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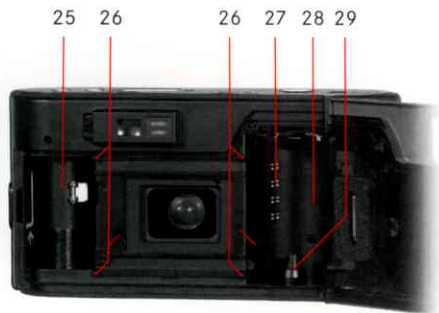
Leica C3

Anleitung / Instructions

Notice d'utilisation / Gebruiksaanwijzing

Istruzioni / Instrucciones





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These instructions are printed on 100% chlorine free bleached paper, whose manufacturing process protects the water and is environmentally friendly.

Designation of parts

1. Eyelet for wrist or carrying strap
2. ON/OFF button
3. Shutter release
4. Autofocus sensors
5. Pre-flash light for reduction of "red eye effect" (also signals automatic timer function)
6. Mid-roll rewind button
7. Viewfinder window
8. LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) data panel for data and status displays
9. **TIMER** button for
 - Activating self-timer
 - Setting the time and date values
 - Selecting the date format
10. **DATE** button for
 - Activating the time and date value setting
 - Activating the date format selection
 - Selecting the data to be imprinted
11. **MODE** button for
 - Selecting the modes
 - Selecting the time and date values to be set
12. Electronic flash
13. Exposure metering sensor
14. LEICA VARIO-ELMAR 28-80mm f/3.6-7.9 wide angle zoom lens with automatic lens cover
15. Back cover release slider
16. Back cover
17. Diopter adjustment dial
18. Viewfinder eyepiece
19. Red LED
20. Green LED
21. Focal length selector
22. Battery compartment cover
23. Film cartridge viewing window
24. Tripod thread
25. Film take up spool with pressure roller
26. Film guide pins
27. DX contacts
28. Film cartridge compartment
29. Rewind axle spindle



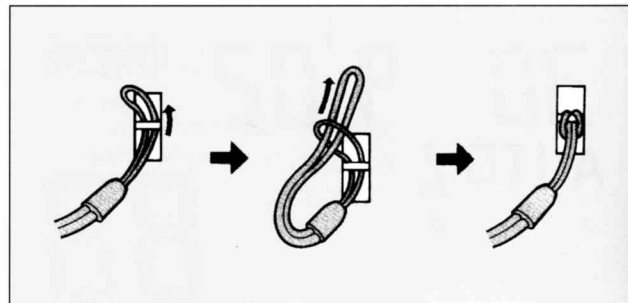
Displays in the LCD data panel (8)

'88 88:88	Figures for date and time
	Battery status
	Infinity set manually (only possible without flash)
	Self timer activated
B	Long time exposure automatically activated (in OFF modes and SLOW ON , SLOW ON)
T	Manual long time exposure (only possible with flash switched off)
'88	Exposure counter / Timer for long time exposures and count-down for self timer
AUTO	Auto flash
AUTO	Auto flash plus pre-flash light for reduction of "red eye effect"
AUTO +EV	Auto flash plus exposure correction +2EV
ON	Manual flash
ON	Manual flash plus pre-flash light for reduction of "red eye effect"

SLOW ON	Manual flash, slow shutter speeds possible
 SLOW ON	Manual flash, slow shutter speeds possible plus pre- flash light for reduction of "red eye effect"
OFF	Manual flash off
OFF	Distance set manually to infinity, flash off
OFF T	Manual long time exposure, flash switched off

Safety instructions

- If the camera shows any sign of malfunction, do not try to repair it yourself. Your first step should be to change the battery.
- If this is unsuccessful, return the camera to your specialist dealer or to another photographic specialist.
- Please ensure that you are fully conversant with the operation and functions of your new camera before using it for special occasions (holidays, weddings etc.). Please read this instruction manual and take some test pictures to ensure that your camera functions perfectly before you use it at special events.
- If your camera (or battery) emits a strange smell, heat, or smoke, remove battery immediately, taking care not to burn yourself.
- If your camera is dropped or subjected to an impact in which the interior is exposed, do not touch the exposed parts.
- Remove battery immediately if the camera is dropped in water or if water gets into the interior of the camera.
- Never store your camera where the temperature is extremely high or extremely low.
- When the camera is not in use, press the ON/OFF button to retract the lens. Ensure that the lens cover is closed.



Fitting the wrist / neck strap

1. Push the smaller loop of the wrist/neck strap through the eyelet (1) on the right of the camera.
2. Then feed the end of the wrist/neck strap through the small loop above and pull it tight, so that the strap is securely attached to the eyelet on the side of the camera.

Preparing the LEICA C3 for use






Inserting and removing the battery

The LEICA C3 takes a 3 volt lithium battery (e.g. Duracell DL123 A, Kodak KL 123 LA, Panasonic CR 123 A, Varta CR123 A or other CR123 types). This supplies both the camera and the date printer.

1. Open the battery compartment cover (camera base, 22) by turning it anticlockwise using a coin.
2. Insert a lithium battery so that the positive contact goes in first (as shown in the battery compartment).
3. Close the cover again by turning it clockwise.

Checking the battery


When the camera is switched on (see p. 36) and the battery has sufficient capacity, the battery symbol () appears completely filled in on the LCD data panel (8). The lens (14) also moves to its ready position. If the symbol appears only half filled (), this means that the battery capacity is down to 30% at the most and the battery needs to be changed soon.

If the half-filled symbol () is flashing or no display appears at all, the battery is flat and must be replaced immediately. In this case, the camera will no longer function. Therefore, we recommend you take a spare battery with you when travelling.

A new battery will last for around 13 36-exposure films with 50% use of the flash, i.e. around 450 exposures (according to Leica testing standards).

Notes:

If the lens does not move to its ready position when you switch the camera on, the battery is either discharged, incorrectly installed or there is no battery at all.

If the symbol () flashes on its own or no display is visible, either
- the battery contacts may be dirty,
In this case, please clean them with a clean, dry lint-free cloth.

or
- the battery may be partially discharged as a result of taking a series of pictures one after another.

After a short wait to allow the battery to recover, photography can recommence.

Warning:

Cold conditions impair the battery performance. The film also becomes stiffer, making it harder to wind. Therefore, at low temperatures the LEICA C3 should be kept as close to the body as possible and a new battery should be fitted.

The battery contacts should always be kept clean.

Batteries should never be put in a fire, heated, recharged, taken to pieces or broken apart.

Used batteries may not be disposed of as normal, household waste as they contain hazardous materials that harmful to the environment. To ensure that they are properly recycled, they should be returned to the dealer or disposed of as special waste (at a collection point).

Changing the battery

If there is a film in the camera, you should insert a new battery immediately after removing the old one.

If the camera is left for more than 10 minutes without a battery, the exposure counter in the data panel resets to "1" when the new battery is fitted, irrespective of the number of shots already taken.

With the camera switched on, the picture dating program is cleared as soon as the battery is removed, so the date and time may need to be re-entered when the battery is changed (see also "Imprinting Data", p. 37).

**Switching the camera on and off / Automatic power off**

The camera is switched on and off using the ON/OFF button (2). After switching on, the lens cover opens, the lens moves to its 28 mm ready position and the displays appear in the LCD data panel (8).

If the camera is switched off by pressing the ON/OFF button again, all displays disappear, the lens retracts and the lens cover closes.

If the camera is not released within approximately 5 minutes of switching on, it switches itself off automatically as described above.

This prevents unnecessary consumption of the battery. However, in order to extend the life of the battery, you should definitely make it a habit to always turn the camera off if it will not be used for a long time.

Note:

The camera automatically selects the default mode each time it is switched on (see "Selectable Modes", p. 46), unless you have previously stored a different mode (see "Storing a mode", p. 52).



Imprinting data

The LEICA C3 has an integrated dating facility. This allows either the time (hour and minute) or the date (day, month and year in three different selectable orders), as desired, to be imprinted in the bottom right hand corner of each picture. The position and size of the imprint can be seen on the photograph illustrated.

Notes:

The data is imprinted onto the film, from the front, by LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) elements. The brightness of the imprint is controlled by the camera's automatic film speed setting (DX coding). Even so, there can be slight variations in legibility depending on the film used. With certain low speed films, the imprint is only very faint or cannot be seen at all.

The data appears in red to orange on dark subject areas and orange to yellow on light areas. Therefore, it can only be seen with difficulty against light, orange colored or very "busy" backgrounds.

The automatic calendar runs until the year 2050.

The power supply for the picture dating facility comes from the came-

ra battery. If it is exchanged with the camera switched on, the date immediately returns to the factory default setting. If, on the other hand, the battery is quickly exchanged with the camera switched off, the set date remains in the memory.

Setting the data

1. With the camera switched on, press the **DATE** button (10) until the first section of the numbers segment on the LCD data panel (8) flashes. The display always defaults to day / month / year.
2. Press the **TIMER** button (9) to set the value that is flashing. Pressing and releasing the button increases the value by 1; holding the button down scrolls through the values repeatedly.
3. Press the **MODE** button (11) to move on to the other elements in the following order: the remaining two date elements, hour, minute.
4. Pressing the **MODE** button for a fifth time stores the values. The display stops flashing as confirmation.

Note:

The year is indicated by an apostrophe.

Setting the desired date order

To reflect the differing international conventions for dates, the LEICA C3 allows you to choose from three different formats.

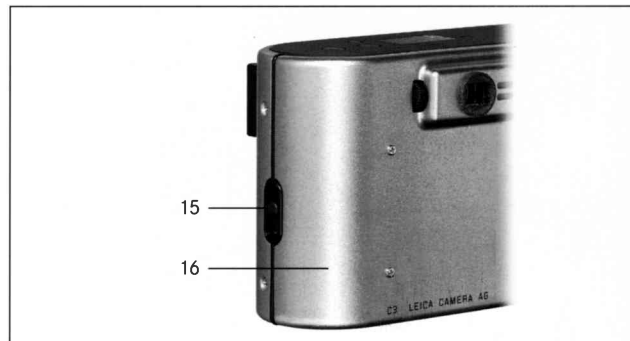
1. With the camera switched off, press the **DATE** button (10) until the numerical display flashes.
2. Each subsequent press of the the **TIMER** button (9) changes the date format as follows:
Day / Month / Year - Month / Day / Year - Year / Day / Month.
3. Pressing the **DATE** again stores the values. The display stops flashing as confirmation. The display is extinguished immediately upon being stored.

Selecting the data to be imprinted

By (repeatedly) pressing the **DATE** button (10) with the camera switched on you can select whether you wish to imprint or not, and if so, which data you wish to imprint on your pictures.

The order runs through repeatedly:

Function	Display
1. Date	e.g. 30 9 02
2. Time	e.g. 11:11
3. No imprinting	-----



Inserting the film

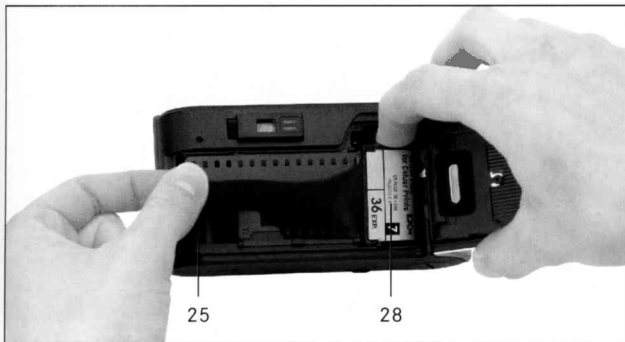
Automatic film loading is possible with the camera switched both on and off. If the camera is switched off, when the back cover is opened, only the battery status and the exposure counter appear in the LCD data panel (7). In this case, the displays disappear again after loading.

1. Using the slider (15) on the left, release and open the back cover (16).

Note:

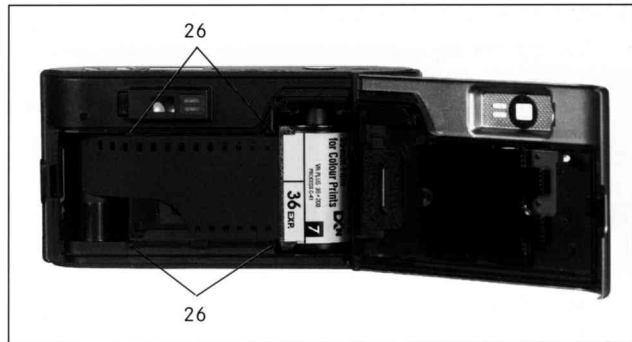
Take this opportunity to check whether there is any dust on the rear lens. If so, it should be removed with a soft brush.

2. Place the film cartridge in the film cartridge compartment (28) as shown. The sprung spindle on the rewind axle (29) must engage with the corresponding slot in the film cartridge.
3. Lay the film flat on the film channel, between the guides (26) and pull the leader right over the take-up spool – as shown in the illustration - up to the marking to the left. If you have taken the leader too far, carefully push a little film back into the cartridge. The film must lie flat in the film channel.



4. Close the back cover. The camera switches itself on (if it was not switched on before), threads the film automatically onto the take-up spool and advances it to the first exposure. Correct loading is shown in the LCD panel (8) while it is in progress by three consecutive flashing lines in the transport direction (from right to left).

When the exposure counter then shows "1", the camera is ready to use. If "1" is flashing however, the film has not been loaded correctly. In this case, open the back cover again, remove the film and insert it again following steps 2 - 4.



Attention:

Before opening the back cover, please ensure that the film has been completely wound back into the cartridge. Otherwise, the light will damage the portion of the film already exposed and with it many of the shots already taken. The camera should only be opened when the exposure counter shows "0"

In the film cartridge viewing window (23), you can see whether a cartridge is loaded and the counter shows whether or not it is rewound. To prevent the incidence of light, films should be loaded and unloaded in subdued light wherever possible e.g. in one's own shadow. When inserting the film, avoid touching the rear lens with your fingers or the edge of the film.

Compatible 35mm films

The LEICA C3 is a 35mm camera, i.e. it takes "135mm" format films. The film speed is automatically set by the camera for DX coded films (box and cartridge are marked "DX") from ISO 50 to 3,200 as follows:

ISO ratings

Film speed	Automatic setting
50/18°, 64/19°	50/18°
80/20°, 100/21°, 125/22°	100/21°
160/23°, 200/24°, 250/25°	200/24°
320/26°, 400/27°, 500/28°	400/27°
640/29°, 800/30°, 1000/31°	800/30°
1250/32°, 1600/33°, 2000/34°	1600/33°
2500/35°, 3200/36°	3200/36°

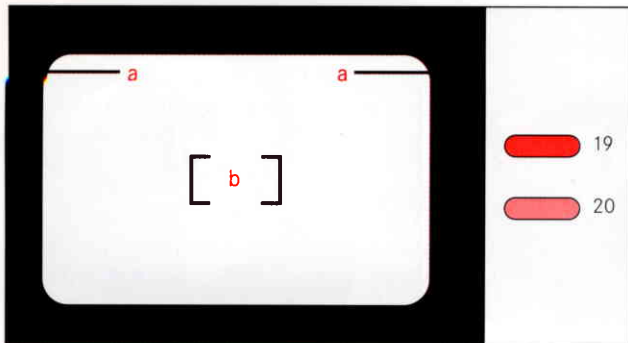
DX coded films outside this speed range and non-DX coded films are set to ISO 100/21°.



Holding the camera correctly

To avoid blurring, the LEICA C3 should be held as shown in the illustrations. To achieve good results, it is essential to avoid covering the lens, flash, autofocus sensors or the exposure meter sensor with your hand, the carrying strap etc. If you are taking a portrait format picture, the flash should be at the top, as illumination "from above" gives the most natural effect.

For portrait format photos we also recommend pressing the shutter release with your thumb, which helps keep the camera particularly steady.



The viewfinder

The LEICA C3's viewfinder image shows about 80% of the final picture for distances starting at 1.2m. It adjusts itself to the focal length setting of the lens. The following markings can be seen in the viewfinder:

a. Close-up frame

For close range work, what you see in the viewfinder is above and to the right of what the lens "records". This parallax error becomes more noticeable the longer the focal length and the shorter the distance to the subject. The LEICA C3's close-up marks then serve as the picture frame for close-ups with all focal lengths.

b. Autofocus frame

The parts of the subject you want to focus on and which are to determine the exposure must be positioned so that they are within this frame. (For details of focusing on off-center objects, please refer to "Autofocus and Programmed Automatic Exposure", p. 44)



Diopter settings

For optimum viewing of the subject, the LEICA C3 allows you to adjust the viewfinder to your own vision within a range of -3 to $+1.0$ diopters. To do this, the clicking dial (17) next to the viewfinder eyepiece (18) must be adjusted so that both the viewfinder image and the locating marks can be seen perfectly clearly.

Warning and mode displays

To the right of the viewfinder eyepiece (18), there are two LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes). They signal various operating states.

Upper red LED (19)

- glows steadily, when the shutter release is pressed halfway, indicating that the flash is ready.
- flashes, when the shutter release is pressed halfway, if the flash is not yet ready. The shutter release is locked. The recovery time for the flash is approximately 6 seconds with a new battery.

Lower green LED (20)

- glows steadily, when the shutter release is pressed halfway, indicating that the distance and exposure have been measured and stored.
- flashes slowly when the shutter release is pressed halfway to warn that there is a risk of blurring due to poor lighting conditions and the flash being switched off.
It is still possible to take a picture.
- flashes quickly, when the shutter release is pressed halfway, indicating that focusing is not possible due to a too short distance (under 0.8m). In this case, the shutter release is locked.

Taking photographs with the LEICA C3

The LEICA C3 is a fully automatic camera. With automatic focus setting (autofocus), fully automatic, programmed exposure setting and, if required, automatically activated flash, it is ideal for uncomplicated, safe and quick photography. When the camera is switched on, these functions are always active immediately, unless you have previously stored a different mode (see "Storing a mode", p. 52).

The focal length range of the LEICA VARIO-ELMAR 28-80 mm f/3.6-7.9 wide angle zoom lens, makes it easy to select the best trimming. In particular, the image angle at 28 mm allows you to take impressive landscape and inside pictures. Several other functions are available to make the most of any subject or situation.

Adjusting the focal length

The focal length of the lens can be adjusted in 6 steps, using the focal length selector (21) on the back cover. It is designed as a rocker and can be operated easily using your thumb. Pressing on the right increases the focal length, pressing on the left decreases it. The six settings are 28 mm, 42 mm, 50 mm, 60 mm, 70 mm and 80 mm. The trimming you see in the viewfinder changes according to the selected focal length.

Note:

Make sure you do not obstruct the movement of the lens.



Autofocus and programmed automatic exposure

When positioning your main subject in the image, you should note that

1. The autofocus feature on the LEICA C3 takes the information it needs only from the center of the picture, that is, from the area within the autofocus frame.
2. The LEICA C3's exposure meter is center-weighted, i.e. the entire picture is taken into account, but significantly more emphasis is placed on the area marked by the autofocus frame.

If the main subject is supposed to be in the center of your picture, point the autofocus frame at the part of the subject you want to be in focus and correctly exposed, so that it fills the frame as far as possible. Then lightly depress the shutter release (3) halfway (to the pressure point). Once the green LED (20) lights up, confirming that measurements have been made, press the shutter release all the way. In this default mode, the flash will be activated automatically if there is insufficient ambient light. The red LED (19) shows the charging status (see also "The viewfinder", p. 42).

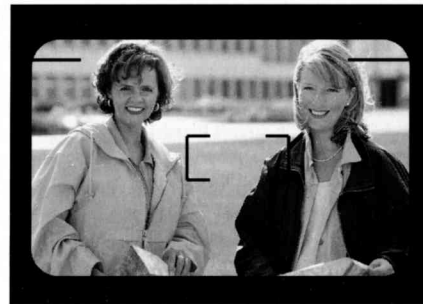
Important:

If you hold down the shutter release, as long as the flash is not switched on, the camera will take shots at intervals of approximately 1.5 seconds. This series exposure mode makes it possible to record sequences of movement, for example, on film. Series exposures are only possible if the flash is switched off.

When taking photographs where the main subject is not in the center of the frame or where, for some other physical reason, autofocusing could cause a problem, you should use the focus and exposure memory function (see the next section "Storing autofocus and exposure settings").

Examples of physical conditions that may affect autofocusing include:

- sources of bright light in the picture (spot lights, ceiling lights etc.)
- very shiny or reflective surfaces such as car paint, the surface of water and mirrors
- translucent objects like flames, glass, fireworks, and hair
- very dark objects and light absorbing surfaces
- objects behind glass, such as in a shop window or a show case etc



Storing focus and exposure settings

If the main subject is not in the middle of the picture (left picture), you should use the autofocus and exposure memory function.

Aim the camera so that, when you look through the viewfinder, the main subject or the part of the main subject you want to be in focus and correctly exposed is in the autofocus frame (middle picture) Then depress the shutter release to the pressure point. The green LED lights up when the distance and exposure have been measured and stored.

If you hold the shutter release down in this position, you can change the trimming as you wish. Then press the shutter release all the way down to take the photograph (right picture).

If any of the physical conditions described above might prevent auto-focusing: First of all, measure the distance and exposure for another object at about the same distance and in the same light, and then store these values.

Important:

The distance and exposure measurements are erased from the memory as soon as you let go of the shutter release. You can repeat the measurements as often as you like before taking a picture.

Selectable modes

For certain situations or subjects, the LEICA C3's automatic functions can be altered manually. The **MODE** button (11) can be used to select practical modes consisting of different combinations of additional functions. The display scrolls through the modes as long as the button is held down.

Important:

Once selected, a mode remains active until you select another one. If, on the other hand, the camera is switched off or switches itself off, the default setting is active when it is switched on again. If a mode has been saved, however, it remains active even when the camera is switched off and on again (see "Storing a mode", p. 52).

Photography with and without flash

The LEICA C3 has a built-in zoom flash, which either fires automatically or can be manually switched on or off, depending on the selected mode. At the same time, its illumination angle is automatically adjusted to match the set lens focal length, in order to increase its range. This results in guide numbers from 14 (at 28 mm) to 20 (at 80 mm).

It is also possible to use a pre-flash, in order to reduce the "red eye effect".

The camera controls the flash by setting the aperture according to the measured subject distance.

Important:

When using the flash in any mode, check that the main subject is within the appropriate flash range.

Flash range

The effective range of the flash depends on the set aperture and the film speed. For good results, it is crucial that the main subject is within the appropriate flash range. See the table below for details.

Film speed in ISO	Effective flash range*	
	At 28 mm	At 80 mm
50/18°, 64/19°	0.8-2.7 m	0.8-1.8 m
80/20°, 100/21°, 125/22°	0.8-3.9 m	0.8-2.5 m
160/23°, 200/24°, 250/25°	0.8-5.5 m	0.8-3.6 m
320/26°, 400/27°, 500/28°	0.9-7.75 m	0.8-5 m
640/29°, 800/30°, 1000/31°	1.2-11 m	0.8-7.1 m
1250/32°, 1600/33°, 2000/34°	1.8-15.5 m	1.1-10.1 m
2500/35°, 3200/36°	2.5-22 m	1.6-14.3 m

* with aperture open at 3.6 (28 mm) or 7.9 (80 mm).

Notes:

1. The distances given in the table are based on the use of positive slide film. When using negative films (for prints), where a slight "underexposure" due to their wide exposure latitude is not so critical, the range can be extended by a factor of 1.4.
2. Deeply staggered subjects and subjects that have below or above average brightness may not, under certain circumstances, be optimally lit by the flash in the "default setting". The details above are therefore only approximate values.
3. All values are rounded off.

Modes with automatic flash activation

In these modes, the flash is activated automatically when, because of poor lighting conditions, long exposure times on freehand shots could lead to blurring, for example, in a dimly lit room and outdoors, at twilight or in poor weather.

Taking photographs with auto flash - AUTO \downarrow

After switching on, the LEICA C3 always goes into this universal mode (unless another mode has been stored, see the section "Storing a mode" on p. 52 for more details).

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED

AUTO \downarrow

- lights up when the shutter release is pressed halfway, if the flash is charged up and flash is necessary.
- flashes when the shutter release is pressed halfway, until the flash is charged up (normally a max. of 6s); the shutter release is locked during this time.
- lights up as soon as the distance and exposure measurements have been recorded and stored.
- flashes quickly if the subject is too close (less than 0.8m); in this case the shutter release is locked until the distance is increased.

3. Green LED


Taking photographs with auto flash and pre-flash - AUTO \downarrow

"Red eye" effect is caused by light from the flash reflecting off the cornea straight back to the camera and can occur when taking portrait and group photos. It is therefore best if the people being photographed do not look straight at the camera. As the effect is worsened when the pupils are wide open in conditions of low lighting, when taking photographs indoors for example, you should switch on as much room lighting as possible, so that the pupils become narrower. The LEICA C3's pre-flash light (5) is an additional source of constant light, which is activated when the shutter release is pressed just before the shutter opens, in order to narrow the pupils of subjects looking at the camera thereby reducing "red-eye" effect.

To select this function, press the MODE button (11) once starting from the default setting.

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

- AUTO \downarrow 
as for AUTO \downarrow
as for AUTO \downarrow

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Selectable modes

For certain situations or subjects, the LEICA C3's automatic functions can be altered manually. The **MODE** button (11) can be used to select practical modes consisting of different combinations of additional functions. The display scrolls through the modes as long as the button is held down.

Important:

Once selected, a mode remains active until you select another one. If, on the other hand, the camera is switched off or switches itself off, the default setting is active when it is switched on again. If a mode has been saved, however, it remains active even when the camera is switched off and on again (see "Storing a mode", p. 52).

Photography with and without flash

The LEICA C3 has a built-in zoom flash, which either fires automatically or can be manually switched on or off, depending on the selected mode. At the same time, its illumination angle is automatically adjusted to match the set lens focal length, in order to increase its range. This results in guide numbers from 14 (at 28 mm) to 20 (at 80 mm).

It is also possible to use a pre-flash, in order to reduce the "red eye effect".

The camera controls the flash by setting the aperture according to the measured subject distance.

Important:

When using the flash in any mode, check that the main subject is within the appropriate flash range.

Flash range

The effective range of the flash depends on the set aperture and the film speed. For good results, it is crucial that the main subject is within the appropriate flash range. See the table below for details.

Film speed in ISO	Effective flash range*	
	At 28 mm	At 80 mm
50/18°, 64/19°	0.8-2.7 m	0.8-1.8 m
80/20°, 100/21°, 125/22°	0.8-3.9 m	0.8-2.5 m
160/23°, 200/24°, 250/25°	0.8-5.5 m	0.8-3.6 m
320/26°, 400/27°, 500/28°	0.9-7.75 m	0.8-5 m
640/29°, 800/30°, 1000/31°	1.2-11 m	0.8-7.1 m
1250/32°, 1600/33°, 2000/34°	1.8-15.5 m	1.1-10.1 m
2500/35°, 3200/36°	2.5-22 m	1.6-14.3 m

* with aperture open at 3.6 (28 mm) or 7.9 (80 mm).

Notes:

1. The distances given in the table are based on the use of positive slide film. When using negative films (for prints), where a slight "underexposure" due to their wide exposure latitude is not so critical, the range can be extended by a factor of 1.4.
2. Deeply staggered subjects and subjects that have below or above average brightness may not, under certain circumstances, be optimally lit by the flash in the "default setting". The details above are therefore only approximate values.
3. All values are rounded off.

Modes with automatic flash activation

In these modes, the flash is activated automatically when, because of poor lighting conditions, long exposure times on freehand shots could lead to blurring, for example, in a dimly lit room and outdoors, at twilight or in poor weather.

Taking photographs with auto flash - AUTO \downarrow

After switching on, the LEICA C3 always goes into this universal mode (unless another mode has been stored, see the section "Storing a mode" on p. 52 for more details).

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED

AUTO \downarrow

- lights up when the shutter release is pressed halfway, if the flash is charged up and flash is necessary.
- flashes when the shutter release is pressed halfway, until the flash is charged up (normally a max. of 6s); the shutter release is locked during this time.
- lights up as soon as the distance and exposure measurements have been recorded and stored.
- flashes quickly if the subject is too close (less than 0.8m); in this case the shutter release is locked until the distance is increased.

3. Green LED

Taking photographs with auto flash and pre-flash - AUTO \downarrow \odot

"Red eye" effect is caused by light from the flash reflecting off the cornea straight back to the camera and can occur when taking portrait and group photos. It is therefore best if the people being photographed do not look straight at the camera. As the effect is worsened when the pupils are wide open in conditions of low lighting, when taking photographs indoors for example, you should switch on as much room lighting as possible, so that the pupils become narrower. The LEICA C3's pre-flash light (5) is an additional source of constant light, which is activated when the shutter release is pressed just before the shutter opens, in order to narrow the pupils of subjects looking at the camera thereby reducing "red-eye" effect.

To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) once starting from the default setting.

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

AUTO \downarrow \odot

- as for AUTO \downarrow
- as for AUTO \downarrow

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Taking photographs with auto flash and exposure correction - AUTO \downarrow +EV

Exposure meters are calibrated to a mid-range point on the grey-scale, which corresponds to a normal photographic subject. If the actual subject does not match this assumption, an appropriate exposure compensation is necessary. For very light subjects, for example in the snow or on a beach, the large amount of reflected light causes an incorrect exposure measurement and the film is under exposed. More substantial exposure is necessary to compensate for this measurement error, e.g. +2 EV (Exposure Values) in the snow. To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) twice starting from the default setting.

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

AUTO \downarrow +EV
as for AUTO \downarrow
as for AUTO \downarrow

Modes with manual flash activation

In situations where there is strong backlighting, e.g. the subject is against a sunset or where contrast is high, e.g. an important detail is in shadow in daylight, the autoflash may fail to fire because there is enough light in total. In such situations, it can be useful to switch on the flash manually.

Taking photographs with manual flash - \downarrow ON

As long as this function is activated, the flash will fire each time you take a shot, whatever the prevailing lighting conditions.

To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) three times starting from the default setting.

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

\downarrow ON
as for AUTO \downarrow
as for AUTO \downarrow

Taking photographs with manual flash and pre-flash - \odot \downarrow ON

The pre-flash for reduction of "red eye effect" can also be used when the flash is activated manually.

As long as this function is activated, the pre-flash and flash will fire each time you take a shot, whatever the prevailing lighting conditions. To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) four times starting from the default setting.

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

\odot \downarrow ON
as for AUTO \downarrow
as for AUTO \downarrow

Taking photographs with manual flash and slower shutter speeds - SLOW \downarrow ON

To minimise the risk of blurring, in the default modes, the exposure time is limited to 1/30 s at 28 mm or 1/80 s when extended to 80 mm. For pictures where the flash is used, this means that objects in the background, which the flash cannot reach, are often badly underexposed.

By contrast, in this mode, the ambient light determines the shutter speed – in some cases making it as much as long time exposure *B*. (see the section on the "Automatic activating *B* function", p. 51 for details)

As long as this function is activated, the flash will fire each time you take a shot, whatever the prevailing lighting conditions.

To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) five times starting from the default setting.

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

SLOW \downarrow ON (B)
as for **AUTO \downarrow**

- lights up as soon as the distance and exposure measurements have been recorded and stored.
- flashes slowly to warn of the risk of blurring with slower shutter speeds than 1/30 s at 28 mm or 1/80 s at 80 mm; despite this, the shutter can be released.
- flashes quickly if the subject is too close (less than 0.8m); in this case the shutter release is locked until the distance is increased.

Note:

When the green LED is flashing slowly, meaning there is little light and a slow shutter speed will be used, the camera should be held steady, supported or used with a tripod. Even after the flash, the camera may only be moved when the film has wound on.

Taking photographs with manual flash, slow shutter speeds and pre-flash - SLOW \downarrow ON

The mode with slower shutter speeds can also be combined with the pre-flash for reduction of "red eye effect". Once again, in this mode, the ambient light determines the shutter speed – in some cases making it as much as long time exposure *B*. (see the section on the "Automatic activating *B* function", p. 51 for details)


As long as this function is activated, the flash will fire each time you take a shot, whatever the prevailing lighting conditions.

To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) six times starting from the default setting.

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Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

 **SLOW \downarrow ON (B)**
as for **AUTO \downarrow**
as for **SLOW \downarrow ON**

Note:

When the green LED is flashing slowly, meaning there is little light and a slow shutter speed will be used, the camera should be held steady, supported or used with a tripod. Even after the flash, the camera may only be moved when the film has wound on.

Modes with manual flash off

Deliberately switching off the flash allows you to take atmospheric photographs in the twilight and inside buildings for example, or you can take photographs in museums where the use of flash is prohibited.

Taking photographs with manual flash off - $\frac{1}{2}$ OFF

Once again, in this mode, the ambient light determines the shutter speed – in some cases making it as much as long time exposure *B*. (see "Automatic activating *B* function", p. 51)

As long as this function is activated, the flash will not fire for any shots, whatever the prevailing lighting conditions.

To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) seven times starting from the default setting.

Displays:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. in LCD data panel | $\frac{1}{2}$ OFF (B) |
| 2. Red LED | off |
| 3. Green LED | as for SLOW $\frac{1}{2}$ ON |

Note:

When the green LED is flashing slowly, meaning there is little light and a slow shutter speed will be used, the camera should be held steady, supported or used with a tripod. Even after the flash, the camera may only be moved when the film has wound on.

Taking photographs with distance set manually to infinity, and manual flash off - $\frac{1}{2}$ OFF ∞

By manually setting the distance to infinity, you can make sure that distant subjects, such as a mountain range on the horizon, are reproduced sharply. Details in the foreground, such as buildings, trees etc. do not then lead to an autofocus error. (see "Autofocus and programmed automatic exposure", p. 44)

Due to its limited range, the flash is switched off.

Once again, in this mode, the ambient light determines the shutter speed – in some cases making it as much as long time exposure *B*. (see the section on the "Automatic activating *B* function", p. 51 for details) As long as this function is activated, the flash will not fire for any shots, whatever the prevailing lighting conditions.

To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) eight times starting from the default setting.

Displays:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. in LCD data panel | $\frac{1}{2}$ OFF ∞ (B) |
| 2. Red LED | off |
| 3. Green LED | - lights up as soon as the exposure reading has been recorded and stored.
- flashes slowly to warn of the risk of blurring with slower shutter speeds than 1/30 s at 28 mm or 1/80 s at 80 mm; despite this, the shutter can be released. |

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Note:

When the green LED is flashing slowly, meaning there is little light and a slow shutter speed will be used, the camera should be held steady, supported or used with a tripod. Even after the flash, the camera may only be moved when the film has wound on.

Taking photographs with manual flash off and T function - $\frac{1}{2}$ OFF T

For long exposures that are absolutely free of blurring, e.g. when using a tripod, the T function is available, eliminating the need to keep the shutter release pressed down.

Start to take the photograph as normal but the shutter will only actually open once you lift your finger from the shutter release. To end the exposure, press the shutter release again. During the exposure, the exposure counter times the exposure in seconds.

In this mode, the camera's electronics do not take any exposure measurements, which means that a number of shots with various exposure lengths are recommended to allow a selection to be made afterwards.

The exposure will end automatically after 99 seconds if the shutter release has not been pressed again by that time.

To select this function, press the **MODE** button (11) nine times starting from the default setting.

Displays:

1. in LCD data panel
2. Red LED
3. Green LED

$\frac{1}{2}$ OFF T
off
as for SLOW $\frac{1}{2}$ ON

Note:

To prevent blurring, on both occasions the shutter release should be pressed smoothly and not with a jerk. Unless it is desired for composition reasons, the camera should only be moved when the film has wound on.

Automatic activating B function

In the modes "SLOW $\frac{1}{2}$ ON", "☉ SLOW $\frac{1}{2}$ ON", " $\frac{1}{2}$ OFF" and " $\frac{1}{2}$ OFF ∞", the camera automatically switches to long time exposure mode if the level of light is below a certain threshold. When the shutter release is depressed halfway, an additional symbol **B** appears in the LCD data panel. With maximum aperture (3.6 at 28 mm, 7.9 at 80 mm), the shutter remains open for as long as the shutter release is held down, up to a maximum of 99 s. During the exposure, the exposure counter times the exposure in seconds.

Attention:

When the camera switches to this function in the various modes, the exposure metering active previously is deactivated at the same time. Therefore, a number of shots with various exposure lengths are recommended to allow a selection to be made afterwards.

Note:

The pocket-sized LEICA Mini Tripod (Order No. 14 320) is highly recommended as an accessory when taking photographs with slower shutter speeds.

Storing a mode

Under certain circumstances or for particular subjects, it can be appropriate to always use particular functions of the LEICA C3. For example, you may want to take a series of portraits all with pre-flash or a sequence of landscape shots all with a fixed infinity setting. For this purpose, all modes can be permanently stored, so that they are available again immediately even when the camera is switched off and then on again.

1. To do this, select the desired mode using the **MODE** button (11) and without releasing the button hold it down (releasing the button and then pressing it again selects the next mode).
2. After you have held down the button for three seconds, the relevant display in the data panel starts to flash as confirmation that it has been stored. After it has flashed three times, the display remains permanently visible – even when the button is released.

A stored mode is deleted in the same way, i.e. by selecting and storing the default setting "AUTO 4" (or any other mode of your choice).

Note:

A stored mode is also deleted when the battery is changed.

The self timer

Pressing the **TIMER** button (9) starts the self-timer, which has an exposure delay of approx. 10 s. Until the camera takes the photograph, the white pre-flash light on the front of the camera lights up as follows:

- 9 seconds flashing
- 1 second constantly lit
- Shutter release

During the exposure delay, the remaining time in seconds is shown in the LCD data panel instead of the exposure counter.

Important:

Please note that the exposure measurements are only taken just before the shutter opens!

Once started, the automatic timer can be stopped at any time by pressing the button again or switching the camera off.

Note:

If the flash is not yet charged up when the **TIMER** button is pressed – the red LED (19) is flashing – the automatic timer cannot be activated.

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Automatic rewind of fully exposed film

The film starts to rewind automatically after the last exposure at the end of the film. The lens returns to its retracted position, the lens cover closes and the exposure counter in the LCD data panel (8), which otherwise only shows the battery level display, counts backwards, with the picture numbers alternating with segments moving backwards as confirmation that rewinding is in progress.

The motor stops when the film is rewound. The "D" in the data panel flashes once, then all displays are extinguished and the camera is switched off.

You can now open the back cover of the camera and remove the film, which is completely rewound into the film cartridge.

Important:

If the motor stops without the "D" in the data panel flashing, the battery needs to be replaced. Do not open the back of the camera or the partially rewound film will be exposed to the light and the shots taken will be ruined. After inserting a new battery, press the mid-roll rewind button (6) on the top of the camera to continue rewinding the film.

Rewinding a partially exposed film

The motorized film rewind can be activated manually at any time, so that a partially exposed film can be developed, for example. To do this, press the mid-roll rewind button (6) on the top of the camera using a ballpoint pen or similar object.

Accessories:

	Order no.
Carrying Strap, approx. 50cm long (supplied with camera - replacement)	18 518
Wrist strap (supplied with camera - replacement)	18 519
Translucent plastic case (supplied with camera - replacement)	439-614.007-000
Leather case with belt loop	18 524
Mini Tripod	14 320

Troubleshooting

Problem	Cause	Remedy
Camera will not take a picture	Camera is not switched on Battery is flat Battery contacts dirty Flash is charging up Subject is too close Film is not inserted correctly, flashing "1" Film has been rewound and the cartridge is still in the camera. Error in programme	Switch the camera on (see p. 36) Replace the battery (see p. 35) Clean battery contacts Wait for a short time, until the flash has charged up (see p. 42) Increase distance to at least 0.8 m Open back cover insert film again (see p. 38) Remove film cartridge (see p. 52) Remove batteries and insert again.
Camera will not take a picture and in data panel the exposure counter is flashing (see p. 39)	Malfunction in film transport	Rewind film by pressing button for film rewind
Whole picture out of focus	Camera moved when taking picture	Hold camera steady and press shutter release gently.
Main subject out of focus	Autofocus sensors covered Subject too close Main subject not in the autofocus frame Unfavourable focusing conditions, e.g. bright light sources in picture Subject is being photographed through glass, e.g. from a bus or aeroplane	Keep hands, carrying strap etc. away Distance to subject must be at least 0.8 m Use focus memory (see p. 45) Record focus on alternative object at same distance Set distance manually to infinity (see p. 50)

Troubleshooting

Problem	Cause	Remedy
Picture is fogged or partially out of focus	Lens is not clean (drops of water, fingerprints)	Clean lens (see "Care tips for the LEICA C3", p. 56)
Whole picture or only part of the picture too dark	Lens or flash partially covered	Keep hands, carrying strap etc. away
	Distance too great for flash	For flash photography, do not use films with higher film exceed the flash range or speed
Overexposed pictures	When holding the camera the sensor for exposure measurement was covered.	Holding the camera correctly (see p. 41)

Care tips for the LEICA C3

Dust on the outside surface of the lens can be removed using a soft brush or a clean, dry, lint-free cloth, e.g. a clean cotton handkerchief or unfinished lens cleaning cloth. It must be ensured that the part of the cotton cloth used for wiping the lens is not touched beforehand. This is the only sure way to prevent sweat from the hand or traces of grease getting onto the glass surfaces. Special cleaning cloths, such as those used for spectacle lenses, are not recommended. These cloths are impregnated with chemicals that can damage optical glass (the glass used to make spectacles has a different composition from the types of glass used in lenses). Alcohol and other chemical solutions must not be used to clean the housing. If necessary, wipe with a soft, dry cloth.

The LEICA C3 should not be exposed to any severe impacts, extreme heat and/or humidity. Extremely low temperatures impair the functioning of the camera. In cold conditions, it is therefore recommended that the LEICA C3 is kept in a warm inside pocket. Sudden temperature fluctuations from cold to hot should be avoided, as condensation can form in the camera, which impairs its functions. If any condensation should form, however, it will disappear naturally after a short time in a dry environment. Do not switch the camera on during this time.

The LEICA C3 should not be allowed to get wet. This can result in expensive repairs or can even ruin the camera completely. When not in use, the camera should be stored in a cool dry place that is free of dust and chemicals.

Do not exert excessive pressure on the LCD data panel. The LCD data panel is designed for use at temperature between 0°C and +40°C (approx. 32° to 104°F). At lower or higher temperatures, the legibility of the LCD data panel may deteriorate. Higher temperatures can even lead to the LCD data panel temporarily turning black.

Attention:

The camera contains high-voltage electronic components. Therefore, the camera housing should not be unscrewed or broken apart. High voltages can endanger life!

Technical data:

Type Compact, 35 mm, autofocus viewfinder camera with wideangle zoom lens.

Film format 24x36 mm

Lens LEICA VARIO-ELMAR 28-80 mm f/3.6-7.9

(8 elements in 6 groups, 2 aspherical lens surfaces)

Distance range Automatic setting from 0.8 m to infinity, infinity can be set manually.

Smallest object field 210 x 315 mm (image ratio approx. 1:8.75 at 80 mm)

Autofocus system Active infrared autofocus.

Exposure control system Automatic programme with automatic exposure control, optionally with automatic flash.

Exposure meter Center-weighted.

Exposure memory Pressing shutter release to pressure point stores distance and exposure meter values.

Exposure meter range

Butkus 5.103

Flash mode	Exposure meter range (at ISO 100/21°):	
	28 mm	80 mm
AUTO \downarrow AUTO $\odot \downarrow$ AUTO $\downarrow +EV$ $\downarrow ON$ $\odot \downarrow ON$	EV 8.6 (f/3.6, 1/30 s) - EV 17 (f/19, 1/350 s)	EV 12.1 (f/7.9, 1/80 s) - EV 17 (f/21, 1/300 s)
SLOW $\downarrow ON$ \odot SLOW $\downarrow ON$ $\downarrow OFF$ $\downarrow OFF \infty$	EV 6 (f/3.6, 1/5 s) - EV 17 (f/19, 1/350 s)	EV 6 (f/7.9, 1,0 s) - EV 17 (f/21, 1/300 s)

The flash fires automatically if exposure value is below EV 8.6 at 28 mm or EV 12.1 at 80 mm in the modes "AUTO \downarrow ", "AUTO $\odot \downarrow$ " and "AUTO $\downarrow +EV$ ".

Shutter speed range 1/30 s to 1/350 s (at 28 mm) or 1/80 s to 1/300 s (at 80 mm) in the modes with autoflash, $\downarrow ON$, and $\odot \downarrow ON$, 1/5 to 1/350 s (at 28 mm) or 1 to 1/300 s (at 80 mm) in the other modes. Automatic switching to *B* function for manually controlled long time exposures set by estimation at up to 99 seconds in the modes "SLOW $\downarrow ON$ ", " \odot SLOW $\downarrow ON$ ", " $\downarrow OFF$ ", and " $\downarrow OFF \odot$ ".

" $\downarrow OFF T$ " mode for deliberate, manually controlled, blur-free long-time exposures up to 99s.

Exposure compensation +2 EV in the mode "AUTO $\downarrow +EV$ ".

Autoflash and manual flash and pre-flash The built in flash fires automatically in poor light conditions. Flash can be switched on and off at any time. Pre-flash to reduce "red eye" effect by selecting modes "AUTO $\odot \downarrow$ ", " $\odot \downarrow ON$ ", and " \odot SLOW $\downarrow ON$ ". Flash also possible with slower shutter speeds

Modes (in the order selected) Autoflash - "AUTO \downarrow " (default mode, always activated when camera is switched on, unless another mode has been previously stored), Autoflash plus pre-flash - "AUTO $\odot \downarrow$ ", Autoflash plus exposure correction - "AUTO $\downarrow +EV$ ", Manual flash - " $\downarrow ON$ ", Manual flash plus pre-flash - " $\odot \downarrow ON$ ", Manual flash with slower shutter speeds including *B* - "SLOW $\downarrow ON$ ", Manual flash and pre-flash with slower shutter speeds including *B* - " \odot SLOW $\downarrow ON$ ", Manual flash off (with slower shutter speeds including *B*) - " $\downarrow OFF$ ", Distance set manually to infinity and manual flash off (including *B*) - " $\downarrow OFF \infty$ ", *T* setting for blur-free long-time exposures up to 99s with manual flash off " $\downarrow OFF T$ ".

Once selected, a mode is retained until another mode is selected, the camera is switched off or the battery is changed, unless another mode has been stored. Every mode can be permanently stored.

Flash range (with ISO 100/21°) 0.8-3.9 m at 28 mm or 0.8-2.6 m at 80 mm. Guide number 14-20 depending on focal length setting (zoom flash).


Flash interval Approx. 6 seconds with new battery.

Film speed setting Automatic film speed setting for DX-coded films from ISO 50/18° to 3200/36°. Films without DX-coding or with DX-coding and speeds beyond this range are set to ISO 100/21°.

Viewfinder Real image type viewfinder with autofocus and close-up frames. Red light emitting diode (LED) indicates flash status. Green LED indicates autofocus and exposure meter status. Diopter correction +1 to -3 diopters.

Viewfinder magnification 0.33x at 28 mm and 0.83x at 80 mm, image in viewfinder corresponds to 80% of film format.

Film loading and transport Film is automatically taken up and advanced to the first exposure by motor when film cartridge is inserted and back cover closed. Motorised advance after each exposure. Series exposures possible in modes without use of the flash. Automatic motorised rewind at the end of the film. Film is rewound completely into the cartridge. Mid-roll film rewind is possible.

Displays in Data Panel LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) showing: exposure counter (also used as indicator for film loading/removal and as second counter for long time exposures and self-timer mode), figures or placeholders for optional imprinting of date or time ('*BB BB:BB*'), symbols for battery status () , the selected mode, and self-timer (⊙).

Automatic timer 10 second pre-exposure delay; countdown shown by lighting up/flashing of white light on camera front and countdown of the seconds in the data panel.

Camera on / off control Using the ON/OFF button on the top of the camera. Lens moves into ready or retracted position, lens cover opens or closes and the displays in the LCD data panel appear or are extinguished. The camera switches itself off automatically after around 5 minutes without use.

Operating voltage 3V

Power supply Long-life 3V lithium battery (CR 123 A).

Body Aluminium outer body in Leica design. Back cover with film cartridge window. Side attachment for carrying strap or wrist strap.

Tripod thread A 1/4 DIN 4503 (1/4").

Dating facility Camera is equipped with an integrated dating facility for imprinting the day and time or date on the film or in the bottom right-hand corner of the picture (optional). Quartz clock and automatic calendar up to 2050. Imprint brightness automatically adjusted according to camera's film speed setting.

Dimensions (W x H x D) 129.3 x 66.6 x 45 mm (lens retracted).

Weight Approx. 260 g (without battery)

Leica Academy

We not only manufacture high-performance products for everything from observation to reproduction, we also offer a special service in the form of the Leica Academy, which for many years has been providing practical seminars and training courses, where expertise from the world of photography, projection and magnification has been taught to both beginners and advanced photographic enthusiasts.

The content of the courses, which are run by our experienced team of expert instructors in our modern training facilities at the Solms plant and the nearby "Gut Altenberg", ranges from general photography to areas of special interest, and they provide a wealth of practical suggestions, information and advice. More details, along with the current programme of seminars, are available from:

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Leica Customer Service

For maintenance of your Leica equipment, or in case of damage, Leica AG's customer service center, or the repair service of the Leica national offices, is available to assist you (see your guarantee card for address list).

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C3

Korrekturen:

1. Sucheranzeigen (S. 12, 14, 15)

Entgegen den Ausführungen in der Anleitung auf S. 12, sowie den Sucherbildern auf den S. 12, 14 und 15 besitzt die LEICA C3 keine Nahbereichs-Begrenzungsmarken (a). Sie sind wegen der geringen, in der Praxis vernachlässigbaren Parallaxe nicht notwendig.

Die Autofokus-Rahmen (b) sind anders als in den Abbildungen nicht horizontal, sondern vertikal angeordnet. Funktion und Handhabung des AF-Systems bleiben davon unberührt und erfolgen wie beschrieben.

2. Einstellen der Daten (S. 7) / Einstellen der gewünschten Datums-Reihenfolge (S. 8)

Die angezeigte Datums-Reihenfolge zu Beginn der Einstellung der Daten / der Datums-Reihenfolge ist im Gegensatz zur Beschreibung nicht festgelegt, sondern abhängig von der vorherigen Einstellung. Die möglichen Datums-Reihenfolgen sind Jahr/Tag/Monat, Tag/Monat/Jahr und Monat/Tag/Jahr

Corrections:

1. Viewfinder indications (pp. 42, 44, 45)

Contrary to the description on p. 42 and the viewfinder images on pp. 42, 44, and 45 the LEICA C3 is not equipped with close-up frames (a). They are not necessary due to the only small, in practise negligible parallax.

The autofocus frames (b) are vertically oriented as opposed to the horizontal orientation in the illustrations. Function and use of the AF-system are not influenced by this and are as described.

2. Setting the Data (p. 37) / Setting the desired date order (p. 38)

When setting data/ the desired date order, as opposed to the description, there is no default setting. It depends entirely on the preceding setting. The possible date orders are Year/Day/Month, Day/Month/Year, and Month/Day/Year.

Corrections:

1. Affichages dans le viseur (Pages 72, 74, 75)

Contrairement à ce qui est écrit à la page 72 de la notice d'utilisation, ainsi que sur les illustrations de l'image de visée aux pages 72, 74 et 75, le LEICA C3 ne possède pas des repères pour le domaine rapproché (a). Du fait du très faible effet de parallaxe, négligeable dans la pratique, ces repères ne sont pas nécessaires.

Les cadres de l'autofocus (b) ne correspondent pas aux illustrations, ils ne sont pas placés horizontalement, mais bien verticalement. Cela n'influence en aucune manière le système de l'autofocus et toutes les explications sur son maniement restent valables.

2. Réglage des données (page 67) / Réglage de l'ordre d'affichage de la date (page 68)

L'ordre dans lequel sont affichés les indications de la date au début du réglage des données/de l'ordre d'affichage de la date n'est pas défini, mais est dépendant du réglage précédent. Les différents ordres d'affichage possibles sont: Année/Jour/Mois, Jour/Mois/Année et Mois/Jour/Année.