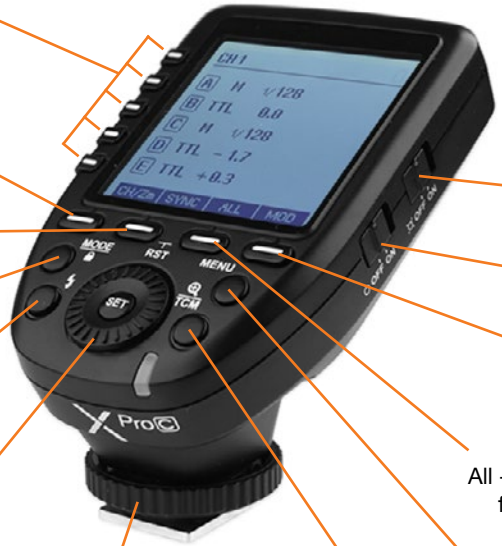
The trigger goes into the camera's hot-shoe and will trigger the flashes when the shutter is fired.

The trigger is fully compatible with most Canon cameras, and may also work on other camera types including older film cameras, with reduced functionality (see section at the end).



XPro C Buttons and Controls

This trigger is quite easy to use, once set up - not all the functions are needed for basic use.



Flash group buttons A to E

Long press - set channel
Short press - flash zoom

Sync type - normal, High Speed Sync, or Second Curtain sync

Group power mode - TTL, Manual or off. (also Multi mode)

Test-fire the flashes

Scroll wheel and set button for choosing options

Locking collar - use this to lock securely onto your camera

Note that the function of the four buttons below the screen will change according to the mode you're in, as indicated by the text shown on screen at the time.

AF assist beam on/off

Power on/off

Modelling lights on/off (AD200 has an LED modelling light)

All - select all flash groups for settings changes

Menu - function menu

Short press - show group settings individually
Long press - TCM (TTL Converted to Manual setting)

Basic Set-up

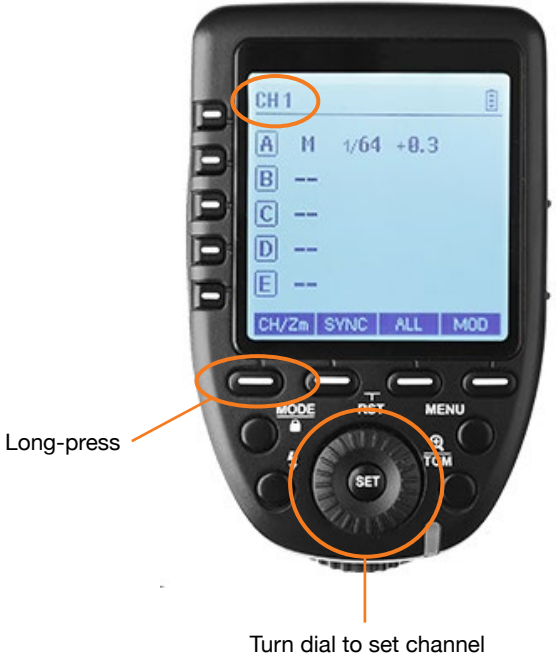
To set the trigger to fire your lights, the trigger and lights must be set to use the **same channel**.

First, ensure the trigger is not in ‘Multi’ mode - if it is, press the **MODE** button until the screen looks something like it does here.

Set the channel on the trigger

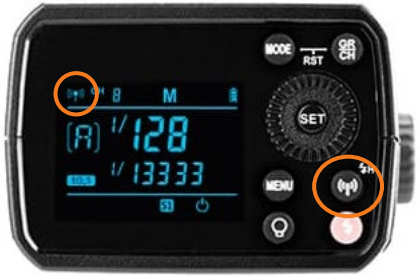
To set the channel, long-press the **CH/Zm** button, and then turn the dial to set the channel.

IMPORTANT: Please avoid channels 1-10, as these are used in the Photographic Studios, and if you are on campus, you may be triggering lights in the studios and vice-versa, as the radio signals have a large range.



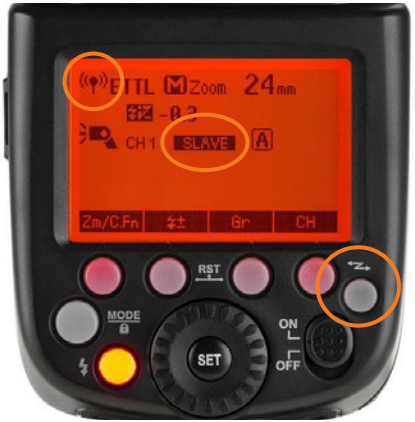
Set the lights to radio slave mode

The lights must be set to act as radio-triggered ‘slaves’.



AD200 Pro

On the AD200, press the button until the radio symbol appears on screen.

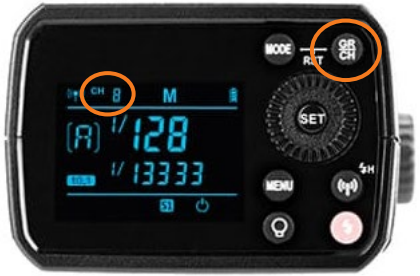


V860 II or TT685

On a speedlight, press the button until the symbol is shown top left, and you are in **SLAVE** mode (orange screen).

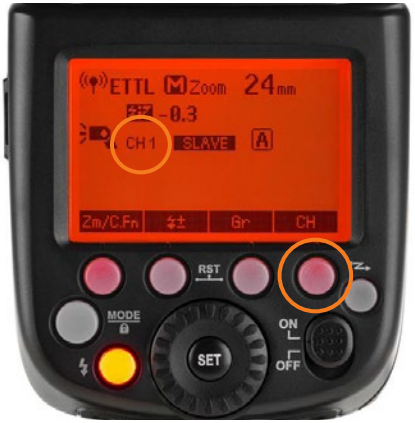
Set the channel

You must also set the channel on each of your flashes to the channel you have chosen.



AD200 Pro

On the AD200, long-press the **GR/CH** button to highlight the channel. Then turn the dial to choose a channel.



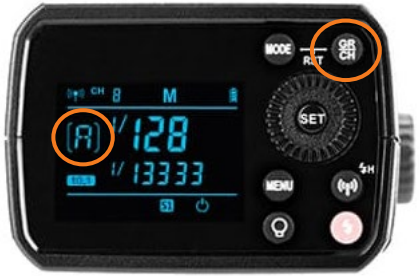
V860 II or TT685

On a speedlight, press the the **CH** button to highlight the channel. Then turn the dial to choose a channel.

Set groups

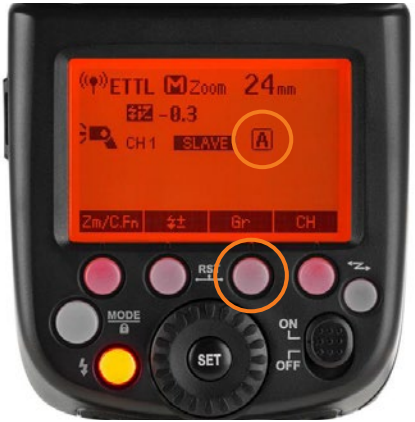
A *group* can have one or more lights assigned to it. Each group can have its power controlled separately. Generally, you should assign each light to a separate group. So if you have two lights, you might assign light 1 to Group A, and light 2 to Group B. If you only have one light, you would probably assign it to Group A.

To assign a light to a group, you do it on the light itself.



AD200 Pro

On the AD200, short-press the **GR/CH** button to cycle through the groups.



V860 II or TT685

On a speedlight, press the **Gr** button when in **SLAVE** mode to cycle through the groups.

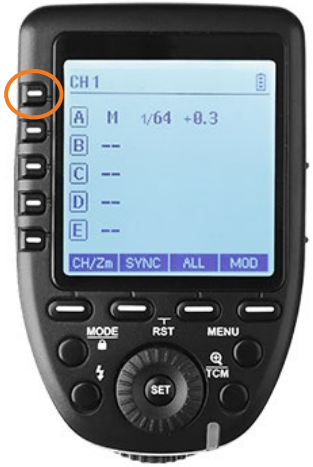
Controlling Flash Power

Flash power modes

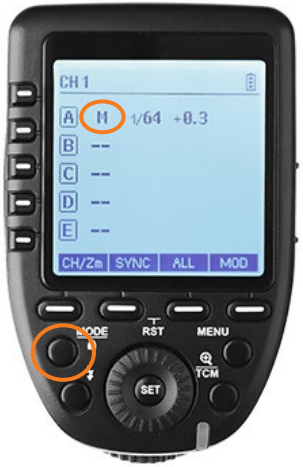
There are two modes for controlling the power of the flashes. Each group can have its mode set separately.

M - Manual power. Power of the flash is set manually, on a scale from 1/1 (full power) to 1/128 or 1/256 (lowest power). You will need to gauge the power you need for correct exposure by taking test shots or with a light meter. Exposure will be consistent, once set.

TTL - Through The Lens mode. This is an auto-exposure mode for flash. The camera measures the light coming through the lens and adjusts the flash power to give a 'normal' exposure. It will generally get you in the right ballpark quickly, but may be less consistent between shots.

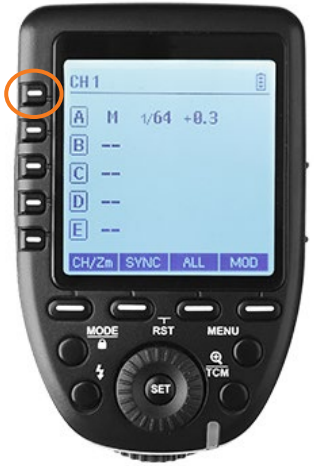


To set the flash power mode for a particular group, press the button for that group to select it.

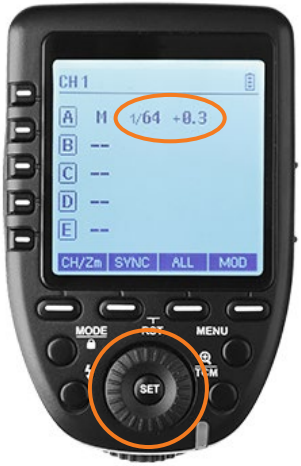


Then press the **MODE** button to cycle through **TTL**, **M** or **--** (off).

Setting the power level



To set the power level of a group, press the group button for the group you want.



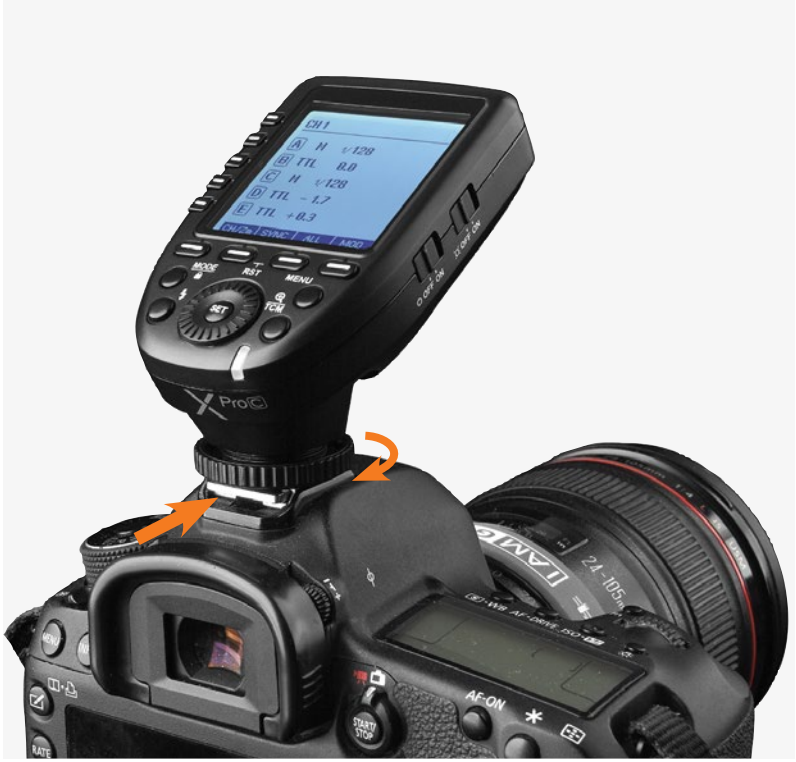
Then turn the dial to increase or decrease power.

If the group is set to *M*, then you are setting an absolute power level. As you change the power, you should see the power level change on your lights also. If not, pressing the Test button may solve this.

If the group is set to *TTL*, then you will be adjusting the power level relative to what the camera thinks is 'normal' exposure (a plus or minus value). This is known as 'exposure compensation'. This may not be displayed on the flashes.

Taking photographs

If you haven't already, attach the XPro trigger to the camera's hot shoe by sliding it into the shoe and locking the collar.



Pressing the shutter button on the camera should now fire the flashes at the power level you have set.

You should now be able to take test shots to gauge exposure, and adjust power levels of each light from the camera.

If the lights are not firing, double-check that the channels and groups are set correctly, and that the lights are set to act as radio slaves.

Additional Info

Max sync speed

Most SLR cameras have an upper limit to the shutter speed which will work with flash under normal circumstances. On most Canon cameras it is 1/200 s or 1/250 s - this is called the *max sync speed*.

With the XPro trigger in the hot shoe, your shutter speed will be automatically limited to the max sync speed of the camera.

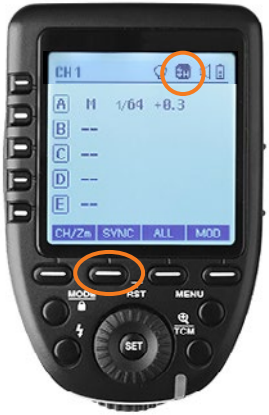
With a compatible camera, it is possible to go above the max sync speed, but only if you select the HSS sync option on the trigger - please see the next section.

With non-Canon cameras, you will be able to exceed the max sync speed of the camera, but doing so will result in shading within the photograph - usually a band towards the bottom of the frame. Therefore you need to avoid this manually.

High Speed Sync (HSS)

If you want to use shutter speeds above the max sync speed of the camera, you can do this by enabling the High Speed Sync option on the XPro trigger.

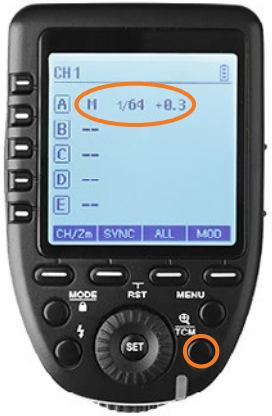
The is commonly useful when working in bright ambient light and want shallow depth of field. Using a higher shutter speed allows the use of wider apertures.



To enable HSS, press the **SYNC** button until is shown. Turn it off when not needed.

TCM (TTL Converted to Manual)

After making an exposure in TTL mode, the flash power level used to make that exposure can be translated to a manual power level using the TCM function. This allows you to keep exposure consistent from then on. This can be a way to get good exposure quickly, and then lock it in so it stays consistent.

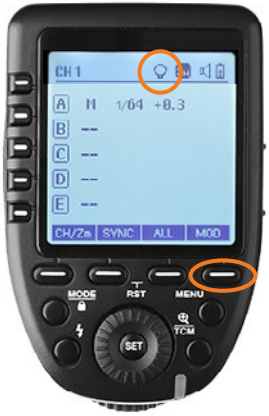


Once you have made a successful exposure in TTL mode, long-press the TCM button to transfer the power level for all flashes to a manual power equivalent.

Modelling light

The AD200 Pro includes an LED modelling light in the standard fresnel head. This can be turned on and off from the XPro trigger. The speedlights do not have modelling lights.

The modelling light can be useful when working in dark conditions, to see the effect of the light on your subject, and to help with composition and focusing. Obviously, it does drain the battery, so it is best used intermittently.



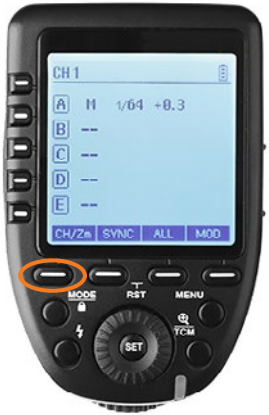
To turn the modelling lights on or off for all lights, press the **MOD** button.

Flash beam angle (zoom)

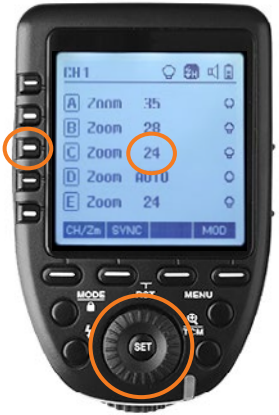
The speedlights have zoom heads, which control the spread angle of the flash light (ie. how ‘wide’ or ‘focused’ it is). This can be controlled from the XPro trigger for each individual light, and gives you more control over the quality of light in your images.

The AD200 does not have this feature.

The setting is in millimetres, to correspond to lens focal lengths. The lowest number gives the widest beam.



To go into Zoom control mode, short-press the **CH/Zm** button



Then press the group button for the group you want to control, and use the dial to change the zoom setting. Press **CH/Zm** again to return.

Multi (stroboscopic) flash

Multi flash is where the flashes fire multiple times during a single exposure. This allows for capturing multiple positions of a moving subject in a single image. It tends to work best where the moving subject is bright against a dark background.

To enable multi mode, make sure no group is selected, then press the **MODE** button, and the multi mode is displayed.

You can then select individual groups and change settings for each one.

The settings are:-

1) Power level - brightness of each flash
2) Times - total number of flashes required during the exposure
3) Hz - frequency or rate of the flashes in Hertz (number per second). eg. a Hz setting of 4 will fire the flash every 1/4 s.

You will need to set your camera to a shutter speed long enough to capture the required time frame - probably 1 second or longer.

Example: If you wanted to capture 10 ‘positions’ of the subject over a time frame of 2s, you would set the shutter speed to 2s, the ‘Times’ to 10, and Hz to 5. The power level required will depend on your aperture, ISO and distance of the subject from the flash.

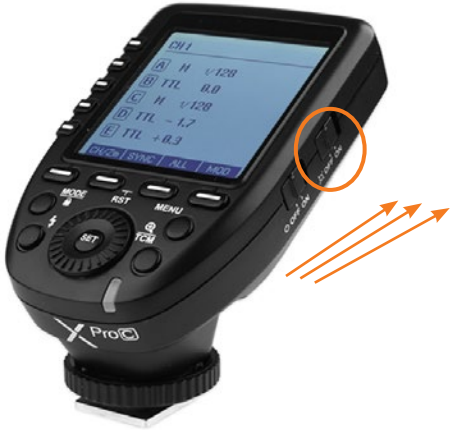
Note that the maximum power level will be limited, as the flash has little time to recharge after each burst.

Please use a lower power level if possible to avoid overheating of the flash head. The flash may go into overheat protection mode if over-used (it will stop firing for a period of time).

AF assist beam

When working in very dim ambient light conditions, you may find that your camera does not have enough light to focus. In this case, you can switch on the AF assist beam. When your camera tries to autofocus (usually when you half-press the shutter button), a series of red lines will be projected onto the subject, which should help the camera to find focus.

If you are using the AD200, remember that this has a modelling light, which can also help with focusing.



To enable the AF assist beam, use the switch on the side of the trigger. Note that it will only be used when needed.

Using the XPro C on non-compatible cameras

The trigger should be fully compatible with most recent Canon DSLR and mirrorless cameras.

It may work on non-compatible cameras, with a reduced feature set, including digital cameras from other brands, and film cameras.

On these cameras, you will not get TTL, HSS, zoom or modelling light control. However, there is a good chance that basic triggering and manual power control will work, depending on the camera.

Just use the trigger as normal, but make sure all the groups are set to **M** for manual power. Ensure that the sync setting is set to ‘normal’ (no symbol) - not HSS or second curtain sync.

If the lights are not triggering, try putting the trigger into ‘APP’ mode - a simple mode which disables all controls except for basic triggering - see opposite.

Another option is to use a short cable from the camera’s sync port to the trigger.

One final option, if your camera has a built-in flash, is to trigger the lights optically. To do this, enable the S1 or S2 mode on the lights, and (generally) turn down the flash power on your camera to minimum.

You must be careful not to exceed the max sync speed of the camera are using - you should find out what this is in advance. Many older film SLRs have a max sync speed of 1/60 s. Note that the Bronica and Hasselblad cameras from the store can be used at any shutter speed (because they have leaf shutters).

To enable APP mode, press the **MENU** button, scroll down to ‘**SHOOT**’, and choose the ‘**APP**’ option. You will have to set the power level on the light itself.