

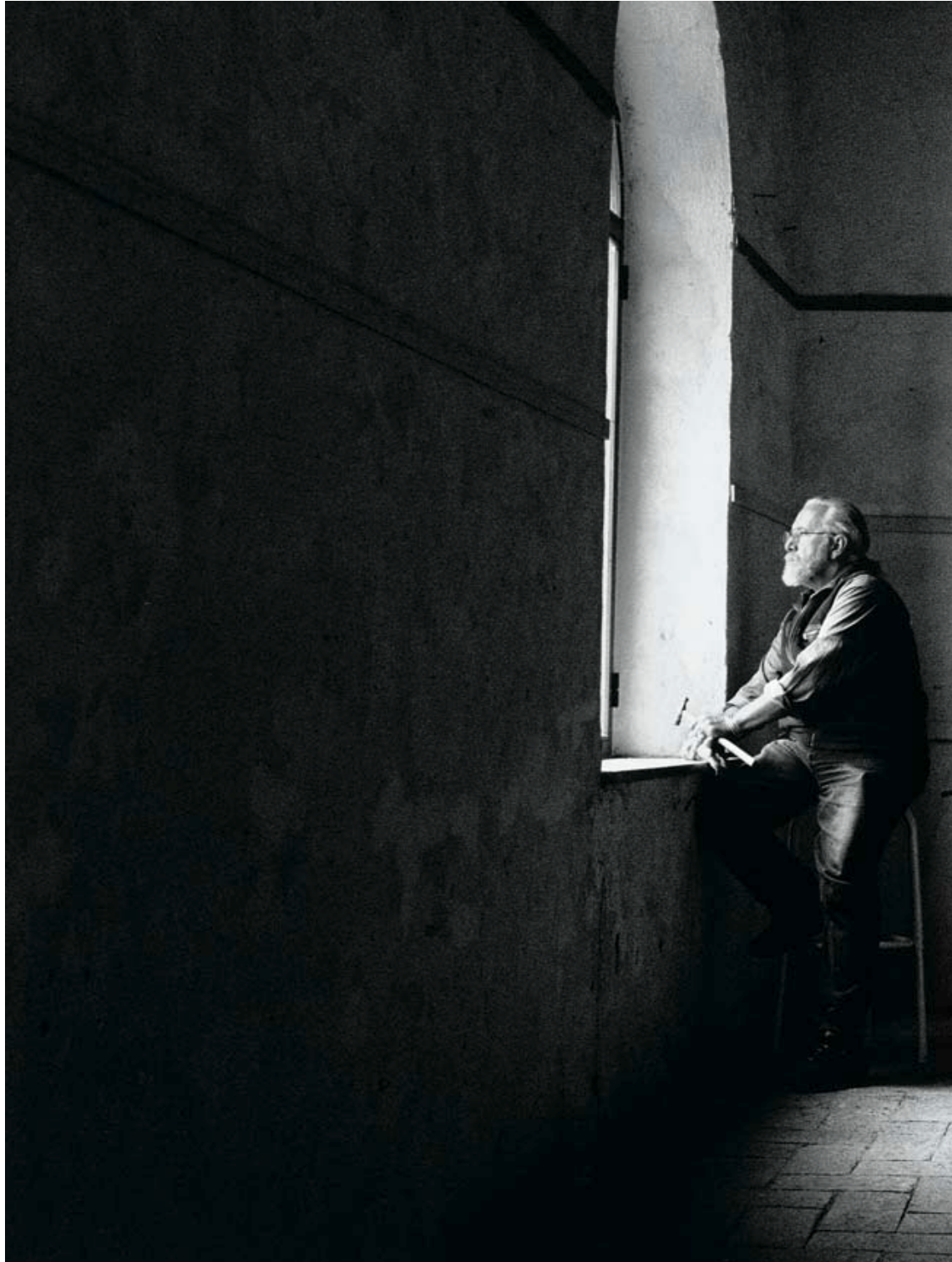
# **Nikon** **FM3A**

Manual-focus SLR  
with Auto Exposure

*Crafted for your command*



# Experience the difference.



When you're passionate about photography, you know that taking the picture is as rewarding as enjoying the final images. And that's what makes personal photography with manual control the purest expression of the craft. It's also what makes the new Nikon FM3A so exciting.

From its durable metal body to its precision mechanical movement,

the FM3A is designed to respond to your personal control. You control the camera according to your decisions. Focusing and exposure are both manual under the guidance of the FM3A's bright focusing screen, rangefinder and the classic 60/40 Centre-Weighted Light Meter; tools with decades of refinement.

But for those times when you need to devote complete concentration





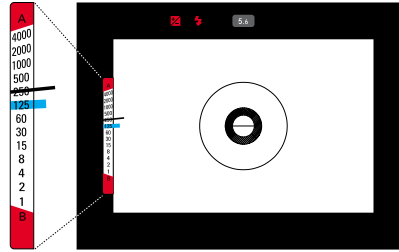
on the subject, or when the action is fast, select aperture-priority Auto Exposure, and let the FM3A automatically control shutter speed. Attach a Nikon Speedlight, and shoot manually or use automatic TTL flash control. It's an unprecedented degree of flexibility in a manual SLR with the added benefits of selected automation.

The Nikon FM3A. A camera that responds to you.

**Nikon FM3A**

# We make the basics.

## Manual exposure control



Manual operation means total personal control. You set both the shutter speed and aperture. The 60/40 Centre-Weighted Meter guides you towards exposure excellence using a match-needle readout against a shutter speed scale. You always know where you

are in the process of controlling exposure.

To obtain the metered exposure value, adjust the shutter speed dial and the aperture setting of the lens so that the blue needle overlaps the black needle in the viewfinder. Then, when you wish, experiment with under- or over-exposure by changing the aperture value, the shutter speed, or both. It's your personal choice.

## Automatic Exposure control

For when you simply don't have the luxury of time, the Nikon FM3A offers the flexibility of Aperture Priority Auto Exposure control. Just set the shutter speed dial to A; this lets you choose your aperture while the FM3A automatically selects the appropriate shutter speed. This mode is ideal for taking candid shots, or when you want to concentrate on composition and

let the FM3A take care of exposure.

## Hybrid shutter control system

The flexibility of the FM3A's shutter design marks another Nikon first. In A mode, shutter speeds are controlled electronically. When any shutter speed is manually selected, the shutter's operation and control are mechanical without the need for battery power.\* With automatic operation, the FM3A's shutter speeds of 8 sec. to 1/4000 sec. (electronically controlled), plus a top flash sync speed of 1/250 sec., offer an impressive range of control.

\* You can release the shutter without batteries, but the camera's built-in exposure meter will not operate.

## Auto Exposure Lock

For extra control when shooting in A mode, the FM3A lets you lock the exposure setting. To activate, just press the AE-L (Auto Exposure Lock) button; you can then reframe the shot as you like. Exposure settings for the original composition will be maintained.

## Exposure Compensation

The FM3A's exposure compensation dial allows you to vary exposure from the standard exposure values. When shooting in A mode and when the exposure is within the meter's EV range, you can select exposure compensation over a range of  $\pm 2$  EV in 1/3 EV increments.



### Shutter release button

Lightly pressing this button activates the built-in light meter.

### Sync cord terminal

This accepts all standard PC type sync cords.

### Self-timer lever

This activates self-timer operation with approx. 10 sec. shutter release delay.

### Depth-of-field preview lever

This enables you to preview the depth of field in any mode.

### TTL flash-compensation button





# You make the shot.

## Performance-proven Centre-Weighted Metering

Precision exposure control is another hallmark of the Nikon FM3A. The camera concentrates 60% of its metering sensitivity within the finder's 12mm circle outline; the remaining 40% is spread over the finder's outer area. This classic Nikon design is extremely versatile and reliable.

The camera's TTL exposure metering system uses a pair of SPDs (silicon photodiodes) to measure the light; a time-proven technology, renowned for accuracy and stable performance.

## Manual focusing

To help you focus with precision, the FM3A features a newly developed bright finder that offers a clear view even when the light is dim. The camera's split image rangefinder and matte finder surface are two more tools that put all the control in your hands. With the clear, bright finder image delivered by Nikkor optics, you'll see a real difference in your photographs.

## Top shutter speed of 1/4000 sec.

The FM3A's high top speed of 1/4000 sec. provides opportunities for critical action-stopping speed. This also expands exposure control, which is particularly useful when shooting with high-speed film. You can choose a faster shutter speed and a wider aperture for improved depth-of-field control. It's another example of how the FM3A gives you the control to do what you want.

## A fast flash sync speed of 1/250 sec.

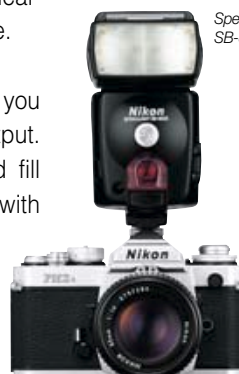
The FM3A's fast flash sync speed provides a broad range of control to let you shoot from dim to bright scenes with fill-flash.

## TTL flash control

The FM3A is provided with automatic TTL (through-the-lens) flash exposure control. When used with Nikon TTL Speedlights like the SB-80DX or SB-30, the FM3A's TTL sensor monitors the degree of flash illumination exposed on the film surface during exposure. When the sensor determines that the necessary level of flash light has reached the film, it signals the Nikon Speedlight to turn off. The result is correct flash exposure— automatically. Of course, manual flash control is also possible.

## Automatic flash output level compensation

A TTL flash-compensation button on the FM3A lets you slightly reduce your Nikon Speedlight's flash output. You can use this feature to achieve a balanced fill effect, or to avoid over-exposure associated with shooting a subject against a very dark or distant background. Thoughtful controls such as flash compensation make the FM3A special, and it's always under your personal control.



Speedlight SB-80DX



TTL flash compensation



**Accessory shoe**  
This accepts an optional Speedlight with a standard ISO type hot shoe.

**Shutter speed dial**  
Lets you select A mode or shutter speeds in manual control.

## Multiple exposure lever

To keep the film from advancing to the next frame, hold this lever toward you while winding the film advance lever.

## Frame counter

Additive type; automatically resets to S when camera back is opened.

## Film speed (exposure compensation) setting dial

Film speed is automatically set with DX-coded film. Manual setting from ISO 12 to 6400 is also possible.

## Film advance lever

Shutter release button locks when it's folded.

# The unique integrity



## Durable, die-cast body

Nikon chose durable metal for the FM3A to assure ruggedness and durability. The die-cast camera body is cast in copper silumin aluminium, a metal alloy that significantly reduces the effects of extremes in temperature and humidity. While remarkably light, the alloy is rigid and resistant to metal fatigue and corrosion. With this strong die-cast body, the FM3A is designed to perform superbly in a wide variety of challenging conditions.



## Vertically travelling aluminium alloy shutter curtains

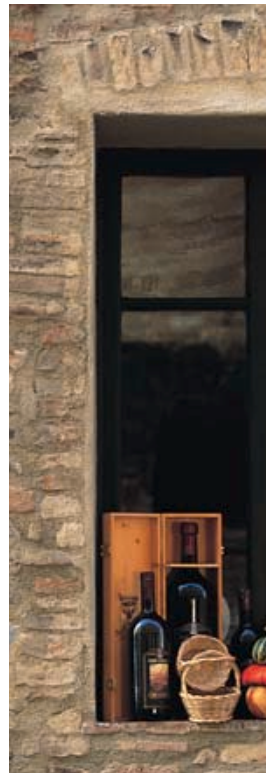
Both manual mechanical and electronic automatic operation offer a top shutter speed of 1/4000 sec. And to ensure accuracy, the FM3A's shutter curtains have a vertical travel time of a mere 3.3 milliseconds. Nikon achieved this exceptionally fast travel time by crafting the shutter curtains from a durable aluminium alloy, a material that reduces the shutter blades' mass and is virtually impervious to pin-holing.

## Smooth film advance and transport

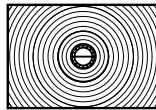
Four clusters of ball bearings and a low film winding torque provide silky-smooth winding of the short-stroke film advance lever. Also, a large pressure plate, long highly polished guide rails and an anti-belly roller assure precision film travel and film flatness. So whether you shoot manually or with the Nikon MD-12 motor drive, you get undiminished precision frame-after-frame.

## Interchangeable focusing screens

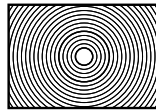
The FM3A uses new bright, clear interchangeable focusing screens to ensure an exceptionally bright viewfinder. This makes critical focusing easier, even in dim light. The camera is supplied with the Nikon Type K3 split-image/micro prism for general photography. There is also the separately available Type B3, a matte/Fresnel focusing screen with a focusing spot that's great for doing close-ups or when using telephoto lenses. Type E3, a matte/Fresnel screen with horizontal and vertical lines, is ideal for architectural photography or for shooting with PC-Nikkor lenses.



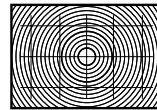
Copper silumin aluminium die-cast body, and top and bottom cover (brass)



Type K3



Type B3



Type E3



Shutter unit



# behind pure picture-taking.

## Create your own Personal Nikon System

### Nikon Speedlight

For precise flash illumination, a Nikon Speedlight gets the job done. You can directly mount the Nikon SB-80DX, SB-27, SB-50DX, SB-29s or SB-30 onto the FM3A's hot shoe contact and reap the benefits of both manual and automatic TTL flash control.

### Motor Drive MD-12

The MD-12 lets you shoot single frames, or sequentially at a rate of up to 3.2 frames per second.

### Data Back MF-16

When you attach the MF-16 Data Back, you can record the date and time on your pictures.

### Nikon camera cases

Use CF-27S for a Nikkor 50mm f/1.4 or smaller lens; CF-28S for an AF Nikkor 85mm f/1.8D or smaller lens; CF-28A front flap for a AF Zoom-Nikkor 28-105mm f/3.5-4.5D or smaller lens. Use the CF-29S for the MD-12 with an AF Nikkor 85mm f/1.8D or smaller lens.

### Close-up accessories

Nikon offers Bellows Attachment PB-6 and Auto Extension Rings PK-11A, 12 and 13 for professional macro photography. There are also Nikon Close-up Attachment Lenses for a simple, convenient way to perform close-up shooting.

### Nikkor lenses

You have nearly 80 Nikkor lenses to choose from for your FM3A. These range from an ultra-wideangle 14mm to a super telephoto 1000mm. Each one is crafted from Nikon's own optical glass and treated with original Nikon Super Integrated Coating for greater contrast and natural colour rendition. Nikkor lenses ensure optimum performance for the Nikon FM3A.

### Lens accessories

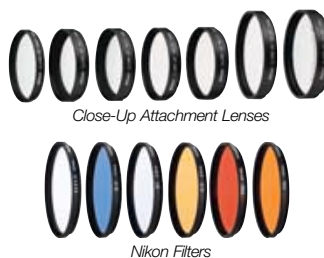
*Nikon filters* can be used for colour correction, black and white enhancements or polarisation.

*Nikon lens hoods* prevent stray light from inadvertently entering the lens, which can cause ghost and flare.

### Nikon film scanners

Nikon film scanners offer state-of-the-art technology and superb performance to ensure ultra-high-quality scans of your 35mm images.

## Accessories



## Film scanners



## Compatible Nikkor lenses (IX-Nikkor and G-type Nikkor lenses cannot be used)

### AF Nikkors

AF-S 17-35mm f/2.8D IF-ED  
 AF 18-35mm f/3.5-4.5D IF-ED  
 AF 24-50mm f/3.3-4.5D  
 AF 24-85mm f/2.8-4D IF  
 AF 24-120mm f/3.5-5.6D IF  
 AF-S 28-70mm f/2.8D IF-ED  
 AF 28-105mm f/3.5-4.5D IF  
 AF 28-200mm f/3.5-5.6D IF  
 AF 35-70mm f/2.8D  
 AF 70-300mm f/4-5.6D ED  
 AF-S 80-200mm f/2.8D IF-ED  
 AF 80-200mm f/2.8D ED  
 AF VR 80-400mm f/4.5-5.6D ED  
 AF 14mm f/2.8D ED

AF 18mm f/2.8D  
 AF 20mm f/2.8D  
 AF 24mm f/2.8D  
 AF 28mm f/1.4D  
 AF 28mm f/2.8D  
 AF 35mm f/2D  
 AF 50mm f/1.4D  
 AF 50mm f/1.8D  
 AF 85mm f/1.4D IF  
 AF 85mm f/1.8D  
 AF 180mm f/2.8D IF-ED  
 AF 300mm f/2.8 IF-ED  
 AF-S 300mm f/2.8D IF-ED II  
 AF-S 300mm f/4D IF-ED  
 AF-S 400mm f/2.8D IF-ED II

AF-S 500mm f/4D IF-ED II  
 AF-S 600mm f/4D IF-ED II  
 AF-I Teleconverter TC-14E  
 AF-S Teleconverter TC-14E II  
 AF-I Teleconverter TC-20E  
 AF-S Teleconverter TC-20E II  
 AF Fisheye 16mm f/2.8D  
 AF Micro 60mm f/2.8D  
 AF Micro 105mm f/2.8D  
 AF Micro 200mm f/4D IF-ED  
 AF Micro 70-180mm f/4.5-5.6D ED  
 AF DC 105mm f/2D  
 AF DC 135mm f/2D

### AI-P-type Nikkors

45mm f/2.8 P  
 500mm f/4 P IF-ED  
**AI- and AI-S-type Nikkors**  
 28-85mm f/3.5-4.5  
 35-70mm f/3.3-4.5  
 35-105mm f/3.5-4.5  
 35-200mm f/3.5-4.5  
 70-210mm f/4.5-5.6  
 15mm f/3.5  
 18mm f/3.5  
 20mm f/2.8  
 24mm f/2  
 24mm f/2.8

28mm f/2  
 28mm f/2.8  
 35mm f/1.4  
 35mm f/2  
 50mm f/1.2  
 50mm f/1.4  
 50mm f/1.8  
 85mm f/1.4  
 105mm f/1.8  
 105mm f/2.5  
 135mm f/2  
 135mm f/2.8  
 180mm f/2.8 ED  
 200mm f/2.8 IF-ED  
 300mm f/2.8 IF-ED

400mm f/3.5 IF-ED  
 600mm f/5.6 IF-ED  
 800mm f/5.6 IF-ED  
 Micro 55mm f/2.8  
 Micro 105mm f/2.8  
 Micro 200mm f/4 IF  
 PC Micro 85mm f/2.8D  
**Teleconverters**  
 TC-20I  
 TC-30I  
 TC-14A  
 TC-14B

### Other Nikkors

Reflex 500mm f/8  
 Reflex 1000mm f/11  
 PC 28mm f/3.5



Nikkor 45mm f/2.8 P

## F M 3 A Specifications

<b>Type of camera</b>	35mm single-lens reflex with electronically and mechanically controlled focal-plane shutter
<b>Applicable film</b>	35mm film in a cartridge
<b>Frame size</b>	24 x 36mm
<b>Lens mount</b>	Nikon F mount
<b>Shutter</b>	Vertical-travel, metal focal-plane shutter
<b>Shutter-speed settings</b>	A (aperture-priority auto): 8 to 1/4000 sec., electronic stepless control (indications are 1 to 1/4000) Manual: Bulb, 1 to 1/4000 sec., mechanical control
<b>Viewfinder</b>	Eye-level pentaprism
<b>Eyepoint</b>	14mm (at -1.0m <sup>-1</sup> )
<b>Focusing screen</b>	K3 type (splitprism-image microprism type, Clear Matte Screen II) standard, B3 type and E3 type optional
<b>Viewfinder frame coverage</b>	Approx. 93% (objective screen)
<b>Viewfinder magnification</b>	Approx. 0.80 x with 50mm lens set to infinity
<b>Viewfinder information</b>	Shutter speed, exposure meter indication, shutter indication, direct aperture value, exposure meter compensation mark, ready light
<b>Reflex mirror</b>	Quick-return type
<b>Exposure meter sync</b>	AI type (automatic compensation at full-aperture f-stop)
<b>Metering system</b>	TTL centre-weighted, full-aperture exposure metering system, approx. 60% of the meter's sensitivity concentrated on a 12mm diameter circle
<b>Metering range</b>	EV 1 to EV 20 at ISO100 (with a 50mm f/1.4 lens)
<b>Film-sensitivity settings</b>	DX system or manual. With DX: ISO 25 to 5000 Manual: ISO 12 to 6400
<b>Exposure compensation</b>	Exposure compensated to ±2 EV in units of 1/3 EV (compensation to the + side not possible with ISO 12, and that to the - side not possible with ISO 6400)
<b>Auto Exposure Lock</b>	Enabled by pressing the AE lock button
<b>Film advance</b>	Lever provided, 30-degree standoff angle and 135-degree winding angle, automatic film advance enabled with MD-12 Motor Drive (sold separately)
<b>Frame counter</b>	Additive type (S, 1 to 36), automatic reset
<b>Film rewinding</b>	Film reset button and rewind crank provided
<b>Self-timer</b>	Mechanically controlled, countdown time of approx. 4 to 10 sec., cancellation possible
<b>Lens aperture</b>	Instant-return system, with aperture lever
<b>Multiple exposure</b>	Activated with multiple exposure lever
<b>Sync contact</b>	X-contact only; synchronised with the flash at a low speed of less than 1/250 sec.

<b>Flash control</b>	TTL flash: Enabled by using SB-80DX, SB-30, etc. in combination TTL flash compensation: Compensation to -1 EV activated with the TTL flash compensation button on the camera Film speed synchronisation in TTL flash: ISO 12 to 1000												
<b>Sync terminal</b>	ISO 519 Standard terminal, with lock screws												
<b>Accessory shoe</b>	Hot-shoe contact (sync contact, ready-light contact, monitor contact, stop-signal contact for TTL flash) with a lock hole to prevent accidental dropping												
<b>Ready light</b>	Lights when the flash is fully charged with SB-80DX, SB-30, etc.; blinks for full-output warning or shutter-speed settings from 1/500 to 1/4000 sec.												
<b>Camera back</b>	Detachable hinged back; MF-16 Data Back can be attached in place												
<b>Camera-back opening</b>	Achieved with the film-rewind lever												
<b>Power source</b>	One 3V CR-1/3N lithium battery, two 1.55V SR44 silver-oxide batteries, or two 1.5V LR44 alkaline batteries												
<b>Meter-on timer</b>	To turn the camera on when the shutter-release button is pressed lightly, turning it off 16 sec. after your finger leaves the button. With the MD-12 Motor Drive, the camera is turned on when the shutter release button of the MD-12 is pressed lightly, and it turns off approx. 66 sec. after your finger leaves the button												
<b>Battery power check</b>	Displayed for 16 sec. with the meter-on timer. The exposure meter does not work if the batteries are exhausted												
<b>Number of film rolls that can be shot</b>	When repeating the procedure of holding the shutter-release button in the lightly pressed position for 10 sec., pressing it all the way, and waiting until the timer activates, with 36-frame film rolls, a shutter speed of 1/250 sec. in Aperture-Priority Auto mode:												
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>At normal temperature (20°C)</th> <th>At low temperature (-10°C)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>One 3V lithium battery</td> <td>approx. 110 rolls</td> <td>approx. 60 rolls</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Two 1.55V silver-oxide batteries</td> <td>approx. 120 rolls</td> <td>approx. 65 rolls</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Two 1.5V alkaline batteries</td> <td>approx. 50 rolls</td> <td>approx. 10 rolls</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		At normal temperature (20°C)	At low temperature (-10°C)	One 3V lithium battery	approx. 110 rolls	approx. 60 rolls	Two 1.55V silver-oxide batteries	approx. 120 rolls	approx. 65 rolls	Two 1.5V alkaline batteries	approx. 50 rolls	approx. 10 rolls
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<b>Optional exclusive or common accessories</b>	MD-12 Motor Drive SB-80DX/27/50DX/29s/30 Speedlight and equivalents MF-16 Data Back CF-27S/CF-28S/CF-29S Camera Case AR-3 Cable Release etc.												
<b>Tripod socket</b>	1/4 (ISO 1222)												
<b>Dimensions (W x H x D)</b>	Approx. 142.5 x 90 x 58mm (camera body only)												
<b>Weight</b>	Approx. 570g (camera body only, including battery)												

All specifications apply when fresh batteries are used at normal temperature (20°C). Specifications and designs are subject to change without any notice or obligation on the part of the manufacturer.

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**NPCI 2002-2003**

YAHOO! JAPAN

Application period:  
Print/Slide Division: **May 1, 2002 - Oct. 31, 2002**  
Web Entry Division: **July 1, 2002 - Oct. 31, 2002**

<http://www.nikon-image.com/eng/npci>

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	<b>WARNING</b>	TO ENSURE CORRECT USAGE, READ MANUALS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING YOUR EQUIPMENT.
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