

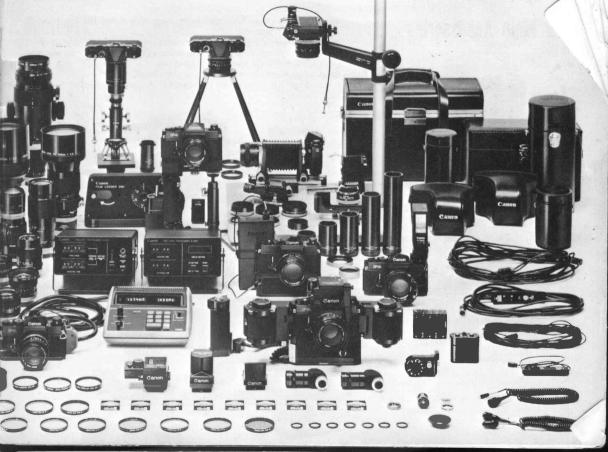




Canon F-1 System

The system built around the F-1, from its initial stages, is designed to satisfy all possible photographic needs. Both versatility and variety were prime concerns for Canon's planning and designing staff. The system's ten thousand component parts were all built with a degree of accuracy which the complete interchangeability of the system requires. Furthermore, tests have demonstrated that the reliability of the Canon F-1 and its accessories is to an extent as of yet unmatched by any other product in the photographic industry. The F-1's accessories, including powerful motor drive systems, a unique Servo EE Finder, the Booster T Finder for dim light situations, the Film Chamber 250 and the incomparable FD series of interchangeable lenses, lend the versatility to the F-1 that makes the F-1 and all-embracing photographic system.





Four Main Accessories





 Canon Booster T Finder with electronic timer for insufficient light photography

■ Canon Servo EE Finder for shutter priority EE photography

Canon Motor Drive Unit and Motor Drive MF for timer photography and high speed photography.

■ Canon Film Chamber 250 for shooting 250 frames

Unmanned photography is possible in combination of these accessories.



*For details, please refer to pages 49-52.

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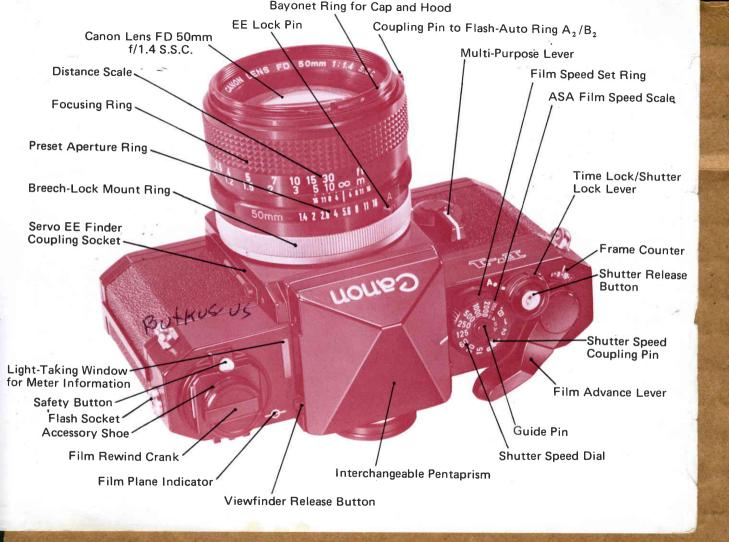
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Welcome to the large family of well satisfied F-1 owners. The F-1, along with its seemingly endless array of features and accessories for use in the home, the laboratory or for professional work, is the product of many years of studious research coupled with the development of Canon's superior camera technology. The Canon F-1 epitomizes the high quality and performance standards that Canon prides itself in. We at Canon hope that you make the most of your new F-1 and have many rewarding experiences with your F-1 system.

Before Using . . .

Please read this instruction booklet thoroughly, familiarizing yourself carefully with the F-1, master the basic functions of the camera completely and you will be ready to fully utilize your new F-1.





Technical Data

■ Type: 35mm single-lens reflex camera with focal plane shutter. Picture size: 24 x 36mm.

■ Interchangeable Lenses: Canon FD series lenses with aperture signal lever. FL and R series of lenses are also compatible.

■ Standard Lens: Canon FD 55mm f/1.2 S.S.C., FD 50mm f/1.4 S.S.C., or FD 50mm f/1.8

S.C.

■ Viewfinder: Removable pentagonal prism viewfinder. Interchangeable with Servo EE Finder, Booster T Finder, Speed Finder, Waist-Level Finder.

■ Viewfinder Attachments: Angle Finders A2 and B, Magnifier R, Dioptric Adjustment

Lenses, Eyecup R, Rubber Eyepiece Ring.

■ Focusing Screen: Fresnel lens, standard focusing glass with split-image/microprism range-finder and eight other interchangeable types. With metering beam-splitting condenser.

Field-of-View: 97% of actual pciture area. 0.77X magnification with standard 50mm lens at

infinity.

■ Finder Information: Meter needle and aperture needle, outside shutter speed coupling range indicator, stopped-down metering and battery check, shutter speed scale, metering limit marks.

■ Dioptric Adjustment Lenses: Viewfinder with lensless ring (R-1); interchangeable with R+3, R+2, R+1.5, R+1, R+0.5, R0, R-0.5, R-2, R-3, and R-4 dioptric adjustment lenses.

■ Mirror: Quick return mirror with shock-absorbing mechanism. Possible to lock mirror in up-position, requiring manual operation of the aperture.

Lens Mount: Canon breech-lock FD mount.

■ Function: FD lenses; Full aperture metering, automatic diaphragm operation. FL lenses; Stopped-down metering, automatic diaphragm operation. R lenses; Stopped-down metering, manually operated diaphragm.

Shutter: Focal plane shutter using a super thin titanium screen. Designed for elimination of

functioning noise. Possible to lock shutter release button.

■ Shutter Speed Dial: With shutter scales and ASA film speed scales. Two coupling pins for setting attachments are provided.

■ Shutter Speeds: B, 1-1/2000. Multiple series. Equiinterval index. X contact at "60".

■ Film Speed Scale: ASA 25-3200

■ Self-Timer: Built-in. Activate with shutter release button. Approx. 10 sec. time lag.

Exposure Adjusting Mechanism: Built-in. Using a CdS photocell. Coupled to shutter speeds,

film speeds and f/stop. Match needle type, TTL full aperture metering mechanism. Central area metering system, measures 12% of the picture area. Stopped-down metering possible. Stopped-down lever and index. Locking of the lever possible.

Exposure Meter Coupling Range: With ASA 100 film, EV 2.5 (f/1.2 at 1/4 sec.) to EV 18

(f/11 at 1/2000 sec.).

Meter Battery: One 1.35V mercury battery.

Battery Checker: Built-in.

■ TTL Full Aperture Metering System EE: Servo EE Finder and Battery Case in combination. Full aperture metering with FD lens.

Ultra-low Illumination Metering: Metering possible with ASA 100, between EV 15 (f/22 at

1/60 sec.) and EV -3.5 (f/1.2 at 15 sec.), and with use of the Booster T Finder.

Synchronized Flash: FP and X contact. Automatic time lag adjusting type.

Flash Socket: On body side.

Accessory Shoe: Flash Couplers D, L.

■ Canon Auto Tuning (CAT) System: Diaphragm control by recharge completion signal and focusing distance signal. Proper aperture is determined with the built-in mirror by using the Speed-lite 133D, Flash-Auto Ring A₂/B₂, Flash Coupler L and the prescribed FD lens.

Synchronizing Range: FP class: 1/2000-1/125 sec. and 1/30 sec. or slower. Speedlite: 1/60

sec. or slower. M, MF class: 1/30 sec. or slower.

Film Loading: With multislit film spool.

• Film Winding: Short-stroke winding possible. Single operation 139° winding lever. Play: 30°

Film Rewinding: Performed by rewind button and crank.

Multiple Exposure: Possible by operating film rewind button.

Back Cover: Removable for Film Chamber 250.

■ Bottom Cover: Removable for a Motor Drive Unit or Motor Drive MF.

• Frame Counter: Additive, self-resetting type activated by opening back cover.

■ Size: 99.5 x 146.7 x 49.5mm (3-15/16" x 5-3/4" x 1-15/16")

Weight: Body: 845g (1 lb. 13-13/16 ozs.). With FD 50mm f/1.4S.S.C. Lens: 1,150g (2 lbs. 8-9/16 ozs.).

Subject to change without notice.

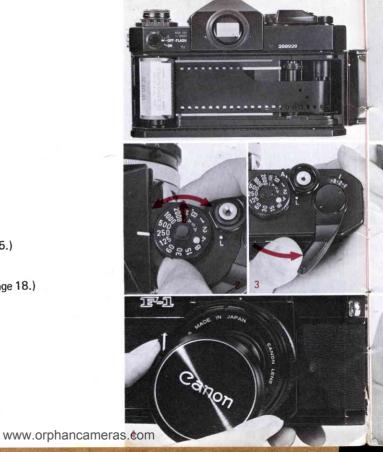
Follow these simple steps for Normal photography:

Load the film. (See pages 15–17.)

2 Set the ASA film speed. (See page 25.)

Wind the film advance lever. (See page 18.)

4 Remove the lens cap.









- **5** Look through the viewfinder and focus. (See page 31.)
- **6** Compose the picture.



Determine the exposure with built-in meter. (See pages 26–28.)

 $m{8}$ Press the shutter release button gently.

Mercury Battery Loading and Checking

The built-in exposure meter of the Canon F-1 functions only when the mercury battery is properly loaded.

1 Insert a coin into the groove of the battery compartment cover and turn it to the left to remove the cover.

 $\mathbf{2}$ Insert the battery into the compartment negative pole first.

3 Replace the compartment cover and turn to the right to tighten.

Before inserting the battery, wipe off fingerprints or ains on the battery poles with a dry cloth. Unclean poles may cause corrosion and damage the camera.

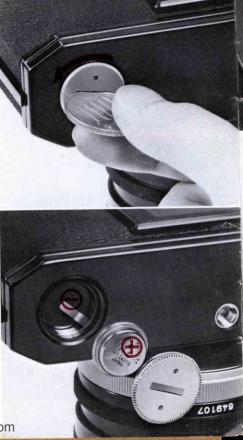
■ A 1.35V H-D mercury battery should be used — a Mallory PX-625 or Eveready EPX-625 is recommended. Do not use 1.4V mercury batteries.

Be sure to insert the battery in the correct direction.

Otherwise, the meter will not function properly and the

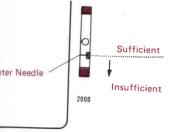
Otherwise, the meter will not function properly and the cover cannot be screwed-in.

■ If the camera will not be used for an extended length of time, the battery should be taken out of the battery compartment to prevent possible damage to the terminals from battery corrosion.









Battery Check

Check the mercury battery after loading it. Especially when loading a new battery, be sure to check the power level.

1 Set the film speed scale at ASA 100 and the shutter speed dial at "2000". To set the film speed, lift up the outer ring on the shutter speed dial and turn. (See page 25.)

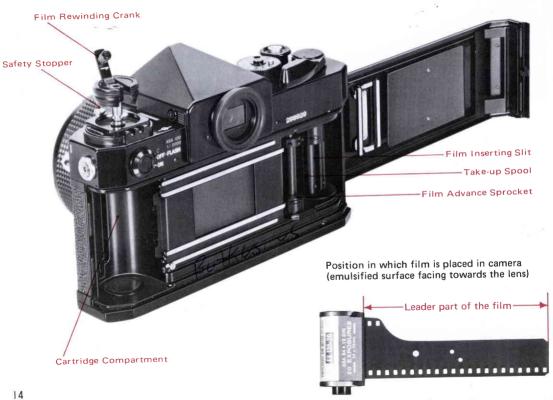
A positive check cannot be made if other settings are used.

2 Turn the meter switch, situated on the back side of the camera near the film rewind crank, to the "C" index mark.

3 If the meter needle inside the viewfinder swings interest the meter index, the battery has sufficient power. If the needle stays below the meter index, the voltage is insufficient and the battery must be replaced.

■ Life of the battery in normal use is approximately one year.

4 When using the camera, be sure to turn the meter switch to "ON".





Film Loading

The Canon F-1 accepts any standard 35mm film roll in a daylight loading cartridge. Be sure not to load film in direct sunlight.

Pull up the film rewind crank as far as possible while pressing the safety button. The cover will then open.

2 Open the cover fully. Place the film cartridge in the film compartment so that the emulsified surface will face the lens when the film is unwound as illustrated on page 14. Push the film rewind crank down. The crank fork will slip into the film cartridge. In case the crank does not fully return, turn it slightly to the left or right.

3 Pull the film out from the cartridge and insert the film tip into the slit of the film take-up spool.

4 Turn the film advance lever and wind the film around the film take-up spool.

5 Check to insure-that the teeth of both the take-up spool and the film advance sprocket are engaged by the perferations in the film.

6 Close the back cover. If the film is sagging, the cartridge will rise and the back cover will not close.

1 Leave the lens cap on and take two blank shots, each time turning the film advance lever and releasing the shutter. The frame counter will advance from the "S" mark to ".". With one more advance, the camera will be ready for the first shot.

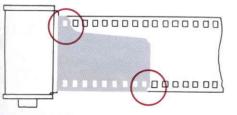
Memo Holder

The memo holder on the camera's back cover is useful for keeping data like film speed, location, shooting. For example, after tearing off the part of the film box which specifies the type of the film being used, it can be inserted into the memo holder as a constant reminder.









Checking Correct Film Loading

The film is properly loaded and advanced if the film rewind crank rotates when you wind the film advance lever. If the film rewind crank does not rotate, take out the film and reload.

Setting the Film Speed

When loading the film, be sure to set the film speed scale at the proper position.

Repacking a Bulk-Loaded Film

If you are using film that has not been wound commercially, be sure to trim the tip of the lead between perforations.

Film Winding

The film advance lever winds the film, cocks the shutter, and prepares the diaphragm and mirror for the next shutter release all in one motion.

Turn the film advance lever until it stops. The film will be advanced one frame and the shutter cocked. The frame counter is simultaneously advanced to the next number.

When the shutter release button is pressed, the mirror flips up, the diaphragm closes down to the preset f/stop and the shutter operates. The advance lever can then be wound for the next frame.

- Be sure to set the shutter lock lever at "A".
- Winding may be accomplished by moving the lever with several short strokes.
- If the shutter does not function, check to make sure the winding process is completed as the shutter will not function unless winding is completed.











Frame Counter

Each winding will advance the number of the frame counter, indicating the number of pictures taken. When the back cover is opened, the counter automatically returns to the starting position "S".

Safety Device for Shutter

When the shutter lock lever around the shutter release button is turned to the "L" position, the shutter button is locked and will not move. This device is especially useful in preventing an accidental shutter release of a wound camera.

Attaching the Cable Release

The optional Canon Cable Release can be attached to the F-1 by screwing it into the threaded hole in the center of the shutter release button. Even if the shutter lock lever is at the "L" position, the shutter will operate when using the cable release.

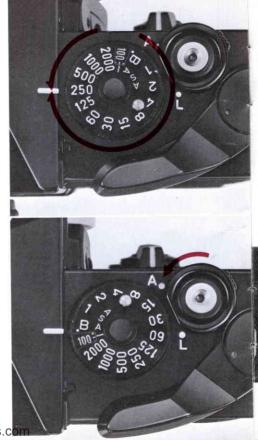
Shutter and Aperture Adjustment

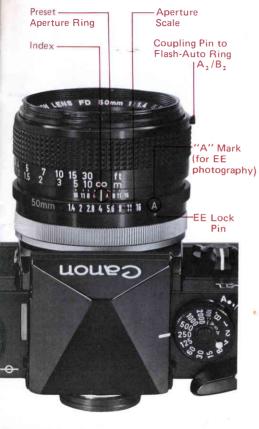
Exposure is adjusted by the shutter speed and the aperture. The shutter speed controls the exposure time and the aperture controls the amount of incoming light.

Shutter Speed Dial

Adjust the shutter speed by turning the shutter speed dial to the desired speed as indicated by the numbers on top of the dial. The dial cannot be turned between "2000" and "B". The numbers on the shutter speed dial correspond to shutter speeds between 1/2000 of a second and one second counting counterclockwise on the dial. The "B" position, indicating bulb exposure, is used when making exposures of more than one second. Thus, when set at "B", the shutter remains open as long as the shutter release button is depressed.

- Be sure to set the dial at one of the click-stop positions. At the "B" position, adjust it to the white dot just below "B".
- when it is necessary to make a time exposure, first set the shutter speed dial at "B". Keep the shutter release button depressed and turn the time lock lever to "L". Thus, the shutter will remain open even if the finger is removed from the button. When the lever is returned to "A", the shutter closes.
- Time exposure is also possible by using a lockable cable release.
- It is possible to perform extended exposures of up to





30 seconds by using the optional Booster T Finder, a super sensitive meter finder for measuring subjects under dim light.

■ The "60" position is the X synchronization speed, the highest shutter speed which can be used with electronic flash units such as the Canon Speedlite, and the fastest shutter speed at which the entire film area is exposed at once. Although 1/60th of a second does not seem to be a really fast shutter speed, the effective exposure time is equivalent to a flash of 1/1000th of a second or faster. This speed allows the extreme quickness of the electronic flash to expose the entire film.

Aperture

Incoming light and depth-of-field are adjusted by turning the aperture ring to the desired f/stop.

A number scale, which has become the international standard, has been devised to express the size of the aperture in relation to the focal length of the lens whereby the aperture size is divided by the focal length of the lens until the numerator of the resulting fraction is reduced to one. Thus, the magnitude of these fractions is inversely related to the size of the aperture, i.e., a larger number on the scale signifies a smaller aperture while a smaller number signifies a larger aperture. Since both circular area and linear dimension are involved in the computation of this scale, an aperture, usually termed a full f/stop, is one-half or twice as large as the adjacent apertures indicated by the scale.

- The aperture ring of most Canon FD lenses is equipped with click-stops for full and 1/2 f/stops, but can be set between these click-stops.
- The maximum aperture of a lens may not be one included by the international standard. If it is not, the second f/stop will not designate an aperture one-half as small as the first f/stop.
- The relation between the aperture and the amount of light entering, using f/2 as the base, is as follows:

f/stops*:

1.2 1.4 1.8 2 2.8 3.5 4 5.6 8 11 16 22 Exposure Ratio:

3 2 1.25 1 1/2 1/3 1/4 1/8 1/16 1/32 1/64 1/128 *f/stops on the international scale are in heavy type.

Presetting of Aperture

Set the aperture ring to the desired f/stop. The diaphragm will close to the set f/stop only for the instant that the shutter is released. Thus, for example, with FD lenses, the subject can always be seen through the viewfinder at the full aperture opening even after the f/stop has been set by the aperture ring.

The FD lens has only one aperture ring. When this lens is mounted on an F-1 or FTb camera body, the diaphragm can be operated manually by pushing the multi-purpose lever. The aperture can then be closed down to any desired f/stop by turning the aperture ring. When the lever is reset to its original position, the diaphragm returns to its maximum opening.



FD 50mm f/1.4 S.S.C.



-Automatic/Manual Aperture Lever



FD 35mm f/3.5 S.C.



Manual Control of Aperture

The manually operated aperture is used for checking the depth-of-field when the aperture is stopped-down and also when performing close-up photography and macrophotography.

- When an accessory is to be used between the lens and the camera body, push the automatic/manual aperture lever of the lens counterclockwise all the way before mounting the lens. This locks the lever and the aperture is set for manual operation. For releasing the lever, push it clockwise. With the use of this lock, photography using a manually operated aperture can also be performed with older Canon single-lens-reflex cameras.
- In the case of the lens which has a manual aperture lock lever, turn the automatic aperture lever of the lens counterclockwise all the way and set the manual aperture lock lever at the "L" position before mounting the lens. This manual aperture lock lever locks the automatic aperture lever and the diaphragm can be opened or closed by turning the aperture ring. For releasing the lever, return the manual aperture lock lever to the original position at the white dot.
- When using the lens attached in a reversed position to the macrophoto coupler for macrophotography, set the automatic aperture lever of the lens in the position for manual operation, attach the macrohood of the macrophoto coupler to the rear of the lens, and turn the breechlock mount ring until it locks.
- Refer to page 38 concerning depth-of-field.

Using the Built-in Exposure Meter

The Canon F-1 provides the most accurate light measurement possible with its unique TTL (Through-The-Lens) system. The built-in exposure meter, which is of match needle type, is coupled to the shutter speed dial and preset aperture ring.

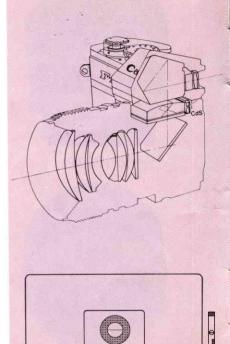
The CdS photocell of the exposure meter is placed in the position closest to the beam-splitting condenser lens. The central area metering system enables accurate measurement of the main subject even in back lighting conditions. The rectangular frame in the viewfinder represents the light measurement area of the CdS photocell. Place the main subject within this frame and measure the intensity of light so as to obtain the proper exposure.

The correction of the full aperture opening of the lens is performed automatically. Therefore, the operation does not change regardless of the speed of the lens used. An FL lens can be used only with stopped-down metering.

■ Due to the characteristics of the CdS photocell, the movement of the meter needle may occasionally be slow at low light intensities.

■ When not using the camera, set the meter switch at "OFF" or attach the lens cap so as to prevent unnecessary consumption of the mercury battery.

Metering at "B" on the shutter speed dial is not possible with the built-in exposure meter.







Film Speed Setting

Set the film speed according to the ASA of the film being used. The ASA of a film is normally shown on the film box cover or explanatory sheet. Lift and turn the film speed ring which is around the shutter speed dial. The ASA number of the film will appear in the window on the shutter speed dial.

The ring cannot turn any further counterclockwise than "25". On the other hand, it cannot turn any further clockwise than the green dot, which indicates ASA 3200.

■ The following film speeds may be used:

```
(32) (40) (64) (80) (125) (160) (250) (320) (500) (640) 25 \cdot \cdot \cdot 50 \cdot \cdot \cdot 100 \cdot \cdot \cdot 200 \cdot \cdot \cdot 400 \cdot \cdot \cdot 800
ASA
DIN
          15 \cdot \cdot 18 \cdot \cdot 21 \cdot \cdot 24 \cdot \cdot 27 \cdot \cdot
               (16)(17)
                               (19) (20)
                                               (22) (23)
                                                                 (25) (26)
        (1000) (1250)
                              (2000) (2500)
             · · 1600 ·
                                                3200
                          33 •
                                                  36
           (31) (32)
                               (34) (35)
```

(Figures in parentheses represent intermediate film speeds.)

Exposure Settings

Full Aperture Metering

Full aperture metering can be performed with FD lenses which have an aperture signal lever and pin.

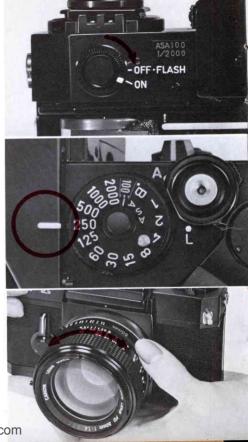
1 Set the meter switch at "ON".

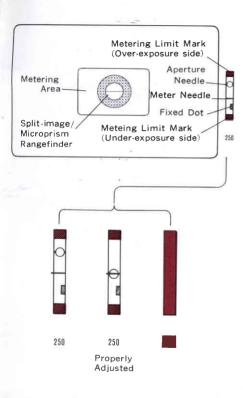
9 Set the shutter speed dial at the desired speed.

3 Face the camera towards the subject, look into the viewfinder, and check the needles in the meter reading window.

4 Turn the aperture ring until the meter needle bi-sects the aperture metering circle in the meter. If this adjustment cannot be made, a different shutter speed must be used.

■ The meter needle is coupled to the film and shutter speeds and moves vertically according to the brightness of the subject. The meter needle moves downward when the shutter is set at high speeds and upward when it is set at low speeds. When the shutter is set at a slow speed outside the coupling range (slower than 1/2 sec. with ASA 100 film), the meter window turns red, and metering will become impossible even if the aperture is changed. When the window turns red and metering cannot be performed, use high-speed film or the optional Booster T Finder. Refer to "Coupling Range of Built-in Exposure Meter" on page 29.





- Select a faster shutter speed when the meter needle swings all the way up, and a slower speed when it swings all the way down.
- The aperture metering circle is coupled to the aperture ring of the FD lens. The movement range of the aperture needle inside the meter reading window changes according to the lens speed. Thus, it will not always move vertically the full length of the meter reading window.
- The "A" mark on the aperture ring is used with the Servo EE Finder or the Canon EF camera only.
- If you prefer to set the f/stop first, turn the shutter speed dial and bi-sect the aperture metering circle with the meter needle.
- Since the shutter speed dial cannot be set at intermediate positions, the shutter speed priority method is recommended when exposure accuracy is a crucial factor.

Stopped-Down Metering

When using a lens, such as an FL-series lens, which does not have a full aperture metering system, stopped-down metering should be done. Stopped-down metering is executed by pushing the multi-purpose lever towards the lens. The lever can be fixed in this position by pressing it towards the lens after setting the lock lever at the "L" position. If the lock lever is returned to the white dot

position, the stopped-down lever will return to its original position.

1 Set the meter switch at "ON".

9 Set the shutter speed dial at the desired speed.

3 Face the camera towards the subject, look into the viewfinder and press the stopped-down lever towards the lens. The aperture metering circle will disappear from view and only the meter needle will remain in the meter window.

4 Turn the aperture ring until the meter needle appears in the meter.

If you prefer to set the f/stop first, the adjustments can be made with the shutter speed dial.

■ Because the FD lenses have a full aperture system with which to fully compensate the built-in exposure meter, it is best to use full aperture metering with an FD lens. When performing stopped-down metering, be sure to close down the aperture to f/2.8 or further.

How to "Average" Exposures

When measuring a subject influenced by greatly different light intensities, take two measurements, one each of the darkest and lightest parts, and obtain the average value for the two readings. Then, set the f/stop or shutter speed at this average value.



2000

At given film speeds, the built-in exposure meter couples within the f/stops and sutter speeds as indicated in the chart at the right. For example, when using the Canon FD 50mm f/1.4 S.S.C. lens at ASA 100, the exposure meter couples fully within the range of EV 3, f/1.4 at 1/4 of a sec. (the first number as read off the row labeled "ASA 100") to EV 18, f/11 (read off the bottom row) at 1/2000 of a sec. (again read off the "ASA 100" row, but this time read the last number). Thusly the first number of a row indicates the longest shutter speed possible at a given film speed with the aperture fully open while the last number denotes the fastest shutter speed possible with the f/stop used being read from the bottom row as the number directly under the fastest shutter speed.

Coupling Range of Built-in Exposure Meter

Film Speed		Shutter Speed											
ASA 25	1	1 2	1 4	1 8	1 15	1 30	1 60	1 125	1 250	<u>1</u> 500	1 1000	1 2000	
ASA 50	1 2	1 4	1 8	1 15	30	1 60	1 125	1 250	<u>1</u> 500	1 1000	1 2000		
ASA 100	1 4	1 8	1 15	30	1 60	1 125	1 250	<u>1</u> 500	1 1000	1 2000			
ASA 200	1 8	1 15	1 30	1 60	1 125	1 250	1 500	1 1000	1 2000				
ASA 400	1 15	1 30	1 60	1 125	1 250	1 500	1 1000	1 2000					
ASA 800	1 30	1 60	1 125	1 250	1 500	1 1000	1 2000						
ASA 1600	60	1 125	1 250	1 500	1 1000	1 2000							
ASA 3200	1 125	1 250	<u>1</u> 500	1 1000	1 2000				. , .				
Minimum f/stop	f/22	f/22	f/22	f/22	f/22	f/22	f/22	f/22	f/16	f/11	f/8	f/5.6	

Holding the Camera

Hold the camera firmly to take a clear picture. Hold the camera either in a vertical or horizontal position, look through the viewfinder, and focus. Then press the shutter release button gently. The following techniques are important to remember:

1 Hold the camera snugly in both hands. The camera should be pressed firmly to your cheek or forehead.

When the camera is in a horizontal position, both elbows should be firmly pressed against the body. At least one elbow should be resting against the body when the camera is in a vertical position.

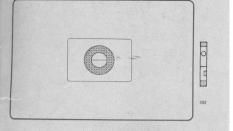
3 Hold your breath and press the shutter release button with a smooth, steady stroke. Otherwise, you will have a blurred picture.

It is best to use a tripod and cable release when using slow shutter speeds.

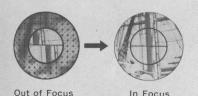
5 When taking pictures against the light, always use a lens hood.











Viewing and Focusing

Focusing is performed in the small round area in the center of the viewfinder. The smaller central circle is a split-image focusing screen and around it is the microprism ring. The split-image rangefinder ascertains that the image is "in focus" when the image divided horizontally in half matches and becomes one complete image.

The microprism rangefinder presents a clear and steady image when in focus. The microprism conveys a broken, shimmering image when not accurately in focus. It is also possible to focus with the matte screen outside the smaller central area. You can focus with either of these focusing aids as you like, depending on the subject condition and your preference.

■ A curved line may sometimes be visible in the lower part of the viewfinder according to the angle of the incoming light. This is a reflection of the beam-splitting mirror of the condenser lens in the TTL light measurement system.

Viewfinders

The Eye-Level Finder can be removed and interchanged with other viewfinders. To remove the Finder, pull it towards the backside of the camera while pressing the two stopper buttons on both sides of the Finder. To attach a finder, slide it in from the rear of the camera so that the attachment rails of the viewfinder are level with the camera body. Push it all the way in. It will