Getting Around: Taking a Closer Look Basic Camera Controls



LEVEL: I MODULE: GETTING AROUND: TAKING A CLOSER LOOK - MISSION I

I-3.1 Introduction

Have interesting things around you begun to catch your eye – an erupting volcano, a huge ship, a futuristic car with wings? Do you think of moving your avatar closer to get a better look just like you would in real-life? That certainly is one way. It's time you begin to discover your camera-like vision in Second Life.

I-3.1.1 Instruction

Focus, Zoom and Pan are three ways to look at things around you in Second Life. By the end of this mission you will be able to get a closer look at things without actually moving your avatar. Not only that, you can also observe them from different angles without moving an inch.

I-3.1.2 Practice

TRY THIS:

Step 1: Focusing

Hold down the Alt key to activate Focus Mode.

Did you see your cursor change to a magnifying glass while Alt was held down?

While continuing to hold down the key, click on anything – an object, the landscape or a person. Notice how the view centers after you click? Even when the object or person moves, your camera will stay with it until it is out of range.

Step 2: Zooming

While holding down the Alt key, press the UpArrowkey on your keyboard to zoom in and DownArrowkey to zoom out.

Step 3: Horizontal panning

As you continue to hold down the Alt key, press the RightArrowkey or LeftArrowkey to pan right or left. This is a great way to go around your subject.

You can also pan using your mouse. While holding down the Alt key, drag your mouse around. Did you see that you can zoom by moving the mouse forward or back and you can pan by moving your mouse left or right?

I-3.I.3 Action Plan

SHOWING OFF YOUR NEW POWER:

Want some extra practice? Try this:

Try focusing on objects or avatars around you. Select a moving object or person and watch your "camera" follow along. Zoom and Pan for a closer look. Make sure you get enough practice doing this because there is more to come.

Getting Around: Taking a Closer Look Advanced Camera Controls



LEVEL: I MODULE: GETTING AROUND: TAKING A CLOSER LOOK - MISSION 2

I-3.2 Introduction

You have already learned how to get close to an object and go around it. But did you know you can look at the object from above and below as well?

I-3.2. I Instruction

By the end of this mission you will be able to Pan in all directions and angles.

I-3.2.2 Practice

TRY THIS:



Step 1: Vertical panning

Hold down the Alt and Ctrl keys together then click on something. Now press the UpArrowkey or DownArrowkey to pan up or down. You can also press the E or C keys to pan up or down.

This time the distance from your avatar remains constant but you can pan in all directions using the arrow keys.

Try this now: Using your mouse, make sure you hold down the Alt and Ctrl keys together, then click on something and drag your mouse around.

Step 2: Pan landscape

Hold down the Alt, Ctrl and Shift keys all together and drag your mouse.



Did you notice that as you move the mouse, the camera slides across the landscape as if you are dragging the ground around?

Step 3: 360 degrees around yourself

To get a quick look around your avatar try this:

With the Alt key pressed down, click on your avatar.

While continuing to hold the Alt key down use the arrow keys to spin around your avatar. This is a great way to see what your avatar looks like from the front.

Step 4: Camera Controls



There is one more way to access your camera controls in Second Life.

Under View menu select the option Camera Controls. **View > Camera Controls**

You will see two circles and a bar in between appear at the bottom of your screen.

- o The left circle rotates the camera.
- o The middle bar zooms in and out.
- o The right circle moves the camera left, right, up and down.

TRY IT NOW:

Hold down Alt key and click to focus on something. Then try all the camera controls again.

I-3.2.3 Action Plan

TAKE ACTION:

Find an object that interests you and inspect it closely from all angles. Also pan around the environment and around yourself.

SHOWING OFF YOUR NEW POWER:

See how quickly you can play hide and seek with another friend using only camera controls to search for the other person.

Blog about your experience. Describe the object you inspected and how it felt to pan around the environment and yourself?