

SHORTCUT TO GREAT PICTURES

Nikon N50



INSTRUCTION MANUAL

FOREWORD

Thank you for purchasing the Nikon N50 camera. We are sure that you will enjoy using this camera and that it will make photography a bigger part of your life. In addition to this comprehensive instruction manual, the Nikon N50 comes with—

- **SHOOTING IN SIMPLE MODE—SHORTCUT TO GREAT PICTURES**

A concise, pocketable guide that explains the easiest way to use the N50.

- **PHOTO GUIDE**

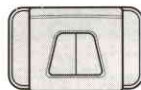
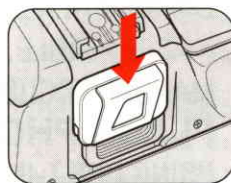
A colorful book that shows you which mode and/or program to use for a variety of photographs.

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Learn the parts of your camera.



Eyepiece cover DK-5: Attach to viewfinder eyepiece to ward off stray light when using the self-timer.

LCD panel

Self-timer button

Set/adjust buttons

Shutter release button: Press lightly to activate exposure meter and start AF operation; fully depress to release shutter and take picture.

Menu button

Minimum aperture lock: Slide lever to lock position

Accessory shoe: For Nikon dedicated Speedlights.

Power switch: Set to OFF when not using your camera.

SIMPLE/ADVANCED dial

Flash lock release

Self-timer LED

Lens mounting index

Lens release button

Focus switch

Focusing ring: Do not turn when the focus switch is set at AF. (For manual focusing, see page 41).

(Optional lens illustrated:
AF Zoom-Nikkor 35-80mm f/4-f/5.6 D)

AE-L (Auto Exposure Lock) button: See pages 38 to 39 for Auto Exposure Lock.

Camera back

Viewfinder eyepiece

Film cartridge
confirmation window

Camera strap
eyelet

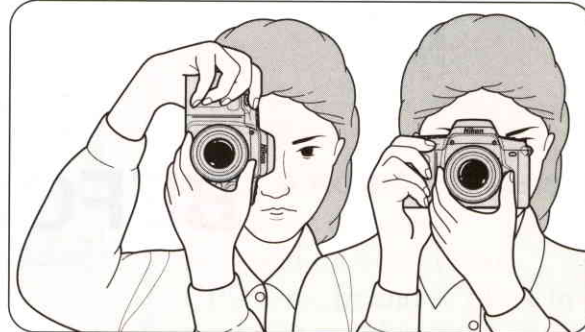
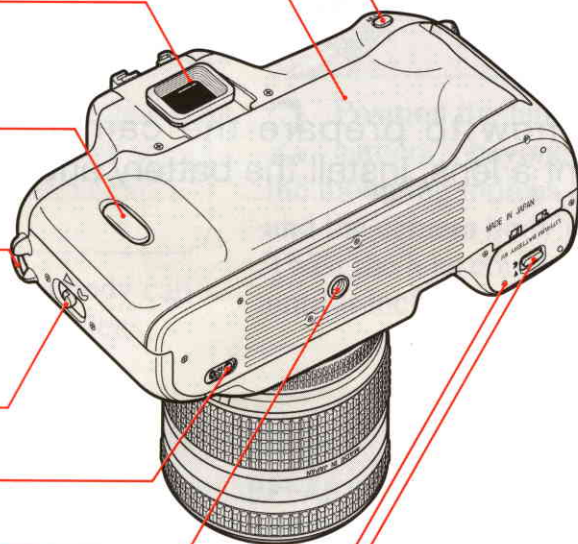
Camera back
lock release

Rewind button

Tripod socket

Battery chamber cover

Battery chamber cover lock release



Learn how to hold your camera

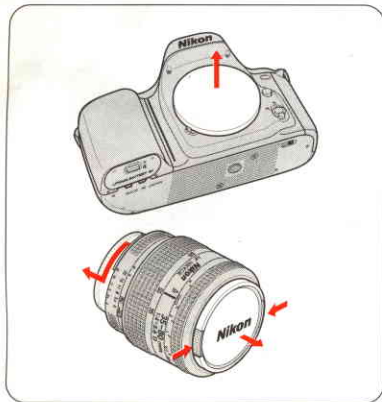
- Grasp the camera handgrip with your right hand.
- Use your left hand to cradle the camera with the elbow propped against your body for support, as you look through the viewfinder.
- Use your right hand index finger to depress the shutter release button.
- To hold the camera steady, lean on or against something strong and stable. This will help ensure sharp images.

BEFORE SHOOTING

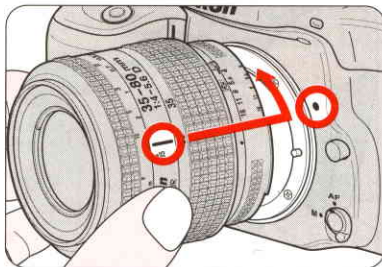
This section shows you how to prepare the camera for shooting, e.g., how to mount a lens, install the battery and load film.

This section is for both **SIMPLE** and **ADVANCED** modes.

MOUNTING LENS



1 Remove the camera body cap and the front and rear lens caps.



2 Position the lens in the camera's bayonet mount so the mounting indices on the lens and the camera body are aligned. Twist the lens counterclockwise until it locks into place.



With a non-CPU lens

When the camera is powered on with a non-CPU lens, Err and CPU blink in the LCD panel and Err blinks inside viewfinder. For using a non-CPU lens, see page 50.

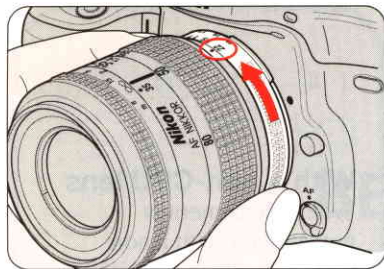
Usable Lenses

Use CPU lenses (AF Nikkor lenses and AF-S/AF-I/AI-P lenses). Other Nikon and Nikkor lenses (non-CPU lenses) can be mounted, but you have to use an external exposure meter, and the only usable exposure mode is Manual. (See page 50).

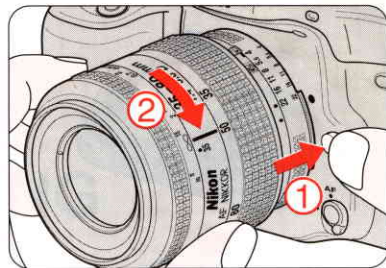
* AF-S/AF-I/AI-P lenses are for manual focus only.

When mounting lens—

- Avoid direct sunlight.
- Make sure the camera's power is off.
- Do not touch the lens release button.

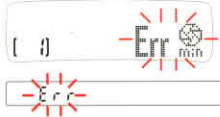


3 Turn the lens aperture ring to its minimum aperture (the largest f-number, marked in orange, on AF Nikkor lenses). Then lock the lens aperture at its minimum setting (see lens instruction manual).




To remove

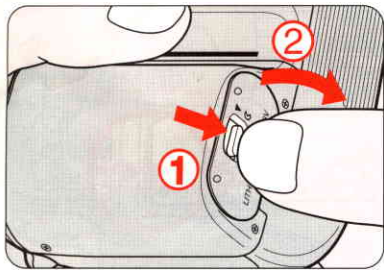
While pressing the lens release button, turn the lens clockwise.



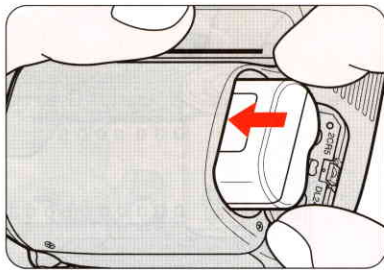
If lens aperture is not set at its minimum setting

When the camera is powered on with a lens not set at its minimum aperture setting, Err and  blink in the LCD panel and Err blinks inside viewfinder. With the N50, all aperture setting operations are performed with the camera's set/adjust buttons. Do not move the lens aperture ring once it is set to its smallest aperture (largest f-number).

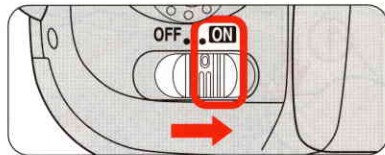
INSTALLING BATTERY



1 Make sure the camera's power is off, then slide the lock release on the battery chamber cover to open the chamber.



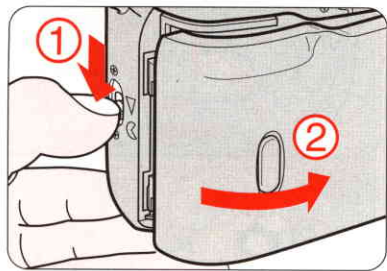
2 Insert a 6V lithium pack with "+" and "-" ends positioned as shown on the inside of the cover. Close the cover by pushing until it clicks.



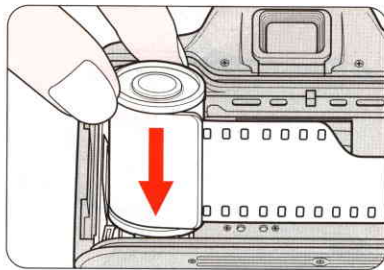
3 Switch the power ON. Check the LCD panel to see if the frame counter shows "E" or the frame number appears and no battery mark (☐ or ☐) appears. If ☐ blinks: Battery is nearing exhaustion. Have a fresh one ready.

If Err and ☐ blink: Battery is almost exhausted. Switch power OFF and replace battery with fresh one. If no indication appears on the LCD panel: Battery is completely exhausted or improperly installed. Change the battery.

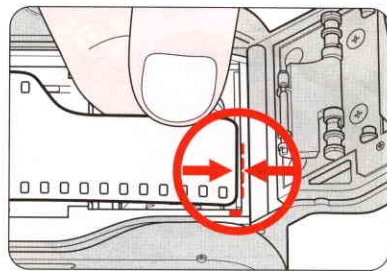
- Use 6V lithium battery pack (2CR5 or DL245 type).
- See page 54 for "NOTES ON BATTERIES".



1 Slide the camera back lock release to open the camera back.



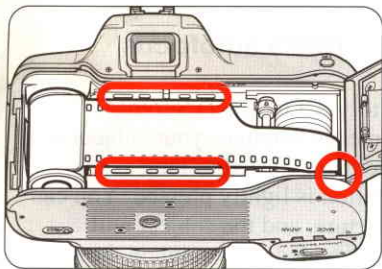
2 Insert film cartridge.



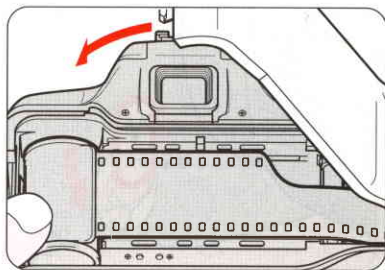
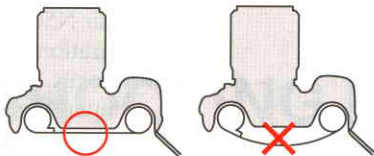
3 Pull the film leader out to the red index mark.

- To avoid fogging film (especially high-ISO film), do not load/unload film in direct sunlight.
- Usable film speed range for DX-coded film is ISO 25 to 5000.

- Opening/closing the camera back resets the frame counter to "E".




- 4 Make sure the film is properly positioned with no slack and the film perforations engage the sprockets. (See illustration.)



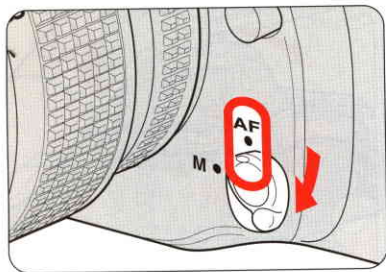
- 5 Gently close the camera back until the lock release snaps closed.

Film automatically advances to frame #1.

- If the frame counter still shows **E** (i.e., if the film does not advance to frame #1), with or without blinking Err and , the film is incorrectly positioned. Reload film.

• You can confirm the film speed of installed DX-coded film. See page 31.

• With a non-DX-coded film, film speed must be set manually. See page 31.



Autofocus should be used for most picture-taking situations, including moving subjects. In general, it is best to leave the focus switch set to AF.

Regarding the N50's autofocus feature

Your N50 is factory-set to Single Servo AF operation. This means that once your subject is in focus, focus remains locked as long as the shutter release button is lightly pressed. You can recompose the picture, and the subject will remain in focus, provided you maintain the same subject-to-camera distance. (See page 37 for details.) If the subject moves, take your finger off the shutter release button, then lightly press it again to restart autofocus operation.

- In the ADVANCED mode, in addition to Single Servo AF, you can choose Continuous Servo AF which keeps autofocus operation going continuously as long as you keep lightly pressing the shutter release button. (For details, see page 30.) Use Continuous Servo AF for sports and other action photography.

- For situations where autofocus is not possible, see page 40.
- For manual focusing, see page 41.









SHOOTING IN ADVANCED MODE

This section shows you how to set your desired Program or exposure mode.

This section is for ADVANCED mode only.

In the Advanced Operation Mode, you can select any of four exposure modes—Programmed Auto (P), Shutter-Priority Auto (S), Aperture-Priority Auto (A) and Manual (M).

Programmed Auto Exposure Mode

In addition to the four Programs in SIMPLE mode—General-Purpose , Landscape , Portrait  and Close-Up —four more Programs are available in ADVANCED mode: Sport , Silhouette , Night Scene  and Motion Effect .

The N50 camera's microcomputer automatically chooses the combination of shutter speed and aperture for a correct exposure.

For features and sample pictures of each Program, see attached "PHOTO GUIDE".

Shutter-Priority Auto Exposure Mode

You manually set the shutter speed and the camera sets the matching lens aperture. To freeze action, use a high shutter speed; to create motion effects, choose a low shutter speed. For more information on Shutter-Priority Auto, see pages 22 to 25.

Aperture-Priority Auto Exposure Mode

You manually set the aperture and the camera sets the appropriate shutter speed. Smaller apertures make the background and foreground sharper (recommended for landscape pictures) while larger apertures tend to blur the background (recommended for portraits).

For more information on Aperture-Priority Auto, see pages 22 to 25.

Manual Exposure Mode

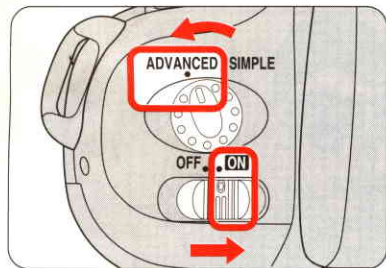
You select both the shutter speed and aperture. This mode lets you experiment with and produce different creative effects (e.g., intentional blur, intentional under- or overexposure). For more information on Manual Exposure Mode, see pages 22 to 25.

Metering System

The Programmed, Aperture-Priority and Shutter-Priority Auto Exposure modes employ either 3D Matrix Metering or Advanced Matrix Metering, depending on lens type in use.

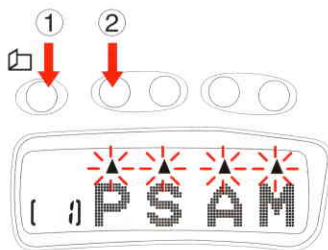
In Manual exposure mode, Center-Weighted metering is used. For details about this metering system, see page 59.

OPERATION IN PROGRAMMED AUTO EXPOSURE MODE



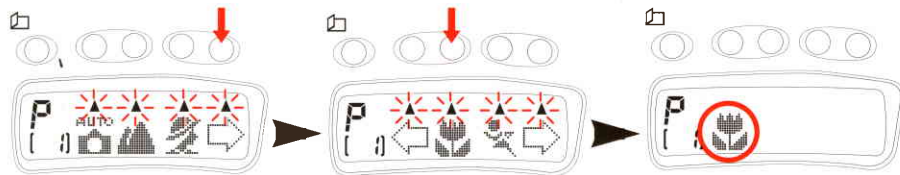
1 Switch power ON and set the camera dial to ADVANCED. The LCD shows the last selected exposure mode/Program. (The original factory setting is for General-Purpose Program.)

- Steps 2 and 3 explain how to set a Program. If the Program shown is what you want, skip steps 2 and 3.



2 Press the menu button ① to access the exposure mode menu, then press the button above **P** ②.

With the Exposure Menu, pressing the menu button activates the Optional-Function Menu (see page 27). To return the LCD to the Exposure Menu, press the menu button again.



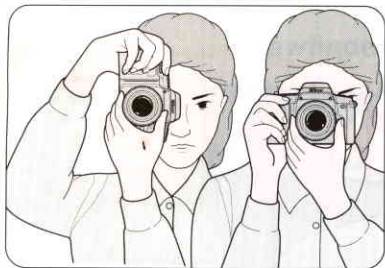
(Example: Setting Close-Up Program)

3 The Program menu contains eight Programs in three screens. Pressing the button above or moves the menu to the following or previous screen. Select and set the desired Program by pressing the button above it.

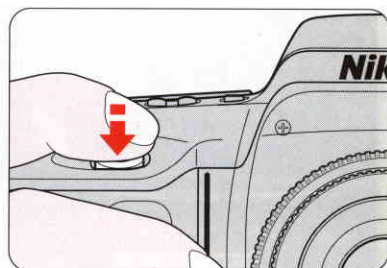
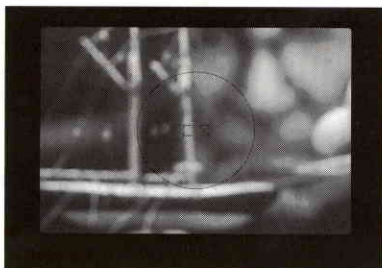
For example, set to Close-Up Program:

- Press the button above .
- Press the button above . Close-Up Program is now set.

If indications on the LCD panel disappear, lightly press the shutter release button to reactivate them.



- 4** Look through the viewfinder and position the focus brackets on your subject.



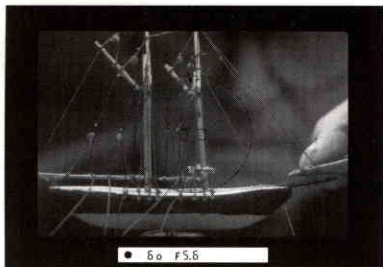
- 5** Lightly press the shutter release button to activate autofocus operation and the exposure meter.



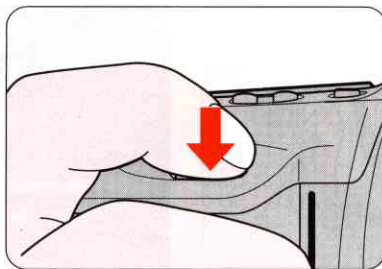
If blinks in the LCD panel

The shutter speed set on the camera is slow and may cause picture blur. See page 19.

In Single Servo AF mode, if a stationary subject moves, remove your finger from the shutter release button, then lightly press it again to restart autofocus.



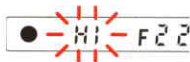
6 Confirm that ● (in-focus indicator), the shutter speed (from 1/2000 to 30 sec.) and an aperture (number with **F**) appear below the viewfinder screen.



7 Fully depress the shutter release button to take the picture. The film will automatically advance by one frame.

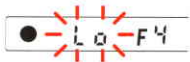
Shutter speed indication without "' ' " should be read as a reciprocal fraction, i.e., "15" stands for 1/15 second, "15' " for 15 seconds.

Viewfinder Information



H1 blinks—Overexposure possible

Use a filter such as the Nikon ND filter.



L0 blinks—Underexposure possible

Use built-in flash or accessory Nikon Speedlight.



⚡ blinks—Flash recommended

Not enough light. Use built-in flash or accessory Nikon Speedlight.



Shutter speed indication blinks inside viewfinder (and  blinks in the LCD panel)—Picture blur possible

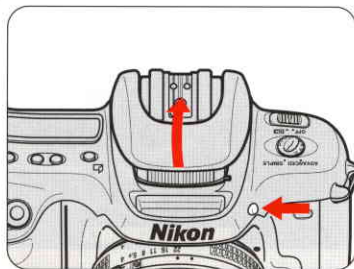
The automatically selected shutter speed is slow and picture blur may occur due to camera shake. To reduce the possibility of blur, hold camera very steady, use a tripod or use the built-in flash or an accessory Nikon Speedlight.



● blinks—Unacceptable autofocus condition

Subject characteristics do not allow autofocus operation. Set focus switch to M and rotate the lens focusing ring until the image in the viewfinder appears clear and sharp. (See page 41 for manual focusing.)




For Err indication, see pages 60 to 62.



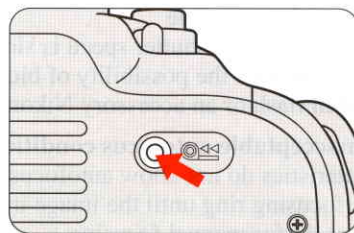
Using Built-In Flash

Use the built-in flash not only when the ready-light blinks, but also when your subject is in shadow or backlit. See pages 43 to 47.

Auto Rewind

When the film reaches the end of the roll, auto rewind begins. During rewinding,  and  blink in the LCD panel. After rewind automatically stops, frame counter shows **E** and  blinks for a few seconds. You can then remove film cartridge.

- When battery power is very weak, or when the temperature is very low, film may not rewind at the end of roll and Err appears in the LCD panel. In this case, replace battery with a fresh one, or wait for the temperature to rise and then press the rewind button.



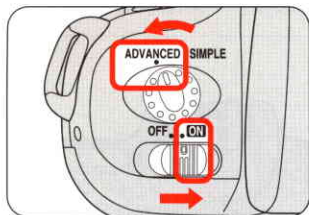
To rewind film at mid-roll: Press the rewind button on the camera bottom.



To change a combination of shutter speed/aperture

In the General-Purpose Program, you can change the combination of shutter speed/aperture by pressing the button above ▼ or ▲. Press the button above ▼ for faster shutter speed/wider aperture (smaller f-number); press the button above ▲ for slower shutter speed/smaller aperture (larger f-number). Pressing and holding the button down changes the shutter speed/aperture combination rapidly. P* appears in the LCD panel and ◀ ▶ appears inside the viewfinder, indicating the change in shutter speed/aperture.

- The original shutter speed/aperture combination for General-Purpose Program is recalled when the LCD indication automatically switches off, when you turn the camera power off, when you switch to SIMPLE mode or when you use flash.



1 Switch camera on and set the dial to ADVANCED. The LCD shows the previously selected exposure mode/Program. (The original factory setting is for General-Purpose Program.)

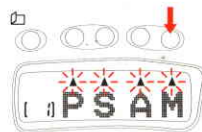
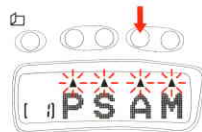
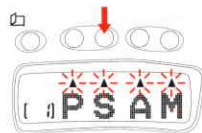
• Step 2 explains how to set an exposure mode. If the present exposure mode is what you want, skip step 2.

2 Press the menu button to activate the Exposure Mode Menu. To set the exposure mode, press the button above the desired indication.

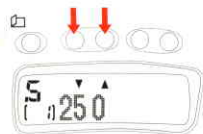
• With the Exposure Mode Menu, pressing the menu button activates the Optional-Function Menu (see page 27). To return the LCD to the Exposure Mode Menu, press the menu button again.

3 To adjust the shutter speed and/or aperture, press the button above ▲ (up) or ▼ (down) indication.

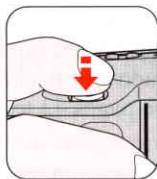
4 Look through the viewfinder and position the focus brackets ([]) on the main subject. Lightly press the shutter release button to activate autofocus operation and the exposure meter. Confirm that the in-focus indicator ● appears in the viewfinder.



Shutter-Priority Auto

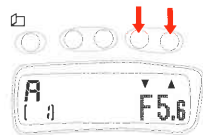


To change shutter speed rapidly, hold the button down.

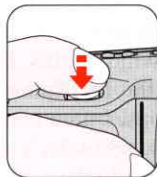


Your selected shutter speed and the automatically set aperture are shown below the viewfinder screen.

Aperture-Priority Auto

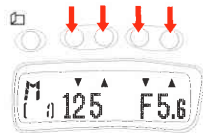


To change aperture rapidly, hold the button down.

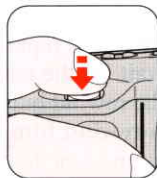


Your selected aperture and the automatically set shutter speed are shown below the viewfinder screen.

Manual



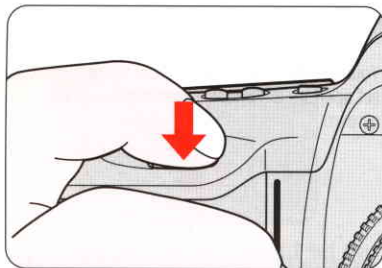
To change shutter speed/aperture rapidly, hold the button down.



Your selected shutter speed and aperture are shown, along with the exposure indicator, below the viewfinder indication.

- Correct exposure
- Overexposure
- Underexposure

For "TIME"-setting, see page 36.



5 Fully depress the shutter release button to take a picture. The film automatically advances by one frame.




- Shutter speed indication without "1/15" should be read as a reciprocal fraction, i.e., "15" stands for 1/15 second, "15 1/2" for 15 seconds.
- In Single Servo AF mode, if a stationary subject moves, remove your finger from the shutter release button, then lightly press it again to restart autofocus.

Using Built-In Flash

Use the built-in flash not only when the ready-light blinks, but also when your subject is in shadow or backlit.

See pages 43 to 47.

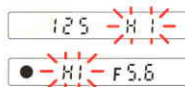
Auto Rewind

When the film reaches the end of the roll, auto rewind begins. During rewinding,  and  blink in the LCD panel. After rewind automatically stops, frame counter shows **E** and  blinks for a few seconds. You can then remove film cartridge.

- When battery power is very weak, or when the temperature is very low, film may not rewind at the end of roll; Err appears in the LCD panel. In this case, replace battery with a fresh one, or wait for the temperature to rise and then press the rewind button.

To rewind film at mid-roll: Press the rewind button at the bottom of the camera.

Viewfinder information



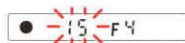
H1 blinks—Overexposure possible*: Select smaller aperture (larger f-number) and/or faster shutter speed. Or, use a filter such as the Nikon ND filter.



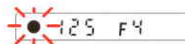
Lo blinks—Underexposure possible*: Select a wider aperture (smaller f-number) and/or a slower shutter speed. Or, use the built-in flash or an accessory Nikon Speedlight.



Flash icon blinks—Flash recommendation: Not enough light. Use the built-in flash or an accessory Nikon Speedlight.



Shutter speed indication blinks and Picture blur possible:** Automatically selected shutter speed is low and picture blur may occur due to camera shake or subject movement. To reduce the possibility of blur, hold camera very steady, use a tripod or use the built-in flash or an accessory Nikon Speedlight. Selecting a wider aperture (smaller f-number) results in a faster shutter speed.

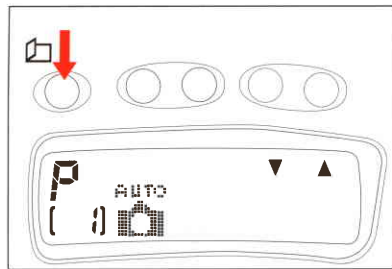


Dot blinks—Unacceptable autofocus condition: Your subject is inappropriate for autofocus operation. Set the focus switch to M and focus manually. (See page 41.)

For **Err** indication, see pages 60 to 62.

*For Shutter-Priority Auto and Aperture-Priority Auto exposure modes.

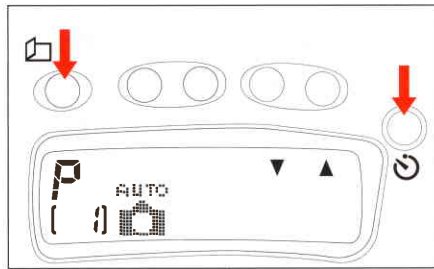
**For Aperture-Priority Auto exposure mode.



To return to the General-Purpose Program (when Memory Function is not set)*

Press and hold the menu button for at least two seconds.

**With the Memory Function set, pressing and holding the menu button for at least two seconds recalls the memorized exposure mode/Program. (See pages 28 to 29.)*



To reset the camera's mode to the original factory setting

Simultaneously press the menu and self-timer buttons for at least two seconds. This will activate the General-Purpose Program and cancel Optional Functions.

OPTIONAL FUNCTIONS

The Advanced Operation Mode also offers four Optional Functions:

 **Memory Setting** (pages 28 to 29)

When Memory is set, you can easily set the desired exposure mode or desired Program by pressing the menu button for at least two seconds.

AF Mode Selection (page 30)

You can switch the AF mode from Single Servo Autofocus to Continuous Servo Autofocus.

ISO ISO Confirmation/Setting (page 31)

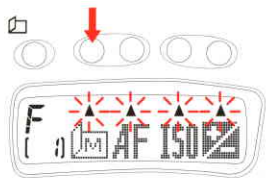
With DX-coded film, you can confirm ISO film speed. With non-DX-coded film, you can manually set the ISO film speed number.


 **Exposure Compensation** (pages 32 to 33)

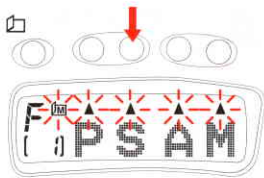
You can compensate exposure from -5EV to +5EV in 1/2 steps.


In SIMPLE mode, the Optional Functions you have set will be ignored.

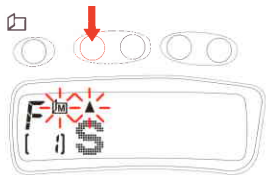
This section is for ADVANCED mode only.



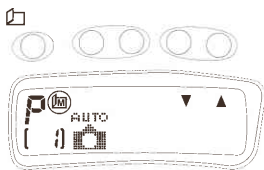
1 With the Exposure Mode menu, press the menu button to activate the Optional-Function Menu. Press the button above .




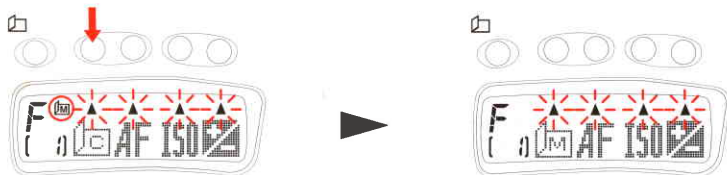
2 Blinking  appears above the frame counter, indicating that Memory setting mode is activated. To select exposure mode, press the button above the corresponding symbol. (In the example shown above, Shutter-Priority Auto exposure mode is selected.)



3 The symbol for the selected exposure mode or Program is displayed. Press the button above the symbol to have it memorized.



4 Memory is set.  stops blinking and the LCD shows the exposure mode/Program that was set before you activated the Optional-Function Menu. (Example illustration shows General-Purpose Program.) To recall the memorized exposure mode or Program, press the menu button for at least two seconds.



To clear memory

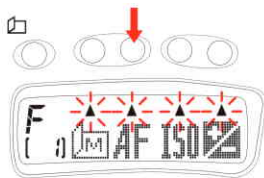
While memory is set, appears in place of in the Optional-Function Menu. Press the button above . is replaced with and above the frame counter disappears.

- Pressing the menu button while is blinking above the frame counter returns the LCD to the Exposure Mode Menu.

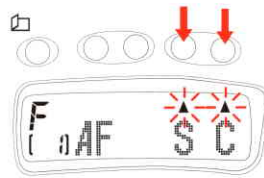
- Releasing the shutter while is blinking above the frame counter activates the previously set exposure mode or Program.

Single Servo AF and Continuous Servo AF

The default AF setting is Single Servo AF. In the Single Servo AF mode, once the subject is in focus, you can lock focus by keeping the shutter release button lightly pressed, but be sure to maintain the same subject-to-camera distance. In the Continuous Servo AF mode, autofocus is maintained as long as you continuously lightly press the shutter release button, even if the focus distance changes because either you or your subject moves. In either AF mode, the shutter cannot be released when the subject is out of focus.

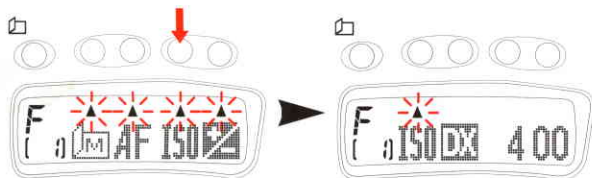


- 1 With the Exposure Mode Menu, press the menu button to activate the Optional-Function Menu. Press the button above **AF**.



- 2 For Continuous Servo AF, press the button above **C** for Single Servo AF, press the button above **S**. The LCD shows the last selected exposure mode/Program.

AF Mode Selection can be performed regardless of the focus switch position (**A** or **M**).

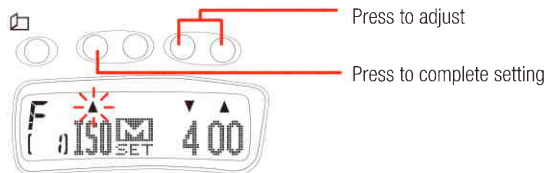


To confirm ISO film speed for DX-coded film:

Usable film speed range of DX-coded film is ISO 25 to 5000.

With the Exposure Mode Menu, press the menu button to activate the Optional-Function Menu. Press the button above **ISO**. The LCD shows the ISO film speed of the loaded DX-coded film.

To return to the last selected exposure mode/Program, press the button above **ISO**.



To manually set ISO film speed for non-DX-coded film:

When using non-DX-coded film, manually set the ISO film speed number. Usable film speed range is ISO 6 to 6400.

If you have installed non-DX-coded film and closed the camera back, the ISO setting screen is automatically activated on the LCD panel. Adjust the film speed by pressing the button above the **▲** (up) or **▼** (down) indication. To change film speed rapidly, hold the button down. To complete the setting, press the button above **ISO**. The LCD shows the last selected exposure mode/Program.

- Until setting is completed, the shutter remains locked, and the menu button is deactivated.
- If you want to recall the ISO setting screen after completing the setting, activate the Optional-Function Menu and press the button above **ISO**.

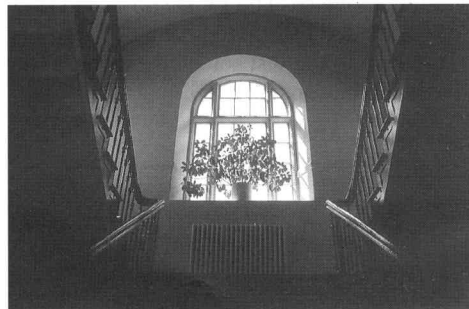
With a DX-coded film, film speed is automatically set on the camera body; you cannot adjust.

By compensating the exposure, you can vary the exposure results to create different versions of the same picture or put creative emphasis on a specific part of the picture.

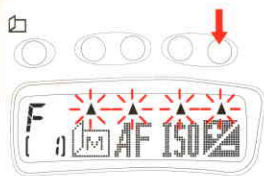
You can compensate exposure from -5 EV to +5 EV in 1/2 steps.




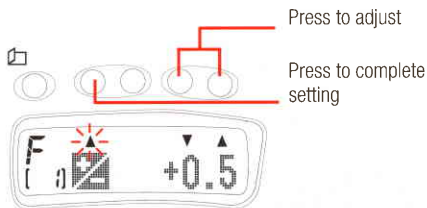
Without compensation (overexposed)





With compensation (correctly exposed)



1 With the Exposure Mode Menu, press the menu button to activate the Optional-Function Menu. Press the button above the  indication.



2 Adjust the compensation value by pressing the button above the ▲ (up) or ▼ (down) indication. + value is for overexposure ; – value is for underexposure. To change the value rapidly, hold the button down. To complete the setting, press the button above . The LCD shows the last selected exposure mode/Program. When you set exposure mode or Program,  appears in the LCD panel and inside the viewfinder, indicating that the exposure has been compensated.

- If you want to cancel the exposure compensation before completing the setting, press the menu button. The LCD panel will return to the Exposure Mode Menu.

After shooting with compensated exposure, make sure to reset the compensation value to ± 0.0 .