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Camera Functions and Applied Techniques

Kamerafunktionen und ihre praktische Anwendung

Fonctions de l'appareil et techniques appliquées

Operación de la Cámara y Técnicas Aplicadas

Selecting the Exposure Mode

You can choose the following exposure modes depending on your shooting object and application.

Av: Aperture-priority Auto Exposure

If you choose your desired aperture the camera will automatically select the shutter speed suited for it to provide correct exposure. This mode is useful for taking pictures by utilizing the lens depth of field.

Tv: Shutter-speed-priority Auto Exposure (with MM type lenses only)

If you choose your desired shutter speed, the camera will automatically select the aperture suited for it to provide correct exposure. This mode is useful for taking fast moving objects.

P: Programmed Auto Exposure (with MM type lenses only)

In this mode, the camera will automatically select the optimum combination of aperture and shutter speed on a preset program in accordance with the brightness of the subject.

Because it is not necessary to set exposure, you can concentrate on composing your picture and choosing the best shooting moment.

M: Manual Exposure

In this mode, you can choose the aperture and shutter speed as desired. Intentional over- or underexposure is also easy.

X: Flash Photography

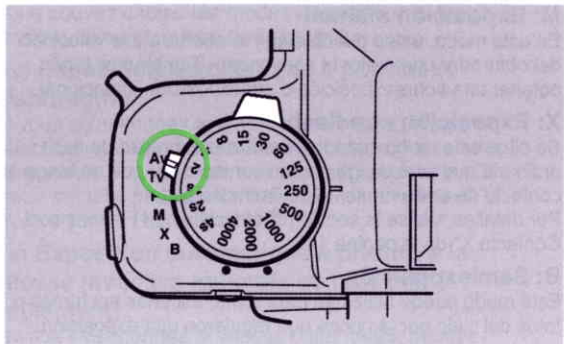
This mode is set when you use an ordinary flash unit having only X-contact but no dedicated flash linked contact. For more detail, refer to "Flash Photography Using Other than TLA Flash Unit" on page 146.

B: Bulb Exposure

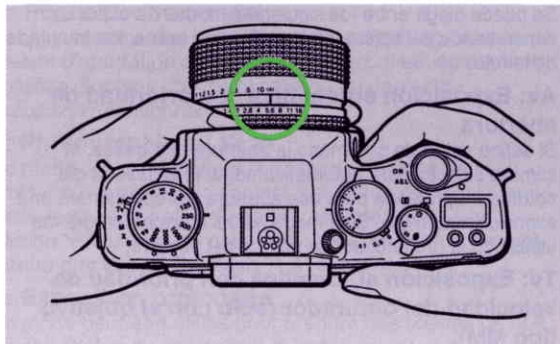
This mode can be used for taking night scenes or pictures of the sky at night which require long exposure.

- If an AE lens is mounted on the camera, you cannot take pictures in the "Tv" or "P" mode. Even if it has been set at the "Tv" or "P" mode, it will nevertheless operate in the "Av" mode.
- If no lens is mounted on the camera, the exposure mode will automatically switch to the "Av" mode even if it has been set at the "Tv" or "P" mode.

Aperture-priority Auto Exposure [Av]



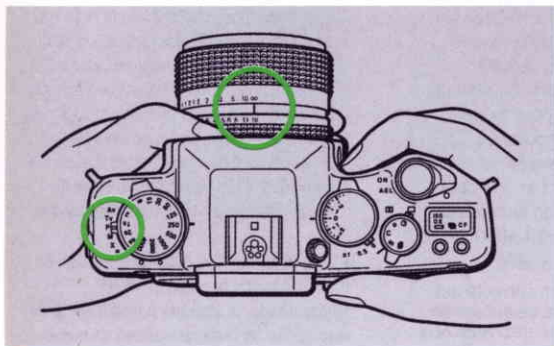
1 Set the exposure mode selector lever to “Av.”



2 Set the aperture and shoot.

If you set the aperture with the lens' aperture ring, the camera will automatically set the shutter speed suited for it.

- In the viewfinder, the aperture you have set and the shutter speed automatically set by the camera will turn on.
- It does not matter where the shutter speed dial is set.

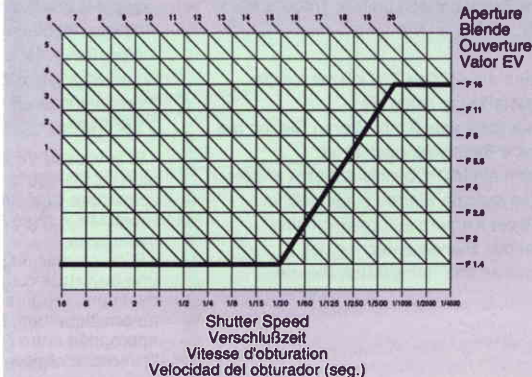


1 Set the lens to its minimum aperture (in green) and set the exposure mode selector lever to "P".

2 Focus the lens, compose your picture and shoot. Turn the distance ring to focus it on the subject, compose your picture and shoot.

- The camera will automatically select the optimum combination of aperture and shutter speed to suit your subject, and the selected aperture and shutter speed will be displayed in the viewfinder.

Program Control Diagram (with F1.4 lens, ISO 100)
Belichtungsprogramm (mit f/1,4-Objektiv und ISO 100)
Diagramme de contrôle de programme (avec l'objectif F1.4, ISO 100)
Diagrama de Control de la Exposición Automática Programada (Con respecto a un objetivo de F1,4, sensibilidad ISO 100 y abertura F16)



<Programmed Auto Exposure Control Diagram>

Combinations of aperture and shutter speed which can be set in the programmed auto exposure mode are shown in the following diagram.

- The control range will be narrower if the lens is not set to its minimum aperture.

Precautions on Auto Exposure ("Av", "Tv", "P")

<Over/Underexposure Warning in Auto Exposure>

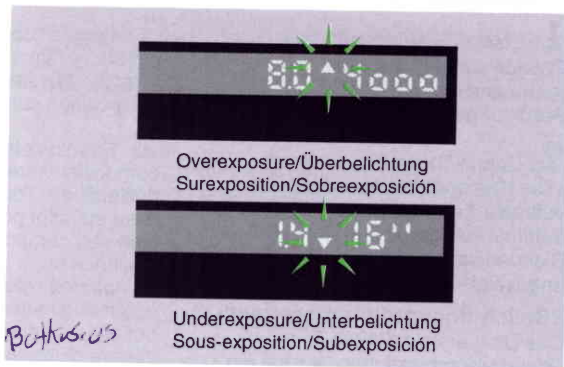
Overexposure warning

If the exposure mark "▲" blinks, it means overexposure. Because the subject is too bright, readjust the aperture so that the "▲" mark turns off. It is also possible to reduce the light intensity with an optional ND filter.

Underexposure warning

If "▼" blinks, it means underexposure. Because the subject is too dark, use an additional light to brighten up the subject or change the aperture so that "▼" disappears. Also, a dedicated flash unit will let you take correctly exposed pictures.

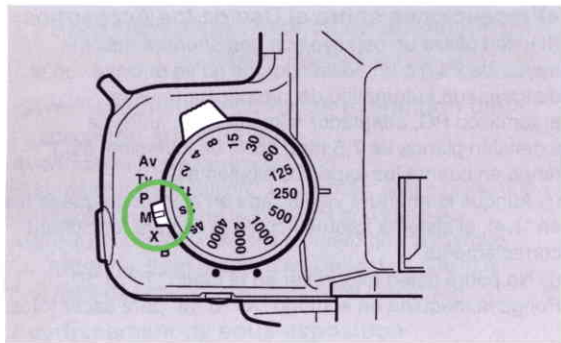
- Even when an over- or underexposure warning appears you can take pictures by depressing the shutter release.



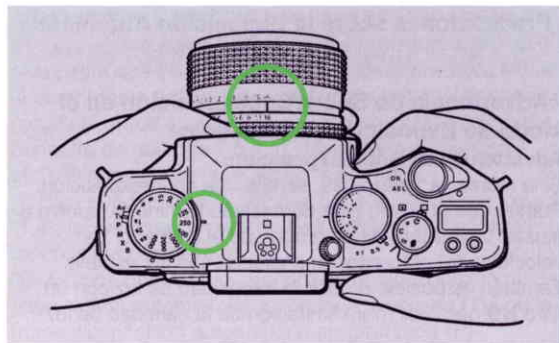
<Cautions on Use of Accessories>

If you use a lens with its maximum aperture slower than F5.6 or an accessory with which the lens' automatic diaphragm does not operate (Auto Bellows PC, Microscope Adapter, Extension Tube 7.5mm, Reverse Ring, etc.), be careful about the following things:

- ① Though the aperture displayed in the viewfinder is fixed at "1.4", the camera's light metering system will operate properly.
- ② You cannot take pictures in the shutter-speed-priority (Tv) or programmed auto exposure (P) mode. Choose the aperture-priority auto exposure (Av) or manual exposure (M) mode when using these accessories.



- 1** Set the exposure mode selector lever to "M."
- 2** Set the shutter speed with the shutter speed dial and the aperture with the aperture ring and shoot.

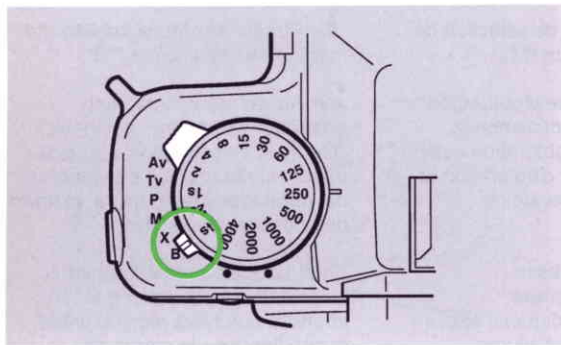


In the viewfinder, the shutter speed and aperture selected are indicated and the exposure mark lights.

- "▲" : Overexposure
- "◆" : Correct exposure
- "▼" : Underexposure

Adjust the shutter speed dial or aperture ring so that the "◆" mark is displayed.

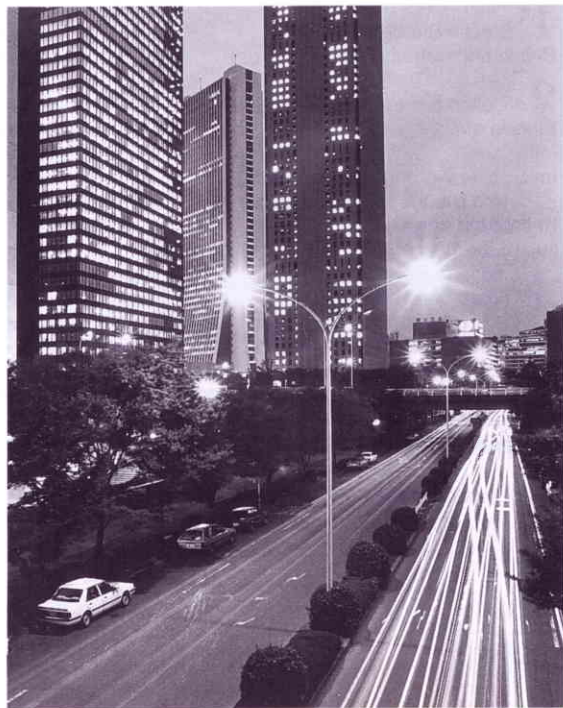
Bulb Exposure [B]

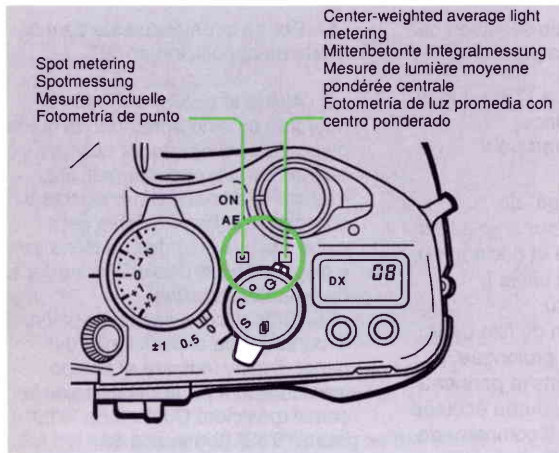


1 Set the exposure mode selector lever to "B".

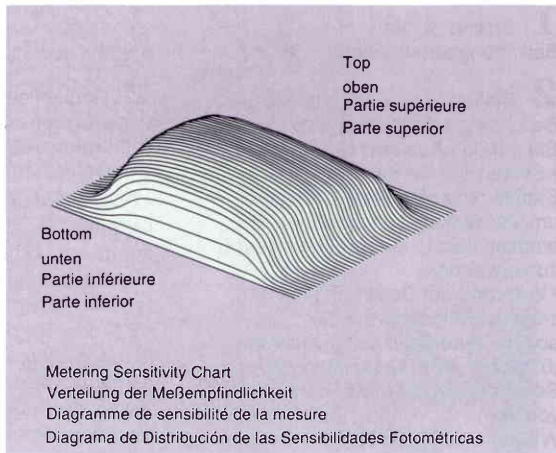
2 Set the aperture and shoot. As long as the shutter release is depressed, the shutter will remain open to expose the film.

- Mount the camera on a tripod or a stable base to prevent camera shake and trip the shutter with the Cable Switch L (optional accessory).
- While the film is exposed in the bulb exposure mode, the exposure counter in the display panel will indicate the time that has passed during bulb exposure. It will count from "0'00" to "9'59" (9 minutes 59 seconds), then repeat the same cycle.
- When in exposure, all the indicators in the viewfinder disappear.





This camera provides two metering methods: center-weighted average light metering and spot metering. You can choose either method with the metering mode selector lever. Depending on your object and shooting conditions, select an appropriate method to get precise effects which suit your purposes.



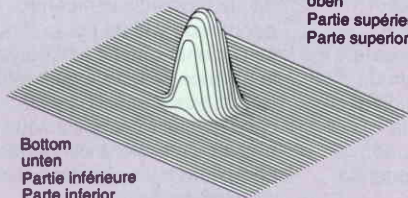
<Center-weighted Average Light Metering> (□)

In this method, the camera measures the light intensity with emphasis on the subject in the center of the viewfinder and also takes the brightness in the surrounding area into account to determine the exposure value.

Because it accommodates fluctuations of light, it is suited for ordinary objects as well as for fast moving objects.

Butkusius

Top
oben
Partie supérieure
Parte superior



Bottom
unten
Partie inférieure
Parte inferior

Metering Sensitivity Chart Verteilung der Meßempfindlichkeit
Diagramme de sensibilité de la mesure Diagrama de Distribución de las
Sensibilidades Fotométricas

- Due to the spot metering characteristic of this camera, using the lens with a maximum exposure slower than F5.6 or the Mutar or close-up accessory (Auto Bellows PC, Microscope Adapter, Auto Extension Tube, Reverse Ring, etc.) with actual exposure slower than F5.6 may cause metering error in spot metering. Use the center-weighted average light metering under the above condition.

<Polarizing Filter>

The spot metering characteristic of this camera may cause an metering error when used with a straight-line polarizing filter. It is recommended to use a circle polarizing filter when you want to take pictures with polarizing filter.

<Spot Metering> (“ □ ”)

In this method, the camera measures only the brightness of the subject in the center of the viewfinder (microprism area) to determine the exposure value. Its applicable area is within the outer circle in the center of the viewfinder. It is suited for backlighted subjects, stage scenes in which the main subject is spotlighted, or when there is an extreme difference in brightness between the subject and background.

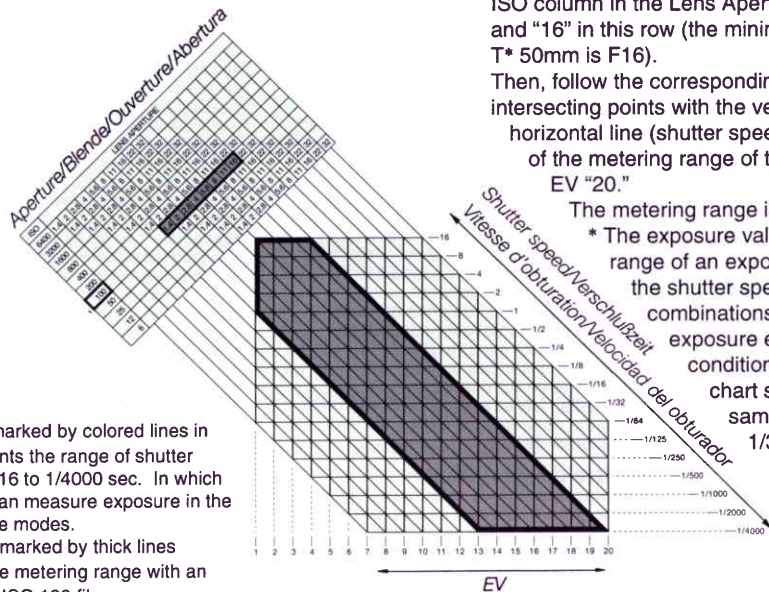
<Metering Range

This chart shows the relationship of the aperture, shutter speed and EV value, and you can check the metering range of your lens on it. If you are shooting with an ISO 100 film and F1.4 lens in the counter-weighted average light metering mode, for example, first find "100" on the ISO column in the Lens Aperture table and locate "1.4" and "16" in this row (the minimum aperture of the Planar T* 50mm is F16).

Then, follow the corresponding oblique lines and find their intersecting points with the vertical line (EV) and horizontal line (shutter speed). This represents the limits of the metering range of the F1.4 lens is EV "1" and EV "20."

The metering range is EV 5-20 on spot metering.

* The exposure value (EV) shows the coupling range of an exposure meter and represents the shutter speed and aperture combinations that yield the same exposure effect in a given lighting condition. For example, EV13 in the chart shows that you can take the same exposure at both F16, 1/30 sec. and F8, 1/125 sec.



The area marked by colored lines in table represents the range of shutter speeds from 16 to 1/4000 sec. In which the camera can measure exposure in the auto exposure modes.

■ The range marked by thick lines represents the metering range with an F1.4 lens and ISO 100 film.

If there is a great difference in brightness between the subject and its background, the subject will not be correctly exposed. In this case, use exposure compensation. Exposure compensation can also be used for intentional over- and underexposure. There are three methods:

<1. Using the Exposure Compensation Dial>

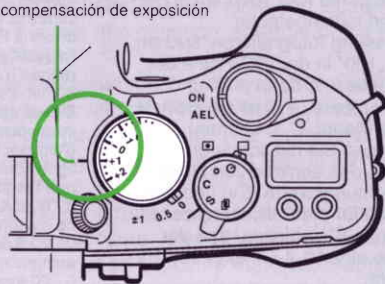
Normally, the exposure compensation dial is set at "0" in the aperture-priority (Av), shutter-speed-priority (Tv) or programmed auto exposure (P) and manual exposure (M) modes. To compensate exposure, turn and set the dial so that your desired compensating value comes opposite the index mark. It can be set in 1/3-EV increments within a range of +2 EV to -2 EV.

If the exposure compensation dial is set anywhere except "0", the "+" or "-" mark will blink in the viewfinder, indicating that exposure compensation is made.

Exposure mode	Exposure correction
Aperture-priority auto exposure mode (Av)	Shutter speed
Shutter-speed-priority auto exposure mode (Tv)	Aperture
Programmed auto exposure mode (P)	Aperture and shutter speed

In the manual exposure mode (M), the measured shutter speed (lighting) changes with the compensating value. Therefore, adjust the shutter speed dial or aperture ring until the exposure mark "◆" is displayed.

Exposure compensation index
Belichtungskorrektur-Index
Index de compensation d'exposition
Indice de compensación de exposición



After taking pictures with exposure compensation, be sure to return the dial to "0."



**For backlighting subjects ...
Exposure compensation of “+1/3” ~ “+2”**

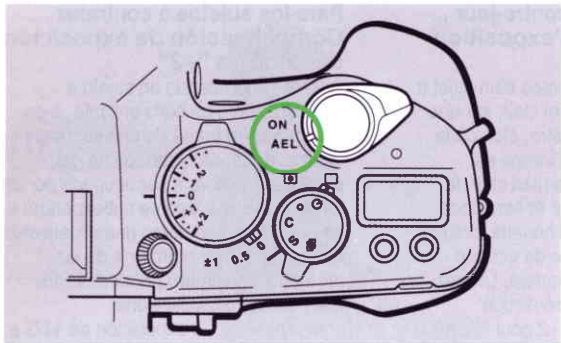
If you are shooting your subject against the light, under a bright sky, on an ocean beach, in front of a window, and so on, where the greater part of your picture is occupied by a bright background, the subject will be underexposed and turn out dark like a silhouette when it is taken on center-weighted average light metering. In such cases, use exposure compensation of +1/3 ~ +2 to give more exposure.



**For spotlighted subjects ...
Exposure compensation of “-1/3” ~ “-2”**

If you are shooting a spotlighted subject on a stage where a dark background predominates in the scene, it will be underexposed and turn out light when it is taken on center-weighted average light metering. In such cases, use exposure compensation of -1/3 ~ -2 to reduce the amount of light on it.





<2. Using the AE Lock>

The AE lock is used for storing the exposure value (combination of shutter speed and aperture) of the subject in memory during auto exposure. It is used when you shoot the backlighted subject or when you make continuous shooting on the moving object at a fixed exposure.

If the main switch is set to "AEL", the exposure value at that time will be stored in the camera memory so that you can trip the shutter with the same exposure value, unaffected by changes in brightness on the background.

1 First, face the central part of the viewfinder toward your subject then switch the main switch from "ON" to "AEL." The exposure will thus be locked.

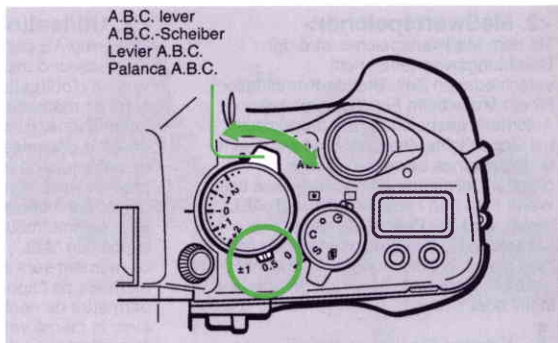
To measure exposure in a narrow area and lock it, set the metering mode selector lever for spot metering and use the AE lock.

- The metering mark in the viewfinder blinks during AE lock.
- Set the main switch to "AEL" when the display in the view finder lights.

2 Recompose your subject and shoot.

- The exposure value will remain in memory while the AE lock is activated, but the display will turn off after 16 seconds to save battery.
- In the continuous-shooting modes ("C"), you can take pictures in succession with the same exposure value, unaffected by changes in brightness on the background, if you have locked the exposure.
- This camera stores in memory the exposure value in a combination of shutter speed and aperture. For example, if the aperture is changed in the "Av" mode after the AE lock is activated, the shutter speed will follow to maintain the same exposure value.
- If you change the film speed or exposure compensating value, exposure is made as follows:

Exposure mode	Controlled Item
Aperture-priority auto exposure mode (Av)	Shutter speed
Shutter-speed-priority auto exposure mode (Tv)	Aperture
Programmed auto exposure mode (P)	Aperture and shutter speed



<3. Using the A.B.C. Mode> (Automatic Exposure Compensation for 3 Consecutive Frames)

This mode allows you to take pictures automatically in three different steps of exposure: standard, overexposure and underexposure. Even if you taking pictures under fluctuating exposure conditions, you can surely capture your subject without the trouble of exposure settings by simply holding your finger on the shutter release.

*A.B.C. is an acronym of "Automatic Bracketing Control."

- 1** Move the A.B.C. lever to set the compensating value. The camera will switch to the A.B.C. mode. Two compensating values are available: ± 0.5 EV and ± 1 EV.

In the A.B.C. mode, the shutter speed or aperture is adjusted for automatic exposure compensation.

Exposure mode	Controlled item
Aperture-priority auto exposure mode (Av)	Shutter speed
Shutter-speed-priority auto exposure mode (Tv)	Aperture The shutter speed is controlled automatically when the aperture controllable range is exceeded.
Programmed auto exposure (P)	Shutter speed
Manual (M)	Shutter speed

- If the exposure compensation dial is set to other positions than "0", the A.B.C. mode is established on the basis of the compensating value being set.
- At each shooting, metering takes place and compensates for the correct value. If you want to shoot unaffected by changes in brightness in the surroundings, it is recommended to use the AE lock in the A.B.C. mode, too.
- After taking pictures in the A.B.C. mode, be sure to return the A.B.C. lever to "0."
- Flash pictures cannot be taken in the A.B.C. mode.

2 If you set the drive mode to "C" (continuous exposure) and continue to depress the shutter release, exposure will be effected in the order of standard exposure, over- (+) and underexposure (-) depending on the compensating value. After exposing three frames, the camera will stop.

- When the drive mode is set to "S" or "O", you can take A.B.C. mode pictures on single-frame shooting.
- When it is set to "C", you can take A.B.C. mode pictures continuously (up to three frames) 10 seconds after the shutter release is depressed.

In the A.B.C. mode, the exposure counter will change in the following order to show the order of shots.

Standard Exposure	:	Left and right blink.
Overexposure	:	Left blinks
Underexposure	:	Right blinks






Standard Exposure
Normalbelichtung
Exposition standard
Estándar

Overexposure
Überbelichtung
Surexposition
Sobreexposición

Underexposure
Unterbelichtung
Sous-exposition
Subexposición

Example: Pictures are taken in the A.B.C. mode from the frame No. 18.

	First Shot	Seconds Shot	Third Shot	Repeated
Compensation :	Standard	Over	Under	Standard
Counter :				
Display :	Left & right blink	Left blinks	Right blinks	Left & right blink

- If the camera's control range is exceeded by the compensating value, the limiting compensation value will apply.
- To cancel the A.B.C. mode after it has been activated, set the A.B.C. lever to "0."
- If the main switch is set to "OFF" and then to "ON" again in the A.B.C. mode, three frames will be exposed again in the A.B.C. mode as described above.

When taking pictures indoors or at night where shutter speed of slower than 1/30 sec. is required, it is recommended to use flash. In combination with the Contax TLA Flash System, this camera is designed to provide "TTL direct light metering" in which the amount of flash light can be automatically controlled on the camera side.

When using the TLA360 Flash Unit, be sure to read the "CONTAX TLA360 Flash Unit" on page 198.

If you want to use standard X-contact flash unit, set the exposure mode selector lever to "X"

<Taking Pictures on TTL Direct Light Metering>

- 1** Mount the TLA flash unit on the camera.
- 2** Set the flash unit to "TTL AUTO."

As soon as the flash is fully charged, the mark "⚡" will turn on in the viewfinder and the shutter speed will automatically be set depending on the camera's exposure mode.

• Aperture-priority auto exposure mode (Av)

Measured Value in Ambient Light	Automatically Set Shutter Speed	Display
16~1/60 sec.	1/60 sec.	"60" lights.
1/60~1/125 sec.	1/60~1/125 sec.	"60" to "125" lights.
1/125~1/4000 sec.	1/125 sec	"125" lights.

• Shutter-speed-priority auto exposure mode (Tv)

Shutter Speed Setting on Dial	Automatically Set Shutter Speed	Display
4~1/125 sec.	4~1/125 (lights) (Shutter speed which is set on the dial)	
1/250~1/4000 sec.	1/125 sec.	"125" lights.

• Programmed auto exposure mode (P)

Measured Value in Ambient Light	Automatically Set Shutter Speed	Display
16~1/60 sec.	1/60 sec.	"60" lights.
1/60~1/125 sec.	1/60~1/125 sec.	"60" to "125" lights.
1/125~1/4000 sec.	1/125 sec	"125" lights.

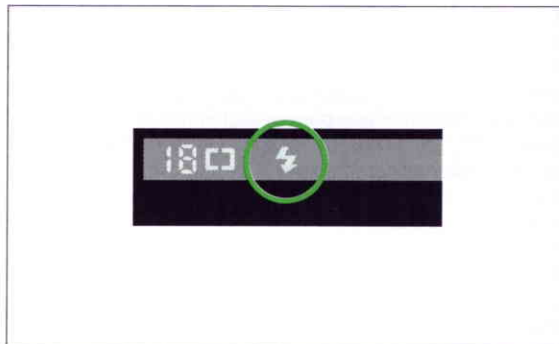
• Manual (M), flash (X), and bulb (B) exposure:

- When "M" is used, the shutter speed cannot be automatically set by the camera. Be sure to set it manually to 1/125 sec. or slower.
- The shutter speed you have set will be indicated in the view finder.
- When the shutter speed dial is set at "X," "125" in the view finder will light.
- When the shutter speed dial is set at "B," "bulb" will light to indicate the "Bulb Exposure."

3 Set the aperture and shoot.

Exposure mode	Aperture
Ax, Tv, M, X, B	Set the aperture. The set value is used when shooting.
P	Set the aperture to minimum value (green). The aperture is set automatically (F4: ISO100) The aperture is automatically made slower at a lighter ambient.

- In the "Tv" mode, the aperture is not set automatically.



After the flash has fired, the mark "⚡" will blink for two seconds if the subject is correctly exposed.

- If the mark "⚡" does not blink after shooting, change the aperture or the shooting distance because your subject will be underexposed.
- In the close-up shooting, even if the "⚡" mark blinks after shooting, overexposure may occur. Follow the instruction manual of the flash unit to get the desired shooting range.
- Be sure to set the A.B.C. lever to "0."
- When the drive mode is set to continuous shooting mode (C), use the flash unit in the specified range.
- The coupling range of film speeds is ISO 25 ~ 400 (without exposure compensation).



<Slow-shutter Synchronization Using a TLA Flash Unit>

Slow-shutter synchronization at 1/30 sec. or slower is effective for taking nighttime pictures and twilight scenes with flash.

This camera facilitates slow-shutter synchronization in combination with a TLA flash unit.

In the exposure mode "Av", "Tv", or "P":

Set the main switch at "AEL."

In this case, the shutter speed will be locked at the measured value in ambient light. Make sure the flash is fully charged and shoot.



In the exposure mode "M":

Set the shutter speed at 1/30 sec. or slower. Adjust the aperture ring to the measured value in ambient light so that the "⬤" mark appears in the viewfinder.

Make sure the flash is fully charged and shoot.

- When taking slow-shutter synchro flash pictures, use a tripod to prevent camera shake because the shutter speed will be slow.



<Daylight Flash>

Subjects under direct sunlight or backlighting subjects will turn out dark without exposure compensation or fill-in flash. If you use the TLA flash in the TTL auto mode in such cases, both the subject and background will be beautifully exposed.

In the exposure mode "Av" or "Tv":

If the "▲" mark blinks after the flash is fully charged, adjust the aperture ring to make the aperture slower until the "▲" mark disappears.



In the exposure mode "P":

In bright light, the exposure is automatically adjusted for daylight flash.

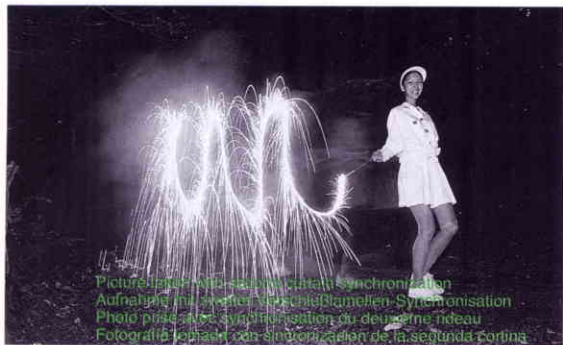
In the exposure mode "M" or "X":

In the "M" mode, set the shutter speed dial to 1/125 sec. or slower.

Adjust the aperture so that the exposure warning mark "◆" appears and shoot.

<Using the exposure compensation dial>

In the TTL auto mode, the amount of flash light couples with the camera's exposure compensation dial. If you want to bring out the mood by adjusting the amount of flash, use the exposure compensation dial.



Picture taken with second curtain synchronization
 Aufnahme mit zweiter Vorhüllblenden-Synchronisation
 Photo prise avec synchronisation du deuxième rideau
 Fotografia tomada con sincronización de la segunda cortina

<Second Curtain Synchronization>

Second curtain synchronization is very useful for shooting moving objects using slow-shutter synchronization. In ordinary flash photography, the flash is fired immediately after the first curtain of the shutter has completed traveling (first curtain synchronization).

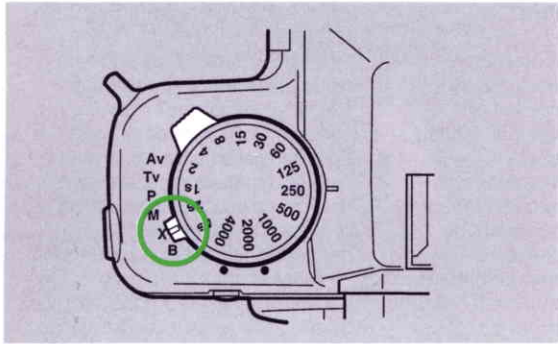


Photo taken with second curtain synchronization
 Aufnahme mit zweiter Vorhüllblenden-Synchronisation
 Photo prise avec synchronisation du deuxième rideau
 Fotografía tomada con sincronización de la segunda cortina

In combination with a Contax flash having a second curtain synchronization capability, the Contax RX can trigger the flash just before the second curtain starts to travel (second curtain synchronization).

Behind the subject illuminated by flash light, the movement of the subject illuminated by ambient light is captured like a flowing line so that its natural movement is depicted clearly.

- The exposure is controlled in the same way as in the case of ordinary flash photography (first curtain synchronization).



<Taking Pictures with X-contact Flash Units other than TLA Flash Unit>

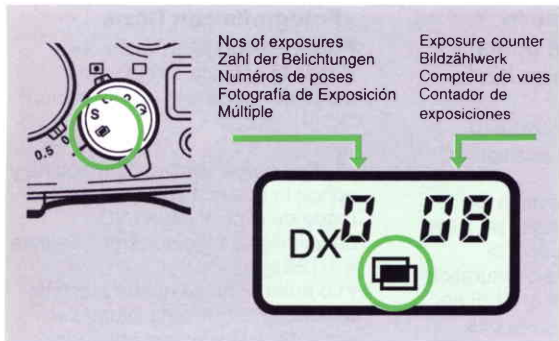
Set the exposure mode selector lever to "X."

1 Mount the flash unit on the camera. Set the exposure mode selector lever to "X." The camera's shutter speed is set to 1/125 sec.

- This value does not change anywhere the shutter speed dial is positioned.

2 Set the aperture ring according to the instructions for the flash unit you use.

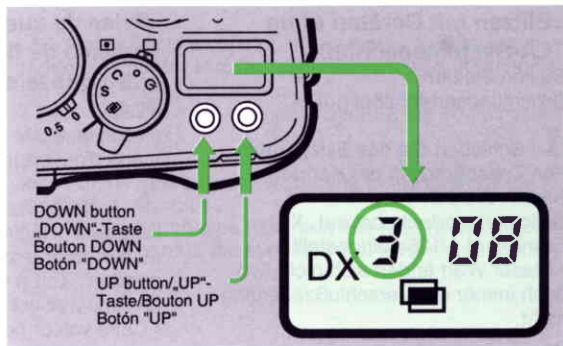
- If you use a cord type flash that has no direct contact, connect the cord to the sync terminal on the side of the camera.



If different subjects or identical subject are exposed on the same frame, more specific photographing can be attained.

1 Lift up the drive mode selector dial and select the multiple exposure mode "DX".

- The display panel indicates as shown above.
- In this position, the drive mode selector dial is kept lift up and the warning mark in orange appears below the dial.

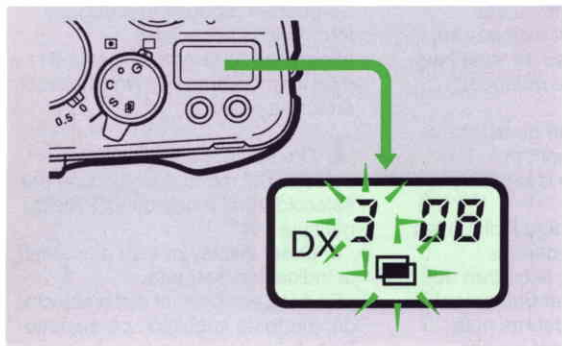


2 Use the "UP" and "DOWN" button to set the number of exposures.

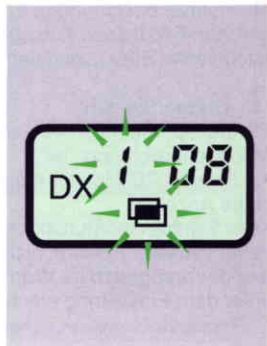
- Pressing the button each time changes the indication as in the following order:

0↔2↔3↔.....↔9

For example, when "3" is displayed, the same frame can be exposed three times.



- 3** Set the drive mode selector dial to the position other than "M". The "no. of exposures" and "M" turn to blink on the display panel.
- You cannot take pictures when the drive mode selector dial is at position "M".



- 4** Press the shutter release for the first exposure.
- Pressing the shutter release causes the first exposure and sets the shutter to prepare for the next exposure. The multiple exposure counter subtracts 1 from the set number for a single exposure.
- 5** Then press the shutter release to cause the next exposure. Like step 4 the shutter is set and the counter decreases by 1. When the last exposure is completed, the frame is advanced and the display panel returns to the normal mode.

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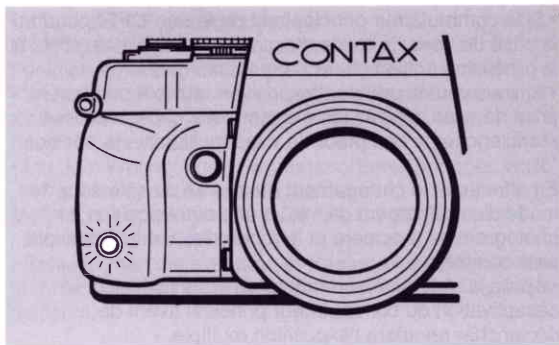
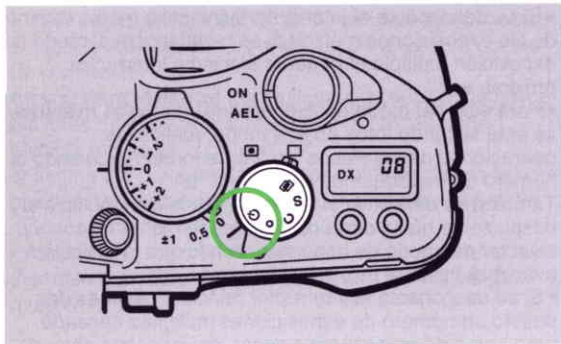
• If the main switch is set to "OFF" on the way of shooting, when it is then set to "ON", the multiple exposure comes to be continued.

• If you want to cancel the multiple exposure while taking pictures, use the above steps 1 and 2 to reset the Multiple exposure counter to "0".

changing the drive mode selector dial from "☐" to another position, the frame advances and the multiple exposure mode is terminated.

• After setting the multiple exposure counter, turning off the main switch before taking a picture will cancel the multiple exposure.

- Wenn die Kamera während der Mehrfachbelichtungsserie ausgeschaltet wird, ist die Funktion erneut Einschalten wieder eingeschaltet.
- Wenn Sie eine Mehrfachbelichtungsserie unterbrechen wollen, stellen Sie die Bildzahl wie in Schritt 1 und 2 beschrieben wieder auf „0“.
- Mit dem Wechsel des Filmtransportfunktionringes von „☐“ auf ein andere Funktion, wird die Mehrfachbelichtungsserie beendet und der Film zum nächsten Bild transportiert.
- Schaltet man die Kamera vor Beginn einer eingestellten Mehrfachbelichtungsserie wieder aus, wird die Einstellung gelöscht.



1 Set the drive mode selector dial to “”.

2 Focus the lens on your subject and depress the shutter release. The self-timer will start and trip the shutter in 10 seconds. While the self-timer is running, the exposure counter will show the remaining time in seconds until the shutter trips. The self-timer LED in the camera front will also blink.

- To shoot with the self-timer, mount the camera on a tripod.
- The self-timer cannot be used when the camera is set for bulb exposure.
- When taking pictures in an auto exposure mode (Av, Tv

or P), cover the viewfinder eyepiece with the eyepiece shutter or use the AE lock to prevent extraneous light from entering through it.

- If the shutter release is depressed while the self-timer is running, the counter will reset itself and start to count the remaining time.
- In the following cases, the self-timer operation will be canceled.
 - When the main switch is turned “OFF”.
 - When the drive mode is switched.
 - When the exposure mode is set to “B” (bulb)
 - When the rewind lever is set to ON.
 - When the aperture stop-down button is depressed.