

This manual is for reference and historical purposes, all rights reserved.

This page is copyright© by M. Butkus, NJ.

This page may not be sold or distributed without the expressed permission of the producer

I have no connection with any camera company

On-line camera manual library

This is the full text and images from the manual. This may take 3 full minutes for the PDF file to download.

If you find this manual useful, how about a donation of \$3 to: M. Butkus, 29 Lake Ave., High Bridge, NJ 08829-1701 and send your e-mail address so I can thank you. Most other places would charge you \$7.50 for a electronic copy or \$18.00 for a hard to read Xerox copy.

This will allow me to continue to buy new manuals and pay their shipping costs.

It'll make you feel better, won't it?

**If you use Pay Pal or wish to use your credit card,
click on the secure site on my main page.**

www.orphancameras.com

CONTAX



G2

Instruction manual • Bedienungsanleitung
Mode d'emploi • Manual de instrucciones

Thank you for your purchase of a Contax G2. Based on the Contax philosophy of producing a "camera which works", this 35mm AF range finder camera with focal plane shutter is extremely easy to use, which is a shade different from a single-lens-reflex camera.

This camera features aperture-priority auto-exposure using actual stop-down aperture metering, a high-speed focal-plane shutter (speeds up to 1/6000 second), high-speed continuous exposures (up to about 4 frames/second), and many other advanced features, within a compact body. Further, by adding the optional multi-function type "Contax Data back GD-2" you can perform interval photography and add exposure data and dates to photographs.

Before using the camera, please read this instruction manual carefully to operate it correctly.

This manual explains the operating procedures for this excellent Contax G2 camera with G-mount Planar T*45 mm F2 lens. However, you can also use it in the same way as described in this manual, unless otherwise stated, for the integrated use of the camera with other G-mount Carl Zeiss T* interchangeable lenses.

- If you use the Hologon 16mm F8 lens, be sure to read the section "Using the Hologon 16mm F8 lens" in this manual (p. 196), as well as the instructions accompanying the lens.

Herzlichen Glückwunsch zum Kauf einer Contax G2. Diese 35mm-Schlitzverschuß-Kamera mit Autofokus und Realbildsucher vereint die Vorteile verschiedener fotografischer Welten auf bislang einzigartige Weise – handlich, direkt und doch dezent wie eine klassische Meßsucherkamera, dabei komfortabel und reaktionsschnell wie modernste Kompaktkameras, ohne den Fotografen zu entmündigen, und dank der hervorragenden Carl-Zeiss-T*-Wechselobjektive mit den Freiheiten einer System-Kamera.

Die Kamera bietet Arbeitsblenden-Zeitautomatik, einen Schlitzverschuß mit Zeiten bis 1/6000 s, Reihenaufnahmen mit bis zu etwa 4 B/s sowie zahlreiche weitere, fortschrittliche Funktionen in einem kompakten Gehäuse. Mit der als Zubehör lieferbaren Multifunktionsrückwand GD-2 sind Intervallaufnahmen ebenso möglich wie die Aufzeichnung von Belichtungsdaten und die Einbelichtung des Datums.

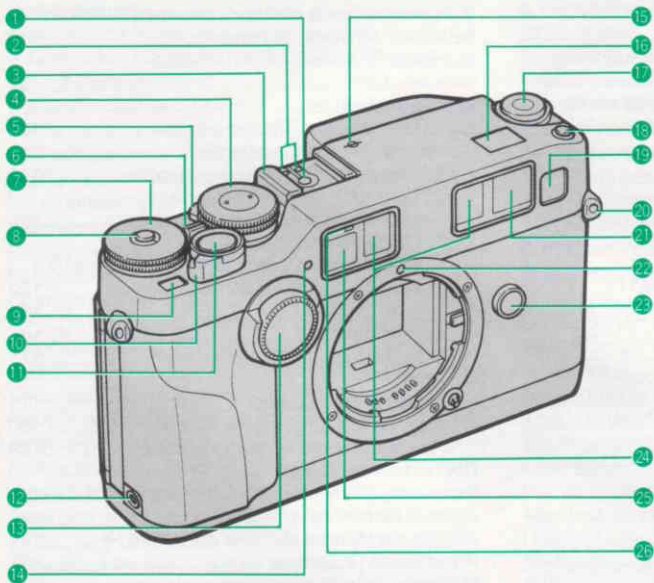
Bitte lesen Sie diese Anleitung sorgfältig durch, damit Sie den vollen Nutzen aus den vielfältigen Möglichkeiten der Contax G2 ziehen können.

Die Bedienung wird in dieser Anleitung mit einem Planar T*45mm f/2 mit G-Bajonett erklärt. Falls keine anderen Erläuterungen gegeben werden, kann diese Kamera jedoch auch auf gleiche Weise mit anderen Carl-Zeiss-Wechselobjektiven mit G-Bajonett verwendet werden.

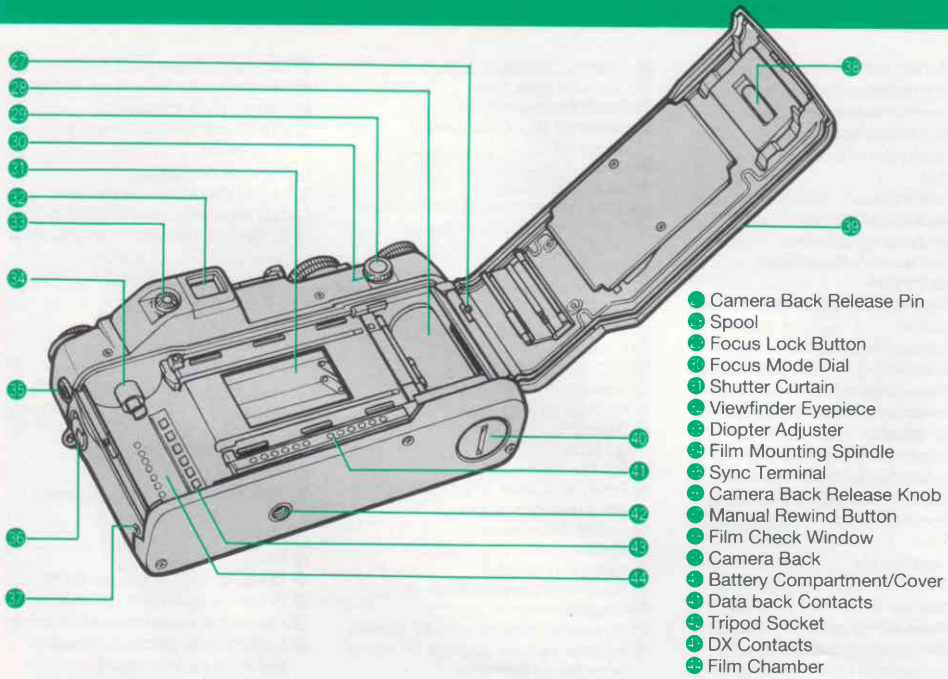
- Wenn Sie ein Hologon 1:8/16 mm verwenden, verfahren Sie bitte wie im Kapitel "Aufnahmen mit dem Hologon 1:8/16 mm" auf S. 197 sowie in der Anleitung des Objektivs beschrieben.

Names of Parts	8	Manual Exposure	124
● Basic Steps	12	Bulb Exposure [B]	126
● Basic Operation Before Shooting		Exposure Compensation	128
Loading the Batteries	18	<1. Using the Exposure Compensation Dial>.....	128
<Battery Check>		<2. Using the AE Lock>	134
<Battery Replacement>		<3. Using the A.B.C. Mode (Automatic Exposure	
<Battery Precautions>		Compensation for 3 Consecutive Frames)> ...	138
Mounting and Dismounting the Lens	26	Flash Photography	146
Main Switch	34	Multiple Exposure	164
Display in the Viewfinder	36	Using the Self-timer	170
Display Panel/Exposure Counter	42	●	
Diopter Adjustment	46	Custom Functions	172
Loading the Film	50	<List of the Custom Functions>	174
Setting and Checking the Film Speed	54	<Setting the Custom Functions>	188
Shutter Speed Dial	62	Release Socket/Detaching the Camera Back	192
Drive Mode Dial	64	Metering System	194
Focus mode Dial/Focus Lock Button	68	Using the Hologon 16 mm F8	196
Holding the Camera	70	Depth of Field	208
Rewinding the Film	72	Camera Care and Precautions	212
● Focusing the Lens		Dedicated Accessories (Optional)	218
Relationship between Drive Modes		Specifications	254
and Focus Mode	78		
Focusing on Auto Focus	86		
Focusing on Manual Focus	100		
Remarks on the Auto Focus System	106		
Techniques			
Selecting the Exposure Mode	116		
Aperture-priority Auto Exposure	120		

Names of Parts

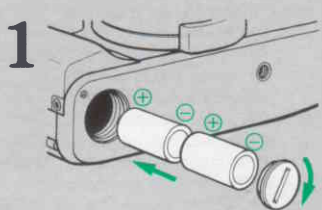


- ① Direct X-contact
- ② Dedicated-flash Contacts
- ③ Accessory Shoe
- ④ Exposure Compensation Dial
- ⑤ A.B.C. Lever
- ⑥ Dial Index
- ⑦ Shutter Speed Dial
- ⑧ Shutter Speed Dial Lock Release Button
- ⑨ Exposure Counter
- ⑩ Main Switch
- ⑪ Shutter Release
- ⑫ Release Socket
- ⑬ Focus Dial
- ⑭ Self-timer LED
- ⑮ Distance Reference Index
- ⑯ Display Panel
- ⑰ Drive Mode Dial
- ⑱ ISO Button
- ⑲ Active AF Focusing Window (infrared emitter)
- ⑳ Strap Lug
- ㉑ Viewfinder
- ㉒ Lens Index
- ㉓ Lens Release Button
- ㉔ Passive AF Focusing Windows
- ㉕ Active AF Focusing Window (infrared receiver)
- ㉖ External Metering Window



- 1 Camera Back Release Pin
- 2 Spool
- 3 Focus Lock Button
- 4 Focus Mode Dial
- 5 Shutter Curtain
- 6 Viewfinder Eyepiece
- 7 Diopter Adjuster
- 8 Film Mounting Spindle
- 9 Sync Terminal
- 10 Camera Back Release Knob
- 11 Manual Rewind Button
- 12 Film Check Window
- 13 Camera Back
- 14 Battery Compartment/Cover
- 15 Data back Contacts
- 16 Tripod Socket
- 17 DX Contacts
- 18 Film Chamber
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37

Basic Steps/Kurzanleitung

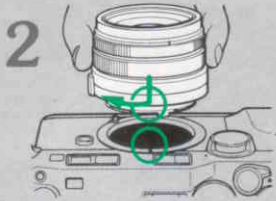


1
Load the batteries
(see page 18).

Batterien einlegen
(siehe Seite 19).

Chargez les piles
(reportez-vous à la page 19).

Instale las pilas
(vea la página 19).

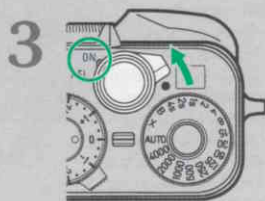


2
Mount the lens
(see page 26).

Objektiv ansetzen
(siehe Seite 26).

Montez l'objectif
(reportez-vous à la page 27).

Monte el objetivo
(vea la página 27).



3
Turn on the main switch
(see page 34).

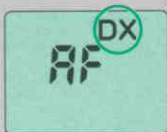
Kamera einschalten
(siehe Seite 35).

Enclenchez le commutateur principal
(reportez-vous à la page 35).

Conecte el interruptor principal
(vea la página 35).

Etapes de base/Pasos básicos

4



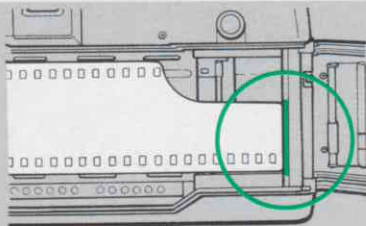
Set the film speed to "DX"
(see page 56).

**Filmempfindlichkeit auf
"DX" einstellen**
(siehe Seite 56).

**Réglez la sensibilité du film
à la position "DX"**
(reportez-vous à la page 57).

**Ajuste la sensibilidad de la
película a "DX"**
(vea la página 57).

5



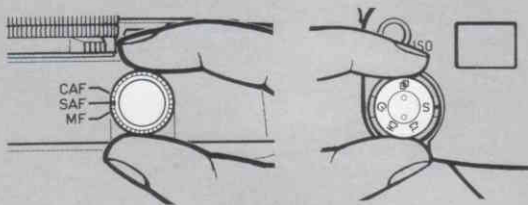
**Load DX film, pull the tip as far as the orange "I" mark,
place it on the spool and close the cover** (see page 50).

**DX-Film einlegen, Lasche bis zur orangefarbenen
Markierung "I" über die Aufwickelspule ziehen und die
Rückwand schließen** (siehe Seite 51).

**Chargez un film DX, sortez son amorce jusqu'à la
marque orange "I" sur la bobine et refermez le couvercle**
(reportez-vous à la page 51).

**Cargue película DX, tire de la punta hasta la marca "I" de
color naranja, póngala en el carrete y cierre la cubierta**
(vea la página 51).

6



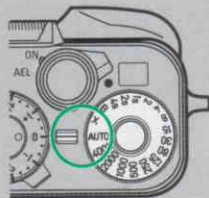
Set the focus-mode dial to “SAF” and the drive mode dial to “S” (see pages 68, 64).

Stellen Sie den AF-Betriebsartenknopf auf “SAF”, den Filmtransportknopf auf “S” (siehe Seite 69, 65).

Mettez le sélecteur de mode de mise au point sur “SAF” et le sélecteur du mode d’avancement du film sur “S” (reportez-vous aux pages 69, 66).

Ajuste el dial del modo de enfoque en “SAF” y el dial del modo motorizado en “S” (vea las páginas 69, 67).

7



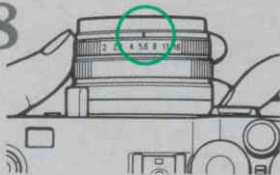
Set the shutter speed dial to “AUTO” (see page 62).

Zeitenring auf “AUTO” drehen (siehe Seite 63).

Réglez le cadran de vitesse d’obturation sur “AUTO” (reportez-vous à la page 63).

Ajuste el dial de velocidad del obturador a “AUTO” (vea la página 63).

8



9



Set your desired aperture
(see page 120).

Geeignete Blende wählen
(siehe Seite 121).

Réglez l'ouverture désirée
(reportez-vous à la page 121).

**Ajuste la abertura que
desea** (vea la página 121).

Aim the focusing frame at your subject, and depress the shutter release halfway. The focusing mark turns on. Press the shutter release and shoot (see page 88).

AF-Meßfeld auf Hauptobjekt legen und Auslöser halb eindrücken. Auslösen, wenn Einstellentfernung durch Entfernungsindex markiert ist (siehe Seite 89).

Dirigez le cadre de mise au point vers le sujet et enfoncez à moitié le déclencheur. Le repère de mise au point s'allume. Enfoncez le déclencheur et prenez la photo (reportez-vous à la page 89).

Dirija el marco de enfoque al motivo, y presione a medias el disparador. Se encenderá la marca de enfoque. Presione el disparador y dispare (vea la página 89).

Attach the Strap (standard accessory)
Attach the strap as shown in the illustration.

●
Anbringen des Riemens

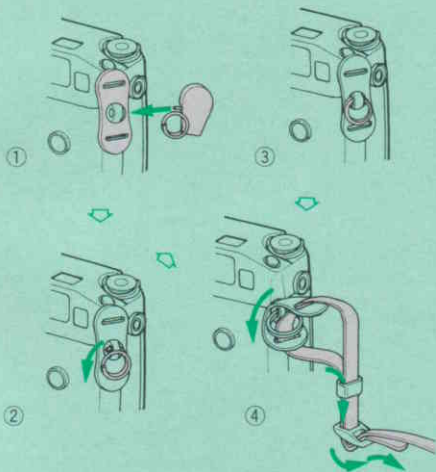
(Standardzubehör)
Befestigen Sie den Trageriemen wie in der
Abbildung gezeigt

●
Fixation de la sangle

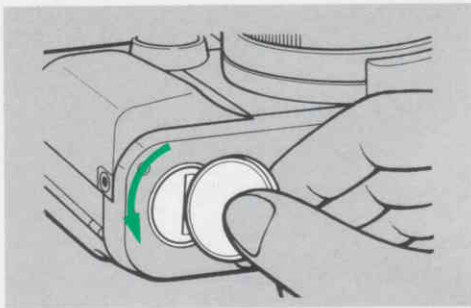
(Accessoire standard)
Fixez la sangle de la manière indiquée dans
l'illustration.

●
Instale la correa (accesorio estándar)

Instale la correa como se muestra en la
ilustración.

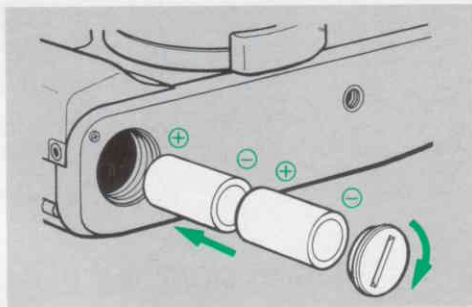


Loading the Batteries



Be sure the main switch is "OFF" before replacing batteries.

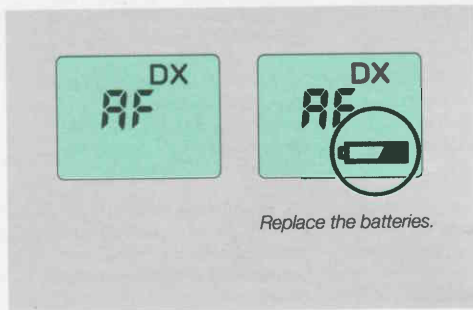
1 Use a coin to turn the battery compartment cover as shown and remove the cover.




2 Load two new 3V lithium batteries (type CR2) in the compartment with polarities aligned as shown.

- If battery polarities are not aligned correctly, the camera will not operate and may be damaged.


3 Replace the cover screw.







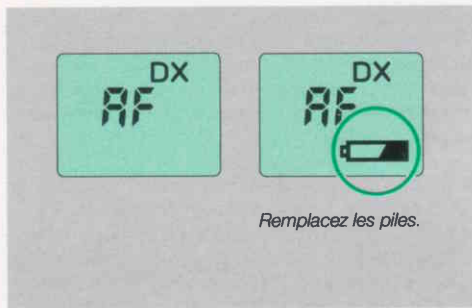
<Battery Check>

After the batteries are loaded, operate the camera first, the battery voltage is normal if the mark "  " (battery warning mark) does not appear in the display panel.


<Battery Replacement>

If the mark "  " turns on in the display panel, it is time to replace the batteries. Set the main switch at "OFF", open the battery compartment cover and replace the batteries with new ones.


- Though you can take picture even after the mark "  " has turned on, it is recommended to replace the batteries as soon as possible. Be careful because the mark "  " will blink or go out and the camera will no longer operate if the battery capacity has dropped below the effective limit.
- Some batteries may tend to decrease their voltage temporarily when they are loaded. You need not worry about this because they recover their performance when the power is turned on. If the mark "  " appears soon after the new batteries are loaded, turn off the main switch and then turn it on again. If the mark "  " goes out, you can use these batteries.







<Vérification des piles>

Lorsque les piles sont chargées, actionnez tout d'abord l'appareil ; la tension des piles est normale si la marque "  " (marque d'avertissement de pile) n'apparaît pas dans le panneau d'affichage.

<Remplacement des piles>

Si la marque "  " apparaît dans le panneau d'affichage, il est temps de remplacer les piles. Placez le commutateur principal sur OFF, ouvrez le couvercle du compartiment des piles et remplacez les piles par des neuves.

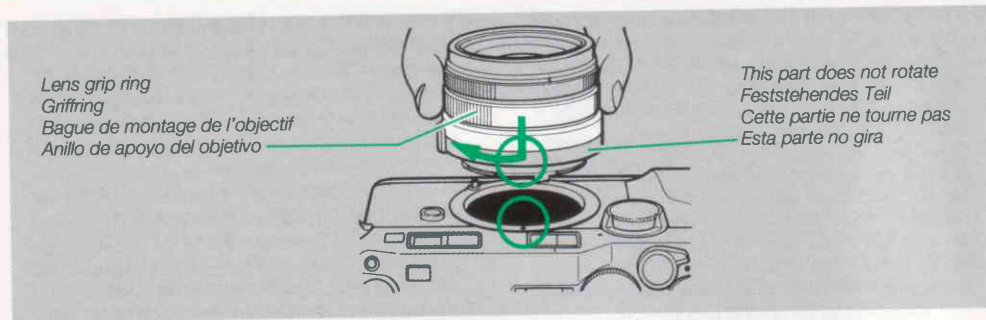
- Bien qu'il soit possible de prendre des photos même lorsque la marque "  " est apparue, il est recommandé de remplacer les piles dès que possible. Faites attention car la marque "  " clignotera ou s'éteindra, et l'appareil ne fonctionnera plus si la capacité des piles a chuté en dessous de la limite effective.
- La tension de certaines piles a tendance à diminuer temporairement lorsqu'elles sont chargées. Ne vous inquiétez pas car elles retrouvent leurs performances lorsque l'alimentation est mise en circuit. Si la marque "  " apparaît juste après le chargement des piles, désenclenchez le commutateur principal, puis réenclenchez-le. Si la marque "  " disparaît, vous pouvez utiliser ces piles.

<Battery Precautions>

- Always replace the batteries with new ones of the same type. Do not mix different kinds of batteries or new and old batteries. Always use two new batteries of the same type and brand.
- Generally, battery performance is reduced by cold temperatures. If you are shooting in cold weather, it is advisable to keep the camera warm in a bag or an outfit for protection against cold. The battery reduced by low temperatures will return to normal when you take pictures at an ordinary temperature.
- Before loading the batteries wipe both poles clean with a dry cloth because poor contact may result if they are soiled with sweat or grease.
- If you are going on a long trip, bring new spare batteries with you.
- Do not throw used batteries into fire or try to change or disassemble them because it is dangerous.
- The 3V lithium battery (CR2) cannot be charged by any means.
- Battery should be kept away from children.

<Batteriehinweise>

- Verwenden Sie immer nur zwei neue Batterien gleichen Typs und gleicher Marke. Mischen Sie keine verschiedenen Sorten oder neuen und alte.
- Wenn die Batterien längere Zeit niedrigen Temperaturen (unter 0°) ausgesetzt wird, läßt ihre Leistung nach. Bei Kälte bewahren Sie die Kamera am besten unter der Kleidung auf, solange Sie nicht Fotografieren. Die Batterieleistung normalisiert sich wieder nach Erwärmung auf normale Temperaturen.
- Wenn die Batteriepole verschmutzt oder oxidiert sind, kann es Kontaktschwierigkeiten geben. Wischen Sie die Pole vor dem Einlegen mit einem trockenen Tuch ab.
- Nehmen Sie Ersatzbatterien mit, wenn Sie länger unterwegs sein werden.
- Batterien sind gefährlich und können explodieren. Leere Batterien dürfen nicht ins Feuer geworfen geladen, kurzgeschlossen oder auseinandergenommen werden.
- Lithium-Batterien sind nicht wieder aufladbar.
- Halten Sie die Batterien außerhalb der Reichweite von Kindern.



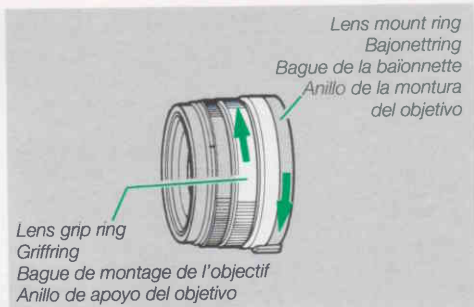
<Mounting the lens>

First, remove the camera's body cap and the lens' rear cap. Then, holding onto the lens grip ring, align the red dot on the lens with the lens index mark on the camera body, insert the lens into the body and press in while turning the lens clockwise (the direction of the arrow in the illustration). Turn the lens until it locks into place with a "click."

<Ansetzen des Objektivs>

Nehmen Sie zunächst den Gehäusedeckel und den Rückdeckel des Objektivs ab. Fassen Sie das Objektiv dann am Griffring, richten Sie den roten Punkt am Objektiv auf den weißen Index an der Kamera aus, setzen Sie das Objektiv ein, und drehen Sie es unter Druck bis zum Anschlag im Uhrzeigersinn (Pfeil in der Abbildung). Das Objektiv muß hörbar einrasten.

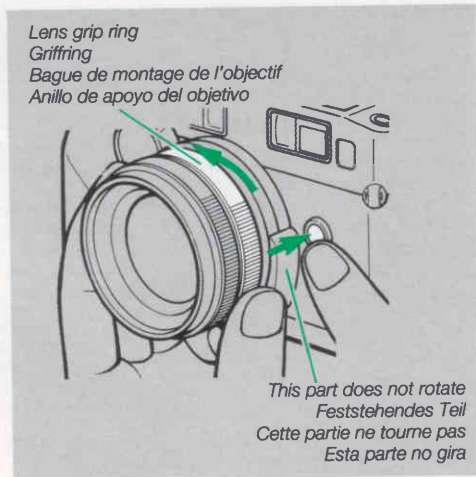
- If the lens is not properly mounted, or the red dot is not correctly aligned with the lens index, it will not lock with a click. In this case, remove the lens from the camera once. Then, turn the lens mount ring (shaded portion) and the lens grip ring in the direction of the arrow fully, as illustrated, to mount the lens on the camera again.



<Dismounting the Lens>

When holding the lens grip ring and pressing in the middle of the lens release button, turn the lens counterclockwise as far as it will go and pull it out toward you. After dismounting the lens from the camera, protect the lens with the lens cap and rear cap, and the camera with the body cap.

- Do not touch the lens surface and camera inside, contacts and so on with your fingers when mounting and dismounting the lens.



- Avoid direct sunlight or other bright light when changing the lens with film loaded in the camera.
Do not leave the camera in direct sunlight for extended periods of time when the lens is detached from the camera.
- Always mount and dismount the Hologon 16mm F8 lens by holding the lens guard.

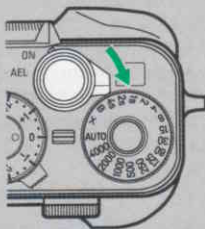
When the lens is dismounted from the camera, the aperture ring operation range will change, but this is not a malfunction. The range will return to normal when the lens is mounted to the camera.

- Vermeiden Sie beim Ansetzen des Objektivs mit geladener Kamera direktes Sonnenlicht oder anderes helles Licht. Setzen Sie die Kamera nicht längere Zeit ohne Objektiv dem direkten Sonnenlicht aus.
- Fassen Sie ein Hologon 1:8/16 mm zum Ansetzen bzw. Abnehmen stets an den gravierten Fassungsteilen.

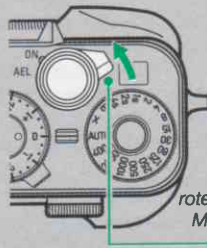
Bei einem abgenommenen Objektiv ändert sich der Drehbereich des Blendenrings. Dies ist normal. Sobald das Objektiv angesetzt ist, ist der ursprüngliche Zustand wiederhergestellt.

Main Switch

OFF position
OFF-Stellung
Position OFF
Posición OFF



ON position
ON-Stellung
Position ON
Posición ON



Red Mark
rote Markierung
Marque rouge
Marca roja

The main switch turns on and off the camera and sets it for AE lock (AEL).

- The main switch should be locked at a click position when shooting to prevent it from shifting by mistake.

OFF: Red mark not visible

When the red mark is not visible, the main switch is set at OFF, turning off the camera.

If you are not using the camera, turn off the main switch to prevent the shutter from tripping inadvertently.

“ON” mark

The camera's power is turned on. Usually, set the switch in this position.

“AEL” mark

The AE lock is useful for shooting backlit subjects or if you want to shoot moving subjects continuously with a fixed exposure.

For details on AE lock, see page 134.

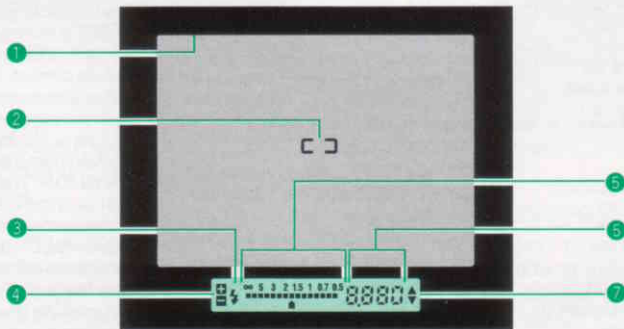
Display in the Viewfinder

The display in the viewfinder will turn on in the following cases, then turn off automatically after 16 seconds.

- ① When the main switch is turned on.
- ② When the main switch is set to ON, and either:
The shutter release is depressed halfway, or
the focus dial or focus lock button are operated.

If you switch a button, dial, etc. while the display is shown, the display will remain on for another 16 seconds.

(The illustration shows all information available in the viewfinder for reference. It does not represent an actual example of display.)



① Picture Area Frame


When the shutter release is depressed halfway, the picture area frame on display changes automatically according to the shooting distance, lens focal length, etc.

To shoot, place your subject within the displayed frame.

② Focus Frame

Place your subject to focus in this frame.

③ Flash Mark

If you are using the TLA flash system for taking flash pictures, the flash mark “” will turn on as soon as the flash is fully charged. If your subject is correctly exposed, it will blink two seconds after the flash has fired.

④ Exposure Compensation Mark

The “+” or “-” mark will light when exposure compensation is performed with the exposure compensation dial, or A.B.C. mode.

⑤ Focusing Indicator

Shows the condition of focus. For details, see the section “Focusing the lens” on p. 74.

⑥ Shutter Speed/Shooting Distance

Normally, displays the shutter speed from 1/6000 second to 16 seconds, in 1/2 step intervals. On the scale, “6000” means 1/6000 second, “200” means 1/200 second, and “16” means 16 seconds.

When the focus lock button is pressed in the “MF” (manual focus) mode, the display indicates the shooting distance to the subject (the display is shown only while the button is held depressed).

⑦ Exposure Mark

In the auto exposure mode, the over “▲” or under “▼” mark indicating deviation from the exposure control range will be displayed. In the manual mode, the correct “◆”, over “▲” or under “▼” mark will be displayed.

When looking through the viewfinder, some vignetting (shading) may be noticed in the lower-right corner of the viewfinder due to occlusion by the lens barrel, or use of a filter or lens hood. Such vignetting, however, will not appear on the final photograph.

Display Panel/Exposure Counter

<Display Panel>

(The illustration shows all information available in the display panel/exposure counter for reference. It does not represent an actual example of display.)



● ISO/DX Indicator

When displaying the film speed or in the film speed setting mode, this indicator will be displayed.

- When auto mode is set with DX code, always "DX" is displayed.
- **Multiple Exposure Mark**

● Shooting Distance/Film Speed Indicator

When the shutter release is depressed halfway, the shooting distance is displayed. If the ISO button is depressed, however, it switches to display the film speed.

It also shows the setting condition for custom functions.

● Battery Warning Mark

It turns on when it is time to change the batteries.

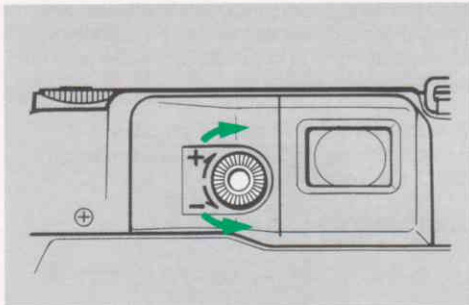
<Exposure Counter>



The exposure counter normally shows the number of exposures on a film. It also provides the following functions:

- Display of the operation order in the "A.B.C." mode
- Display of the end of the film.
- Remaining operating time in self-timer mode.
- Elapsed time during bulb exposure (B) mode.

Diopter Adjustment



This camera has a built-in diopter adjustment unit. To adjust the viewfinder eyepiece to your eyesight, turn the diopter adjuster until the focus frame in the center of the viewfinder appears sharp and clear. The adjustable range is from +0.3 to -2 dipoters.

If the built-in diopter adjustment provides insufficient compensation for your eyesight, an optional diopter lens, type GFL can be used.

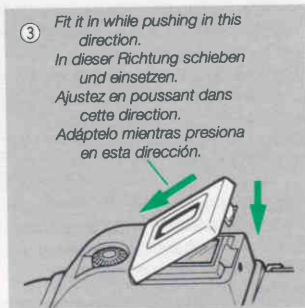
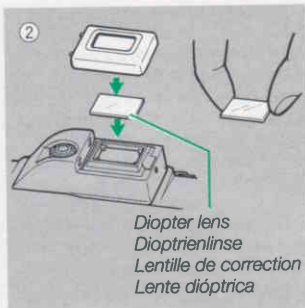
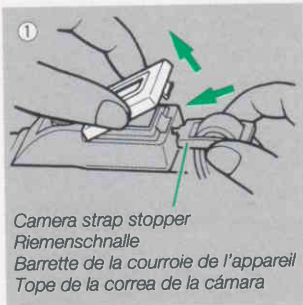
The range of diopter adjustments possible with and without optional lenses is as follows:

Folgende Einstellbereiche stehen ohne bzw. mit Dioptrienlinse zur Verfügung:

Les corrections suivantes sont possibles avec ou sans lentille additionnelle:

El margen de los ajustes dióptricos posibles con y sin lentes opcionales es el siguiente:

Diopter Lens Dioptrienlinse Lentille de correction Lente dióptrica	Range of Adjustment Einstellbereich Plage de réglage Margen de ajuste
None/Keine Aucune/Ninguno	+0.3D ~ -2.0D
GFL (-4)	-3.0D ~ -5.0D
GFL (-2)	-1.0D ~ -3.5D
GFL (+2)	+3.0D ~ +0.4D

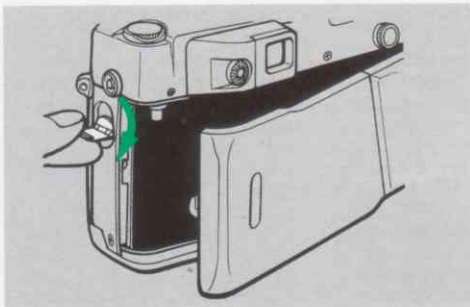


<Installing a Diopter Lens>

When installing a diopter lens, hold the camera with the viewfinder eyepiece pointing upward, to help prevent the diopter lens from dropping out. Also, take care in handling so as not to soil the diopter lens when installing it.

- ① As shown in the illustration, while pressing the pointed end of the camera strap stopper in the hole on the side of the viewfinder eyepiece, lift up and remove up the eyepiece frame.
- ② Place the diopter lens inside the eyepiece frame.
- ③ Fit the pins on the left side of the eyepiece frame into their holes, and press down the frame to its original position.

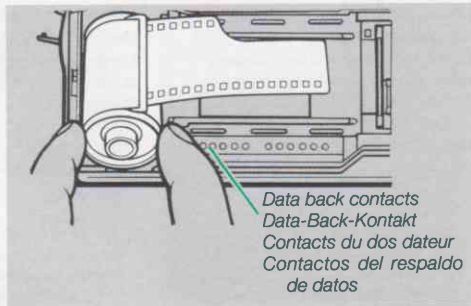
Loading the Film



1 Open the camera back by erecting and rotating the camera back release knob in the direction of the arrow.

After the camera back is opened, replace the knob in place.

- When loading film, be sure to remove the protective sheet in the camera's picture area frame.

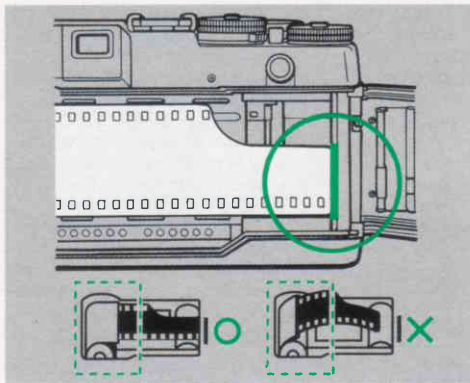


2 Insert the film cassette slantwise into the film chamber with its protruding end downward as illustrated.

Note on the shutter curtain:

The shutter curtain is a precision part. Never touch it with your finger or strike it with the film tip. When the film tip lies on the shutter curtain, in particular, never trip the shutter.

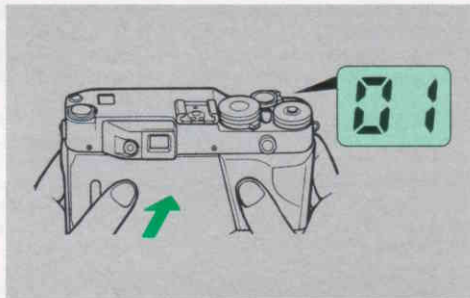
- Take care not to touch or contaminate the DX contacts and data back contact.
- Always load and unload a film in subdued light.



3 Pull out the film tip as far as the orange "I" mark and place it on the spool.

Take care that the film does not float up (see illustration).

- If the length of film protruding from the cassette is too long, adjust it by winding film back into the cassette before loading the film.



4 Close the camera back securely.

As soon as the camera back is closed, the film advances automatically and stops when the exposure counter shows "01".

- If the exposure counter blinks at "00", the film is not advancing properly. Open the camera back and reload the film correctly.