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Rolleiflex SLX

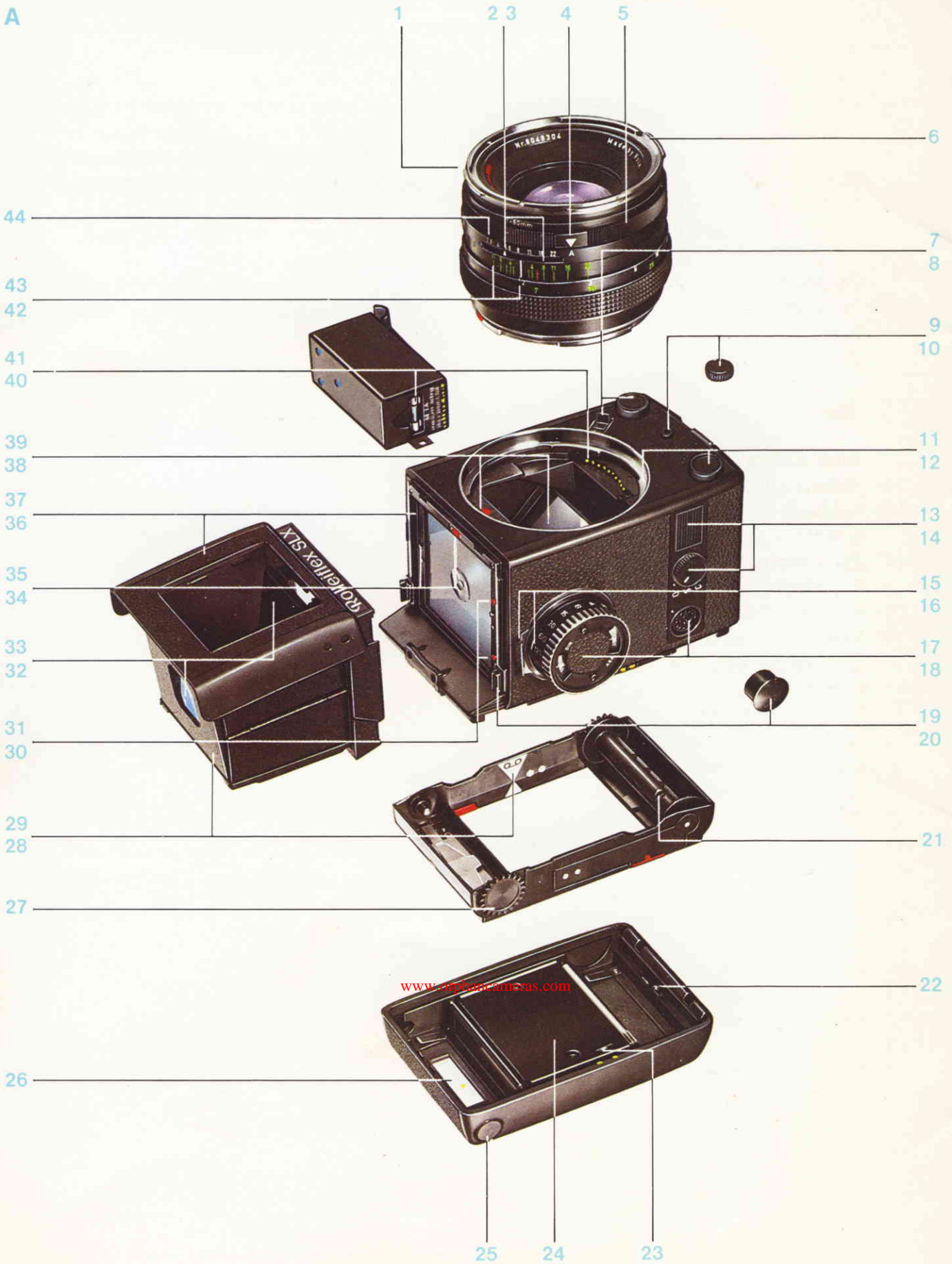
Die Kamera · The Camera · L'Appareil



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Rolleiflex SLX



A



Individual parts and functions

- 1 Interchangeable lens
- 2 Needle for automatic exposure control
- 3 Needle field for automatic exposure control or red field for manual aperture setting
- 4 Index for automatic exposure control and manual aperture setting
- 5 Setting ring for automatic exposure control and manual aperture setting
- 6 Double bayonet lens mount for filter and lens hood or combined bellows and copying attachment
- 7 Release button, l. h.
- 8 Lens release slide
- 9 Thread for cable release
- 10 Screw cap for cable release socket
- 11 Release button, r. h.
- 12 Camera bayonet mount
- 13 Meter key for aperture indication, depth-of-field preview and checking battery voltage
- 14 Central switch for continuous exposure – single exposure – off = C-S-O
- 15 Holder for carrying strap, r. h.
- 16 Index for shutter speed, also red mark for indication of exposure limit value
- 17 Universal plug connection for external control and auxiliary equipment
- 18 Setting dial for film speed
- 19 Release button for focusing hood, magnifying hood or prism finder
- 20 Protective cap for plug connection
- 21 Empty spool
- 22 Unlocking button for back hinge
- 23 Film gauge
- 24 Film pressure plate
- 25 Unlocking button for back, r. h.
- 26 Window for film type indication
- 27 Film transport sprocket
- 28 Symbol for film motion
- 29 Folding focusing hood cover
- 30 Red LED for underexposure indication
- 31 Red LED for overexposure indication
- 32 Interchangeable viewing magnifier
- 33 Flap for frame finder $f = 80$ mm
- 34 Unlocking button for folding frame
- 35 Red LED for checking battery voltage
- 36 Mount for additional frame finder $f = 150, 250$ and 350 mm
- 37 Frame for focusing screen
- 38 Pivoted mirror
- 39 Red index on camera bayonet mount
- 40 Contact strip on camera body
- 41 Fuse
- 42 Distance index
- 43 Depth of field scale
- 44 Aperture scale

Rolleiflex SLX**Individual parts and functions**

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- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 45 | Peep-sight for frame finder | 71 | Slide for replacement fuse |
| 46 | Unlocking button for camera back, l. h. | 72 | Clip for battery plug-in unit |
| 47 | Rotary knob for film 120/220 | 73 | Battery plug-in unit, externally rechargeable |
| 48 | Index for film 120/220 | 74 | Replacement fuse |
| 49 | Frame counter | 75 | Center X synchronization contact |
| 50 | Interchangeable back | 76 | Hot shoe for flash unit or accessories |
| | | 77 | Holder for carrying strap, l. h. |
| 51 | Slot for film box tear-off strip | 78 | Focusing screen |
| 52 | Spring clip for spindle of film spool | 79 | Mount for viewing magnifier |
| 53 | Index for arrow mark on film leader | 80 | Detachable focusing hood |
| 54 | Film cartridge | | |
| 55 | Bearing for film spool with symbol  | | |
| 56 | Rotary knob for shutter speed | | |
| 57 | Bearing for empty spool with symbol  | | |
| 58 | Camera back hinge | | |
| 59 | Release button for synchronization cord with Rollei plug | | |
| 60 | 3/8" tripod bush | | |
| | | | |
| 61 | 1/4" tripod bush | | |
| 62 | Battery compartment | | |
| 63 | Rapid tripod coupling | | |
| 64 | Lens contact strip | | |
| 65 | Focusing ring with distance in m and ft | | |
| 66 | Locking button for aperture setting ring | | |
| 67 | Lens bayonet mount for camera connection | | |
| 68 | Red mark on lens bayonet mount | | |
| 69 | X synchronization cord contact for standard and Rollei plugs | | |
| 70 | Protective cap for synchronization cord contact | | |
-

Introduction

With the Rolleiflex SLX, the medium format photographer is equipped with a high-performance camera, fully electronic and capable of taking a wide range of auxiliary equipment, with many new features and the latest photographic innovations: the accurate and convenient medium format system camera to meet every demand.

To take full advantage of the camera's capabilities, some specific technical knowledge of the SLX is necessary, along with the basic theoretical knowledge needed to use any camera. We can safely assume that SLX owners already know the theory – therefore this book is intended to provide the specific facts needed to use the camera correctly.

First, all the individual parts and functions are shown, and followed by a brief introduction for the reader who is in a hurry.

Subsequently, everything that it is important to know about the SLX camera is described and illustrated in greater detail, from the assembly of the basic components of the camera to the removal of the exposed film.

There then follows a number of practical tips, with additional information for better understanding of the camera, supplemented by notes for special situations.

In the event of problems occurring in operation – as happen even to the experienced photographer when taking pictures quickly or after long intervals between pictures – a problem location table will help to find the possible cause and its solution.

Individual part numbers given in the text and pictures always refer to the same part and are taken from the two picture gatefolds, which are best left unfolded when reading the instructions.

The alphabetical index makes all the information contained in the instructions easily accessible.

For interchangeable components and accessories of the SLX system separate instructions are provided – they are all included in the »SLX System Catalog« accompanying the camera, or else available on request.

Due to the almost total automation of the camera and the logical arrangement of the controls, the user will soon be familiar with the use of the Rolleiflex SLX. However, we recommend reading these instructions carefully before using the camera for the first time; we also recommend carrying out each of the various operations while reading, so that the camera is used correctly from the start.

We send our best regards to all Rolleiflex SLX owners and wish them success and continued enjoyment of medium format photography.

**Rollei-Werke
Franke & Heidecke**

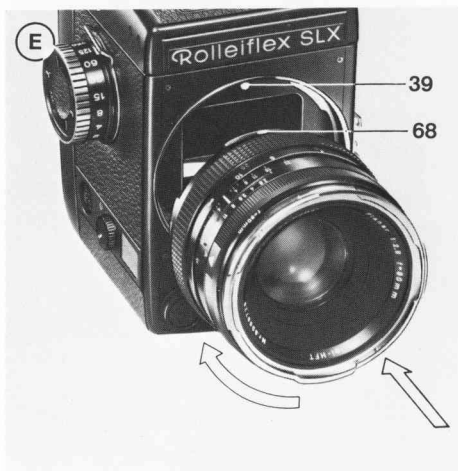
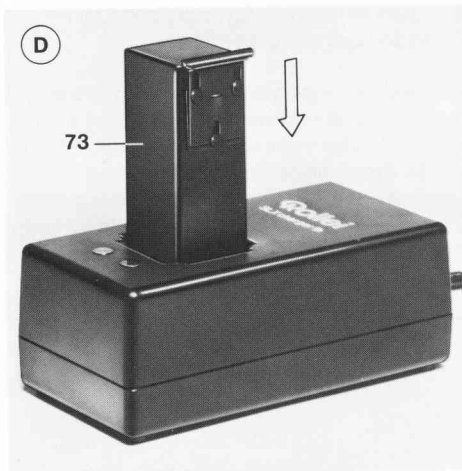
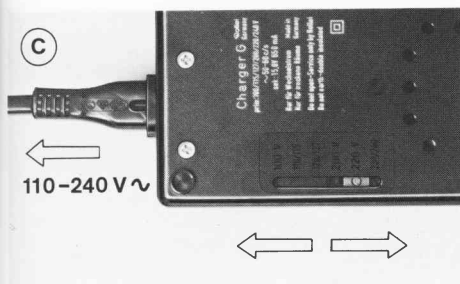
Brief information in telegram style for readers in a hurry: The most important controls and operations for getting to know the camera and its functions.

Charging the battery

Set the charger to the proper voltage and connect to the mains → fig. C. Push up clip 72, remove battery 73 and insert in the charger in the position shown → fig. D. Charging time: 10 minutes minimum, normally 1 hour, max. 3 hours. Push the charged battery into the camera with the clip facing downward and engage the clip.

Inserting the lens

Press slide 8 upward, disengage lens caps by turning in counter-clockwise direction. Insert lens 1 in the camera with red mark 68 on red index 39 as far as it will go and engage by turning in a clockwise direction → fig. E.

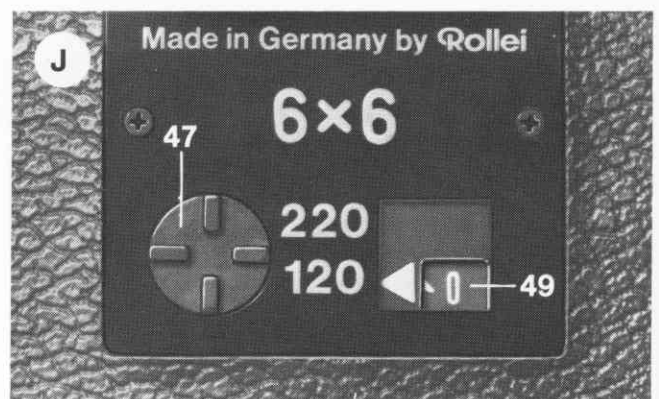
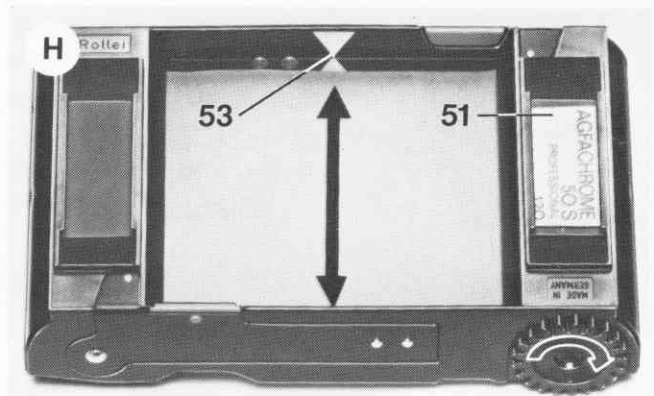
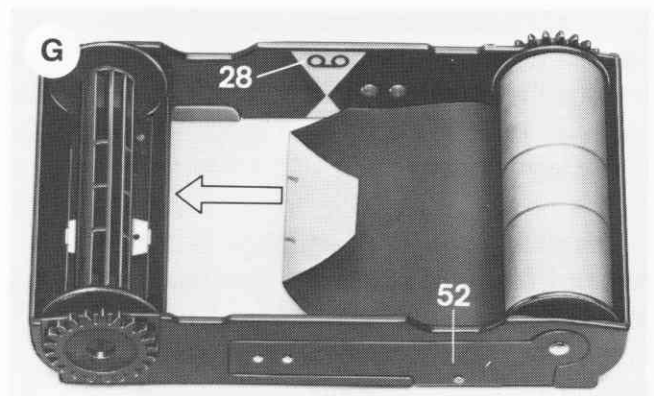
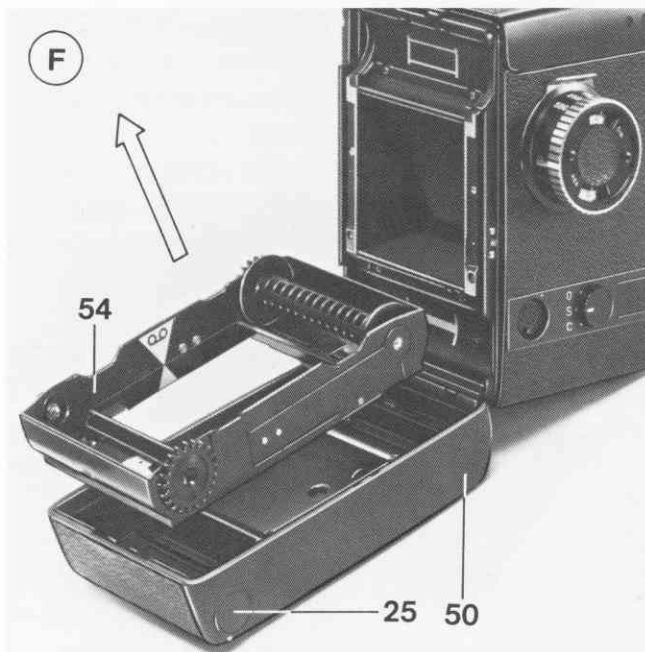


Essential information in brief

Loading the film

Press unlocking buttons 25 and 46, open camera back 50 and remove film cartridge 54 → fig. F. Pull out red clip 52, insert film spool according to symbol 28 → fig. G. Thread paper leader in empty spool and wind on until the arrow mark points to the white index 53 → fig. H. Insert end of film box in slot 52 (on the film spool side). Position film cartridge onto rear of camera: with film spool on H and with empty spool on I . Close and lock camera back.

With knob 47, set frame counter 49 to 120 or 220 according to the type of film → fig. J. Set dial 18 to the ASA/DIN value used. Set central switch 14 to »S«. Press release button 8 or 11: the film advances to the first frame, the frame counter shows »1«. If »1« is not visible, press the release button once more.



Essential information in brief

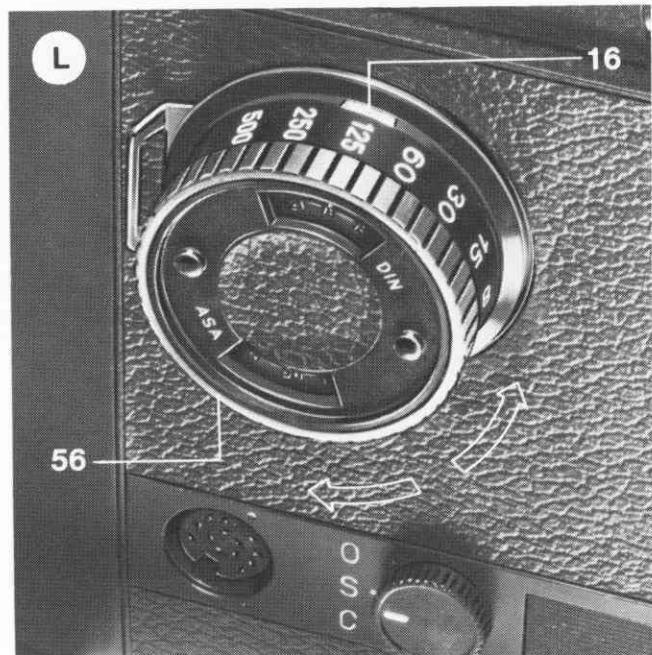
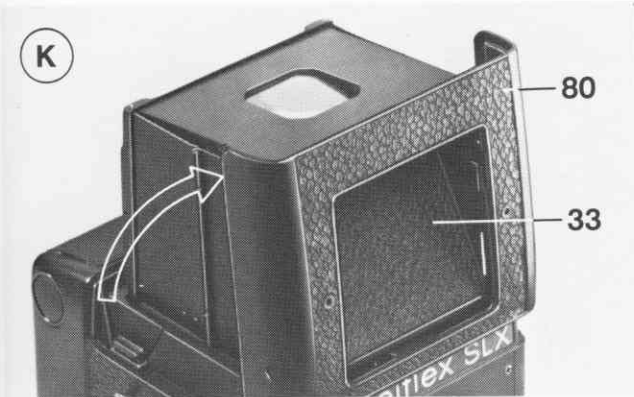
Focusing

Raise focusing hood 80, press in flap 33 until viewing magnifier swings upward → fig. K.
Focus by turning focusing ring 65.

Frame finder for sighting at eye-level: Press down flap 33 until it engages in place, then view through peep-sight 45 (focusing in this position cannot be monitored on the focusing screen).

Selection of shutter speed

Set shutter speed value with rotary knob 56 on index 16 → fig. L. Intermediate values cannot be used. If this index changes from white to red, the shutter speed selected lies outside of the auto-range – select another shutter speed with a white index indication.



Essential information in brief

Exposure measurement

Press in locking button 66, set index 4 on the lens to »A« = automatic exposure → fig. M. Press meter key 13, needle 2 points to aperture automatically set. Warning signals in viewfinder → fig N: red signal 30 bottom right = danger of underexposure, red signal 31 top right = danger of overexposure, both red signals simultaneously = measuring range exceeded, red signal 35 top centre = recharge battery*.

Adjust the exposure time with the rotary button 56 until both red signals 30 and 31 go out.



* Battery voltage will, however, be sufficient at least to complete the film loaded

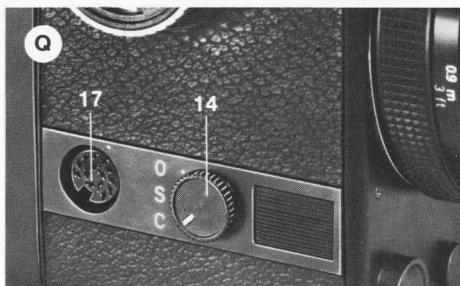
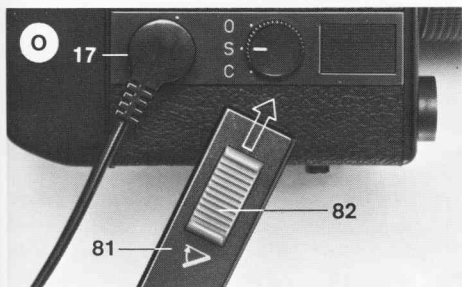
Mirror pre-release

can be activated as required. Connect special release 81 to plug connection 17 → fig. O. Determine the aperture value with the meter key as described above. Then switch off automatic exposure control: unlock aperture setting ring 5 by pressing red locking button 66 → fig. P. Set previously metered aperture manually. Move orange-coloured slide 82 on the special release outwards.

Note: Mirror pre-release cannot be reset and must be followed by releasing the shutter each time. Pressing the meter key when the mirror has been pre-released will not produce a usable aperture indication, as there will be no light metering.

Shutter release

For single exposures*: central switch on »S«, briefly press shutter release; for continuous exposures*: central switch on »C«, keep shutter release pressed down for required number of exposures → fig. Q. Central switch on »0«: power supply is disconnected and shutter release locked. Release shutter either with left or right hand shutter release on camera or with standard wire release in thread 9, or else with special release in plug connection 17.

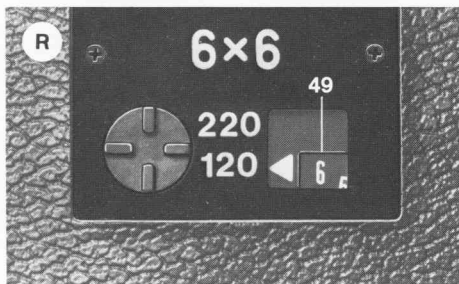


* S = single exposures,
C = continuous exposures

Essential information in brief

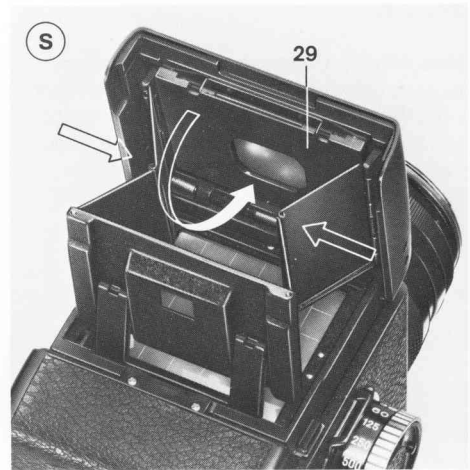
Reading the frame counter

Frames 1 to 12 or 1 to 24 are indicated in frame counter 49, depending on the type of film used and whether the camera has been set for → fig. R. Reading »0« = no film loaded or film not yet rolled in; »white wedge« = film not advanced to frame 1; »red field« = film end, or film already rolled up.



Closing the focusing hood

Lightly press in both side sections of the focusing hood and allow flap 33 to spring up → fig. S. Fold down focusing hood cover 29 with viewing magnifier flat against front flap. Press in side sections and allow focusing hood to compress.



Removing the film

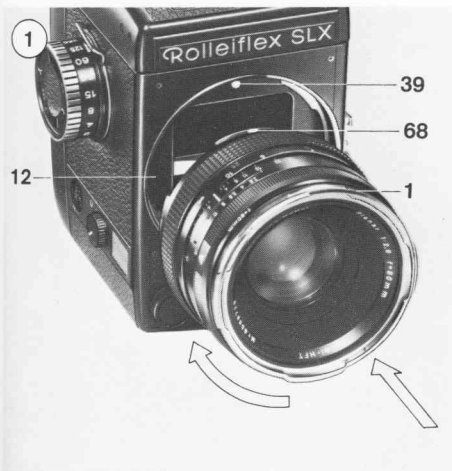
After the last exposure, the film is automatically rolled up. The camera back can then be opened and the film removed from the cartridge.

These and all the other functions are described in greater detail on the following pages. You will find some practical tips on page 64. The table on page 74 will help remedy any operational problems.

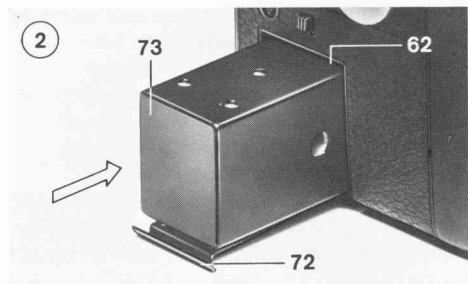
Preparing the camera for use

Insert the lens: turn rear and front protective lens caps counter-clockwise and remove. Press up slide 8 and disengage protective body cover by turning in a counter-clockwise direction. Insert lens 1 with red mark 68 on red index 39 in camera bayonet mount until its stop and turn in a clockwise direction until the lens locks in place → fig. 1.

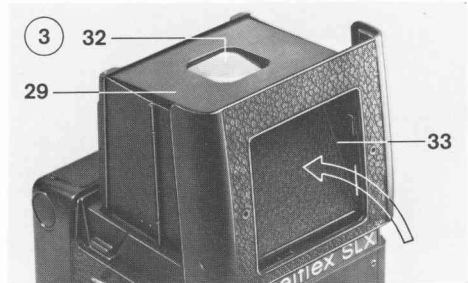
The camera is supplied in a special package in which all the basic components are securely accommodated. We recommend that you keep this package for use when shipping the camera. The serial numbers* of the camera and lenses should be noted as a precaution. They will help in replacement and as evidence of ownership in case of loss.



Insert battery: slide battery 73 with clip 72 facing downward into battery compartment 62 and press retaining clip tight towards camera → fig. 2.



Open focusing hood: Pull top section upward until vertical. Press front focusing hood flap 33 slightly inward until cover 29 with viewing magnifier 32 springs up → fig. 3.



* on camera base or lens mount

Handling and use

Checking the power supply

Switch on automatic exposure control: press in red locking button 66 on the underside of lens and set white index 4 to »A« → fig. 4. Set central switch 14 to »S« = single exposure. Press in meter key 13 and observe the viewing image → fig. 5. If diode 35 does not light up and an aperture indication (set with an audible click) is shown on the lens, then the battery has sufficient voltage; if diode 35 lights up red, the battery has only enough voltage left for a few pictures and must soon be recharged; if the diode remains unlit with no aperture indication, the battery is totally discharged and must be recharged immediately.

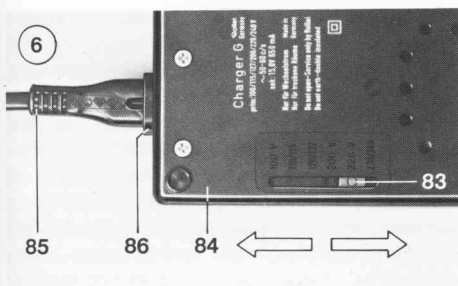
For every light-metering operation and exposure, the camera electronics carry out an automatic voltage control. They register a critical or insufficient battery voltage through corresponding signals in the viewfinder and will finally switch off the camera if the available voltage is no longer sufficient for an exposure and film transport cycle.

Charging the battery

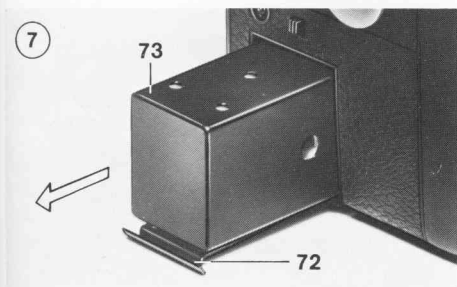
Set voltage selector 83 on the charger 84 supplied to the available mains voltage using a pointed object (e. g. ball-point pen) → fig. 6. Fit connecting cord 85 in socket 86 and connect to mains supply.



Handling and use



Press up retaining clip 72 and thereby remove battery 73 from the camera body → fig. 7. Insert battery in charger aligning battery contact sockets on contact pins in the charger.



A constant power reserve is particularly important with this fully electronic camera since light metering, exposure and film transport cannot be controlled manually. However, due to the very short charging time and the easily exchangeable battery, the power supply requires only minimal maintenance.

The rapid charger automatically controls the whole charging process, which consists of a continuous normal charge and an additional rapid charge, depending on the specific charge and temperature of the battery. Two indicator lights on the charger show the type of charge: green = normal charge, red = rapid charge. The total charging time depends on the specific condition of the battery (number of exposures made, self-discharge) and amounts to about 1 hour after normal discharge. After 10–15 min. charging time, there is sufficient power for about 100 exposures. When the red indicator light on the charger goes out, the rapid charge is completed. The charging capacity thus obtained is sufficient for up to 1,000 photographs at temperatures around 68°F (20°C).

When rapid charging is discontinued, normal charging still continues, and the battery is charged to maximum capacity after a total charging time of approximately 3 hours. Occasional exceeding of this charging time by a few hours will not harm the battery, but frequent overcharging should be avoided.

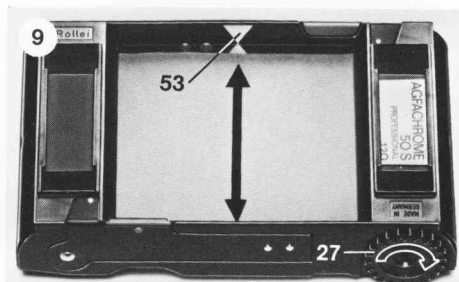
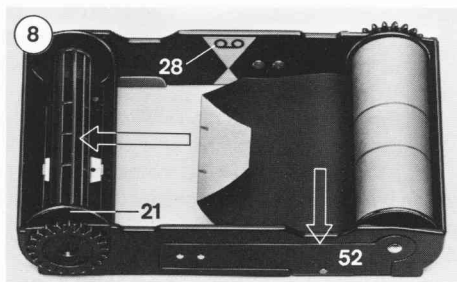
The ambient temperature during rapid charging should be between 40°F (+5°C) and about 95°F (+35°C). If the battery has become very hot through external influences, rapid charging (delayed by the built-in temperature cut-off) will only begin when the battery has cooled down sufficiently.

Handling and use

Loading the film cartridge

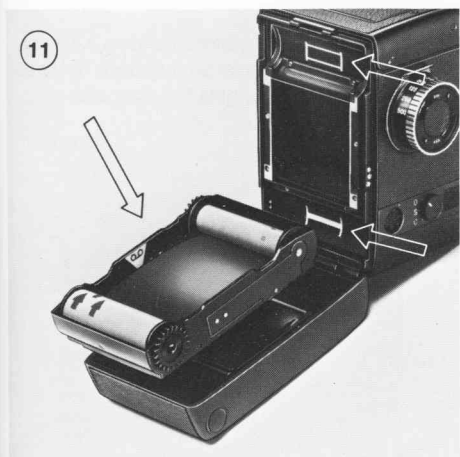
Press in release buttons 25 and 46, open camera back 50 and remove film cartridge 54. Pull red clip 52 outwards, insert film spool as shown by symbol 28 (black leader side inward) and allow clip to re-engage → fig. 8. Thread film leader into empty spool 21 and wind on tightly with transport sprocket wheel 27 until the arrow mark on the protective paper points to index 53 → fig. 9. Insert the end of the film box in slot 51 (on film spool side) as indication of the film type → fig. 10.

The camera is supplied with one film cartridge. For efficient operation during a shooting session, it is advisable to use several film cartridges. They can be loaded in advance with the film required and taken along conveniently. The film cartridge has clear markings for the film motion and for the film leader position. The retaining slot on the film spool side holds the end of the film box which allows the type of film used to be checked when the camera back is closed. The same film cartridge can be used for 120 and 220 film.



Inserting the film cartridge

Open the camera back as described and insert the loaded cartridge so that the full film spool points at symbol \Leftarrow , the empty spool at symbol \Rightarrow → fig. 11. Close the camera back and lock. Set the central switch to S, briefly press release button 7 or 11: the film advances automatically to the shooting position, and a »1« appears in frame counter 49.



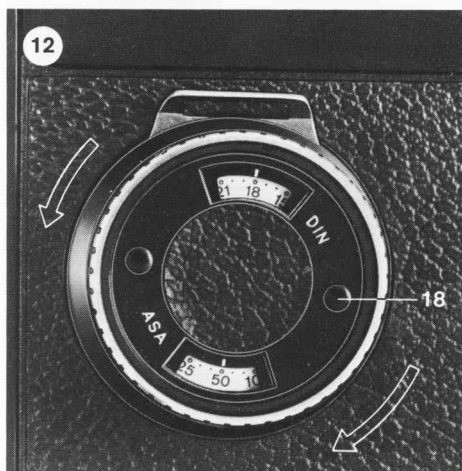
Hint: Press release button again if the »1« is not visible (which can happen depending on the type or brand of film).

To protect against dust and possible fogging, keep the cartridges in their cases and only take them out when you need them.

Setting the film speed

Set film dial 18 to the ASA/DIN value used or required in each situation → fig. 12. Intermediate positions are not permissible as light metering would not then function correctly.

The film speed can be set for 25 ASA/15 DIN to 6400 ASA/39 DIN, which covers nearly all the film emulsions currently available. The click stops can be felt quite distinctly and thus enable the value initially set to be altered easily and without looking if bracketing is required.

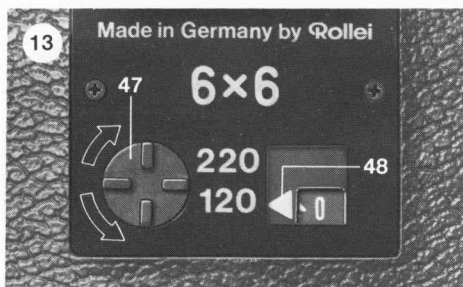


Handling and use

Setting the film length

Set index 48 by turning rotary knob 47 counter-clockwise through 45° for 120 film or through 45° clockwise in the case of 220 film → fig. 13.

With the standard camera back, either 120 roll film for 12 shots or 220 roll film for 24 shots in 6 x 6 cm (2 1/4 x 2 1/4 in) format can be used. Other formats require special interchangeable camera backs.



Attaching the camera strap

Connect self-locking carrying hooks to holders 15 and 77 and allow to snap shut. To release the strap, press in the locking buttons on the carrying hooks.

The carrying strap holders on the camera rotate in any direction and enable the SLX to be carried in a variety of different positions.

Focusing

Open focusing hood, fold up viewing magnifier as required. Adjust sharpness of image by turning focus ring 65. The measured distance in ft (or meters) can be read on index 42 → fig. 14. Determine the depth of field as required on the green double scale 43 on both sides of the focusing index. For photographs on infrared film, set the distance read off on the red index. All SLX lenses are focused with the aperture fully opened.

The standard focusing screen offers three different focusing aids: the central split-image rangefinder, the microprism ring and the prism-shaped focusing screen itself.

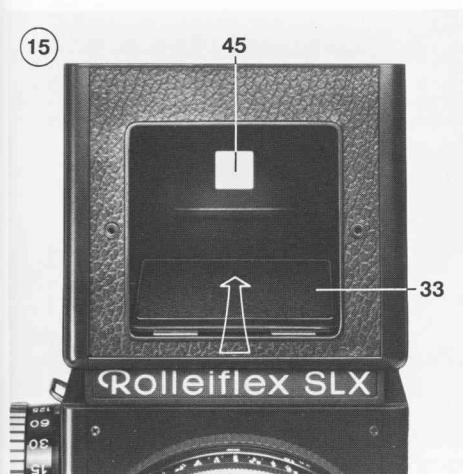
This standard focusing screen is ideal for most applications – for special photographs there are five further interchangeable focusing screens.



Framing

The quadratic grid of the standard focusing screen assists in the vertical or horizontal alignment of the camera. The lines are 9.5 mm apart; smaller framed views can be established in 4.5x6 cm vertical or horizontal format and also in 4x4 cm format through line intersection points. Interchangeable lenses expand or narrow down the framed view (from the same camera position) and are available in various focal lengths.

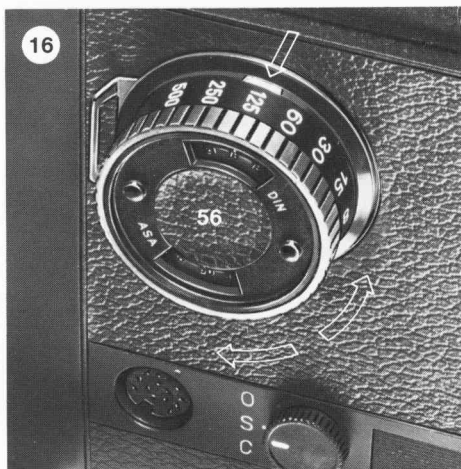
For eye level viewing: Press the front focusing hood flap 33 completely in until it clicks in place, then view through peep sight 45 → fig. 15.



As an alternative to the standard folding focusing hood, there is a rigid magnifying hood and rotatable prism finders with 45° or 90° view.

Selection of shutter speed

The fast speeds of 1/2 to 1/500 sec are marked on the rotary knob in white, the slow speeds of 30 to 1 sec and B are marked in green → fig. 16. Intermediate values cannot be used; the »B« setting can only be used with manual aperture setting.



Handling and use

The camera registers the limits of the light-measuring range and of the automatic operation range with corresponding warning indicators. A practical result can most easily be achieved if the preset time lies approximately in the centre of these ranges so that adjustments can still be made for higher or slower speeds → tip 18.

Example: When using 400 ASA/27 DIN film outdoors in relatively bright exposure light, $1/30$ or $1/15$ sec should not be preset, but rather $1/125$ or $1/250$ sec.

On the other hand, when using 100 ASA/21 DIN film for interior shots with the »available light«, $1/30$ or $1/60$ sec should be preset, and not $1/125$ or $1/250$ sec.

When using automatic exposure control:

Set selected shutter speed to index 16 with rotary knob 56. If a red field then appears in this index, the selected speed exceeds the operational range of the automatic exposure control. Alter the shutter speed until the red field disappears again. The final shutter speed is then obtained by light metering.

For manual aperture setting:

In this case, the shutter speed corresponding to the preselected aperture value is determined either with a separate hand-held exposure meter or by the camera metering system with the automatic exposure control briefly switched on for this purpose (with appropriate conversion) as described under »Exposure measurement«.

Exposure measurement

Press in red locking button 66 on the lens, set index 4 on aperture ring to A = automatic exposure control (light metering is possible only with this setting) → fig. 17.

Set central switch 14 to S (or to C for continuous exposures). Press meter key 13, needle 2 points to aperture value measured and set. Look for any warning signals in the viewfinder → fig. 18: Lower LED 30 = lens aperture cannot be opened any further (danger of under-exposure); upper LED 31 = lens cannot be stopped down any further (danger of over-exposure); both LED's simultaneously = measuring range limits are exceeded.



After this adjustment has been made, the pre-selected shutter speed and the set aperture lie within both the automatic and the measuring range of the camera: with this speed and the corresponding aperture automatically set, the resulting photograph will be correctly exposed.

With an unsuitable film speed, very weak or extremely bright shooting light may result in the shutter speed adjustment being inadequate to match with the exposure warning indications. Tip 18 gives appropriate suggestions for that kind of situation.



If the upper or lower LED lights up, the pre-selected shutter speed is altered by turning knob 56 in the direction of the glowing diode until this diode goes out.

If both diodes light up simultaneously, then the shutter speed must likewise be readjusted until the diodes remain unlit (and the red field in the rotary knob disappears again).

Extraneous light compensation


Extraneous light entering through the open focusing hood is taken into consideration in the metering process and compensated for up to an intensity ratio of extraneous light to measurement light of approx. 20 to 1. This compensation is effective when observing the viewfinder image through the pentaprism finder, with the rigid magnifying hood or with the standard folding hood with a raised viewing magnifier.

If the image is observed through the folding hood without the viewing magnifier, then direct incidence of light on the focusing screen (e.g. sunlight and artificial light sources, particularly fluorescent lamps) must be avoided.

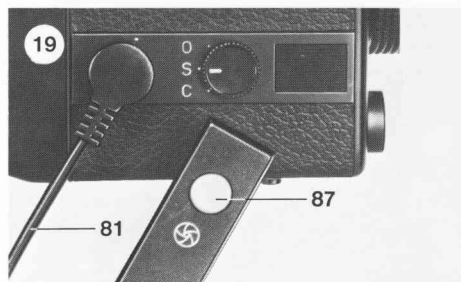
For longtime exposures, the folding hood should be closed.

Handling and use

Mirror pre-release


For vibration-free exposure, especially when using long focal lengths or when taking close-ups: remove protective cap 20, connect special release supplied to plug connection 17 (the dot above the connection socket indicates the plug connection position). Measure the exposure as described above, then switch off the automatic exposure control and set the measured aperture manually. Finally move the orange slide marked  outwards.

Please note: Light measurement with a pre-released mirror will not produce an accurate aperture indication, since the measuring cells are attached to the pivoted mirror and are unable to receive any measuring light when this is in the raised position. It is also important to note that the mirror pre-release cannot be reset and that subsequent shutter release is always necessary.

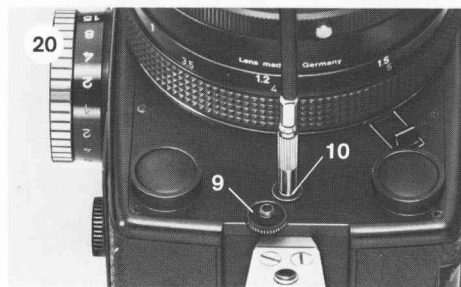


Release and exposure

With camera release: press release 8 or 11 as desired.

With special release: remove protective cap 20, connect special release 81 to plug connection 17 → fig. 19. Press green button 87 marked with .

With mechanical cable release: unscrew screw cap 10 below lens by turning it counter-clockwise. Screw standard mechanical release into thread 9 → fig. 20.

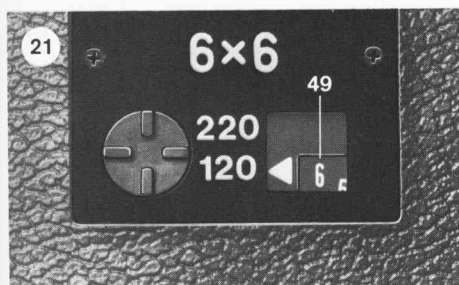


After release, the exposure takes place at the preselected speed and with the appropriate aperture being measured and adjusted at the moment of release. This is followed by automatic film advance, and then the camera is immediately ready for further use.

Reading the frame counter

According to the previous setting for either type 120 or 220 film, the exposed frames 1 to 12 or 1 to 24 are indicated in frame counter 49 → fig. 21. Upon opening the camera back (to remove the film), the frame counter automatically resets to zero.

Other frame counter readings: »0« indicates that the film is not yet rolled in or no film has yet been inserted; if a white wedge appears, the film has not been advanced to its position for frame 1; a red field indicates the film trailer or the film already rolled up.

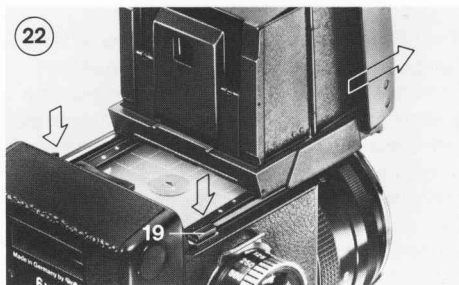


Closing the focusing hood

Return focusing hood cover 29 with viewing magnifier to its vertical position. Press in both side sections and then release again; the focusing hood closes automatically.

If the frame finder was used: Gently press in the side sections on both left and right and release, allowing flap 33 to spring up. Only then may the focusing hood be completely closed as described above.

The standard focusing hood is easily removable for the purposes of cleaning the camera or changing the viewfinder system. Open the hood and press both buttons 19 down simultaneously. The focusing hood is then unlocked and can be removed by sliding it toward the lens → fig. 22.



Removing the film

After the last exposure, wait until the film has been advanced and rolled up. Then open camera back and remove film from cartridge. Replace cartridge and close camera back so that it clicks in place.

The interchangeable components

Even in its basic equipment, the component system of the Rolleiflex SLX is clearly recognizable: the lens, viewfinder, battery, camera back and film cartridge can all be detached from the camera body with little effort. While the battery and film cartridge are exchanged only for reloading, a choice can be made from a variety of interchangeable components for producing, controlling and recording the picture.

Change or replacement of the system components is described below; further details on the interchangeable lenses, viewfinders and camera backs can be found in the SLX system catalog.

Changing the film cartridge

Remove the cartridge with the exposed film from the camera and process the film in the customary manner. Insert loaded film cartridge, and proceed as already described for the first exposure.

The cartridge is symmetrically constructed and can be used with the transport system of the camera when turned end for end. The practical advantage: The remaining empty spool from the removed film can (without removal) immediately take up the leader of the next film if there is only one cartridge available.

When a different type of film is loaded, the end of the film in the cartridge should also be changed.

Important: If both 120 and 220 films are used in turn, the film length must be reset accordingly. Otherwise, a 220 film with a 120 setting will wind up after the 12th exposure, while with a 120 film and a 220 setting, exposures 13 to 24 will be lost.

Changing the battery

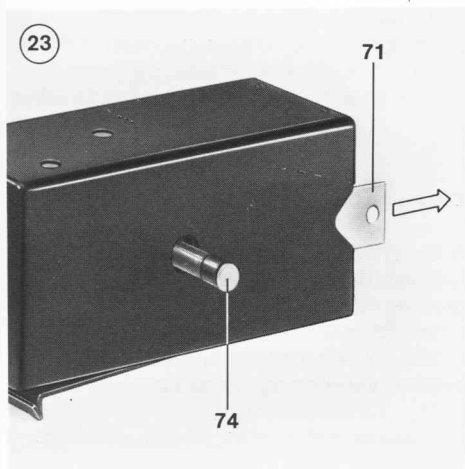
Press up retaining clip 72 and remove the battery. Insert charged battery in the battery compartment with the clip pointing to the camera base and press in the clip until locked in place.

The battery capacity is more than adequate for most professional purposes. At a normal temperature of 70°F (20°C) about 1,000 exposures can be made – sufficient for 80 rolls of 120 film or 40 rolls of 220 film. If, however, the shooting session does not permit an interval for recharging, or if the camera is being used in conditions of extreme cold, then long operating time can be ensured by using two interchangeable batteries: one battery supplies the camera, the other acts as a reserve.

The interchangeable components

Replacing the fuse

Remove battery, take fuse 41 from its mount. Open slide 71 to release replacement fuse 74 → fig. 23. Press this into mount until locked in place. Close slide 71 again. Replacement fuses (M 0.8 A / 250 V) can be obtained from your Rollei Service Center, or your local electronic parts supply house.



If the replacement fuse also blows, then the cause should be traced first: e. g. incorrect film insertion, especially improper alignment; breaks in the film at very low temperatures or a loose connection of the film to the paper leader. If the cause still cannot be ascertained, the Rollei service department will help you further.

Changing the lens

Push up slide 8, remove lens from the camera bayonet mount by turning in a counter-clockwise direction. Attach interchangeable lens with red mark 68 on red index 39 and turn clockwise to lock.

SLX interchangeable lenses are currently available in focal lengths of 40, 50, 80, 120, 150, 250, and 350 mm. Additional focal lengths are currently in preparation.

Important: When changing to another focal length, it is advisable to take a new light reading as the new framed view will usually have a different brightness distribution and/or the other focal length will have a different aperture range.

The SLX system catalog contains all the essential information on depth of field, technical specifications and use for close-ups in conjunction with extension tubes and bellows.

The interchangeable components

Changing the viewfinder system

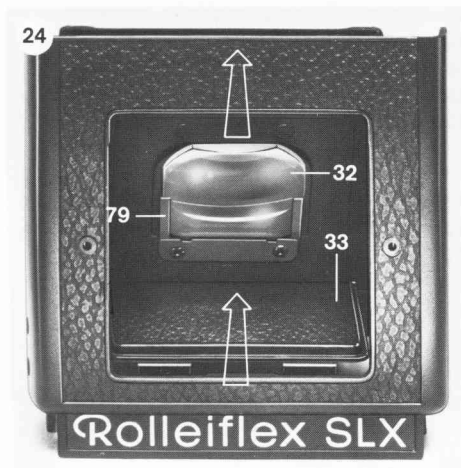
Open the standard focusing hood, press in both release buttons 19 and remove focusing hood by sliding out in a horizontal direction → fig. 2. Slide the interchangeable viewfinder in the same manner (but without pressing in the release buttons), horizontally towards the camera back; it will lock in place automatically.

Changing the viewing magnifier

Remove folding focusing hood, push in flap 33 and engage. Press in viewing magnifier 32 at the front edge and pull it out of mount 79. Insert interchangeable magnifier in mount from the inside → fig. 24. Corrective diopters from +2.5 to -2.5 are available as accessories. Check with your eyedoctor to find the proper strength for your eyesight.

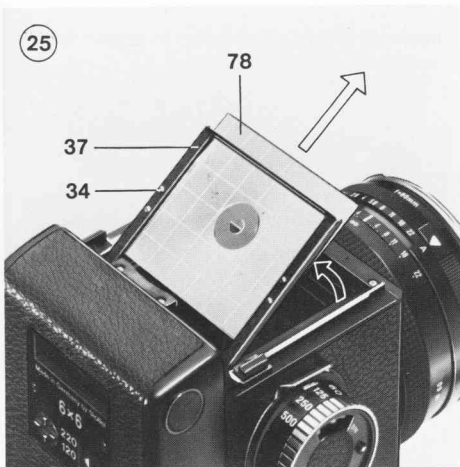
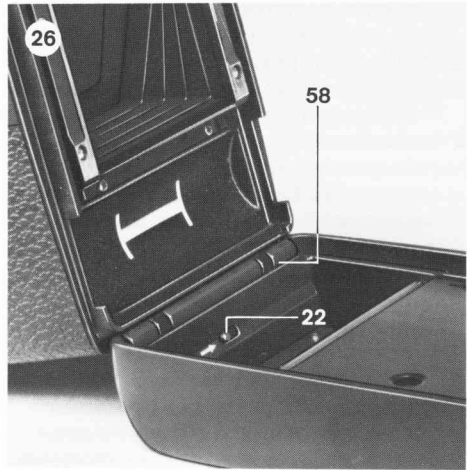
Changing the focusing screen

After removing the focusing hood, pull both unlocking buttons 34 back simultaneously and gently raise frame 37 → fig. 25. Pull out focusing screen 78. Insert interchangeable focusing screen (with the matt side towards the mirror) between the retaining clips and the retaining springs. Close the frame, pull back gently and allow to lock in place on both sides.



Changing the camera back

Press in unlocking buttons 25 and 46, open the back and remove the film cartridge. Push button 22 in the direction of the arrow, tilt the back down and disengage from hinge 58 → fig. 26. Insert interchangeable back* in hinge, and push button 22 in the direction of the arrow again.



The 4.5x6cm camera back permits 16 exposures to be made on 120 roll film – 34 exposures can be made on 220 roll film (due to its additional length). Two masks for covering the focusing screen and the picture gate in the camera body are supplied with this back.

* from the SLX accessories range

Practical tips from A to Z

with hints for special situations and exceptional cases.

1 Automatic exposure control

The measuring system determines the aperture required for the preselected speed during release and adjusts the lens practically simultaneously via the process computer-controlled linear motor.

Prior measurement with the metering key is especially advisable in difficult lighting conditions in order to check the automatically set stop.

2 Battery capacity

The plug-in battery unit contains special nickel/cadmium batteries with sintered electrodes which are characterized by their high reliability and good rapid charging capacity. The useful capacity naturally (as in all batteries) decreases as the temperature drops; upon conclusion of rapid charging, possible capacities are as follows:

at battery temperature per battery charge
 +68°F (+20°C) up to 1,000 exposures,
 +14°F (-10°C) up to 50 exposures.

Full utilization of capacity at low temperatures necessitates prior rapid and normal charging of approx. 3 hours duration in order to charge up the battery to its maximum capacity.

At extremely cold temperatures below +14°F (-10°C), the battery should be carried separately from the camera in a warm place, and inserted shortly before the exposure. An external battery connection unit is also available. In extreme cases (exposures in polar regions, refrigerated rooms, low-temperature laboratories etc.) the camera must also be appropriately temperature-regulated or insulated.

3 Checking depth of field

If a specific aperture is required for the proper depth of field, the shutter speed is determined by using the meter key as the shutter speed dial is set. When the necessary aperture is indicated on the lens, the exposure can be made.

The depth of field can then be assessed on the focusing screen.

4 Continuous exposures

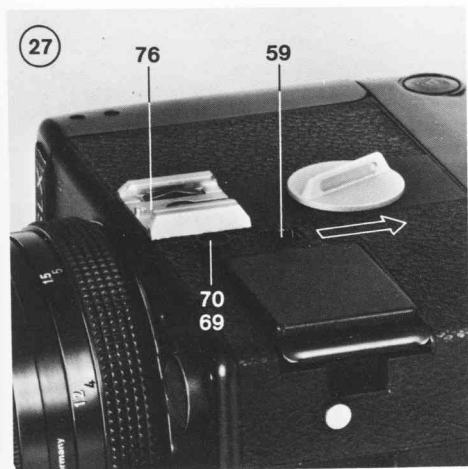
Set central switch to C. Press shutter release and keep pressed down. The camera exposes and advances the film for as long as the shutter release is depressed.

When the shutter release is pressed down continuously for the whole length of the film, the film is wound up automatically after the final exposure. The picture sequence (with a correspondingly short exposure time) is carried out at the rate of approx. 1.5 exposures/sec.

5 Film cartridges

are kept in the vinyl case provided. For rapid exposure sequences, only the film cartridges are exchanged, and they are unloaded later. Cartridge loading and unloading should (as is customary with 120 and 220 film) be carried out in subdued light or at least in body shadow.

The end of the film box inserted in the film cartridge indicates the type of film inserted. When the same type of film is used continuously, the cartridge is marked on both sides with the end of the film box.



6 Flash synchronization

The camera is X synchronized for all shutter speeds up to $1/500$ sec. The required aperture is set manually. The automatic exposure control can also be used when using a flash unit for fill-in lighting.

Flash guns with a center contact can be fitted in hot shoe 76; the center contact thereby is activated. The contact 69 has a 3 mm standard socket; the locking mechanism 59 is only effective for Rolleiflex flash plugs → fig. 27. The shutter cap 70 protects against dust when the socket is not in use. Both contacts are connected in parallel so that two flash units (of like polarity) can be used at the same time → fig. 28. Additional flash units can be used, but it is advisable to limit their use to prevent overloading the contacts.

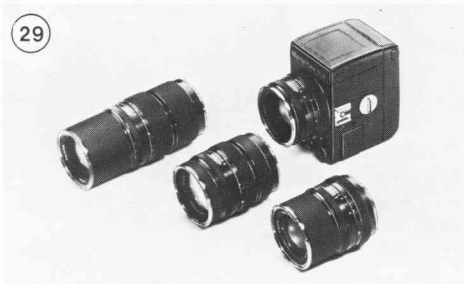


Practical tips from A to Z

7 Interchangeable lenses

The 80 mm Planar f/2.8 is used as standard focal length. Standard interchangeable lenses are the 50 mm Distagon f/4, as well as the 150 mm Sonnar f/4 and 250 mm f/5.6. All these lenses have the same outer bayonet mount for filters and lens hood → fig. 29.

Interchangeable lenses for special exposure characteristics are: the 40 mm Distagon f/4 as wide-angle lens with approx. a 90° field of view, the 120 mm S-Planar f/5.6 with special correction for close range photography, and the 350 mm Tele-Tessar f/5.6 as high-performance telephoto lens for sports, aerial and long-distance photography → fig. 30.



8 Light contrast

Determining the correct exposure becomes more of a problem as the light contrast in the selected view and the film gradation increase. Contrasts which are too great can often be reduced by lighting the shadows, vignetting the highlights, softer lighting, altering the camera direction or standpoint, other types of film, compensation development, etc.

If the light contrast for the film type is still too great, then the photographer should decide whether lights or shadows are more important in his picture.

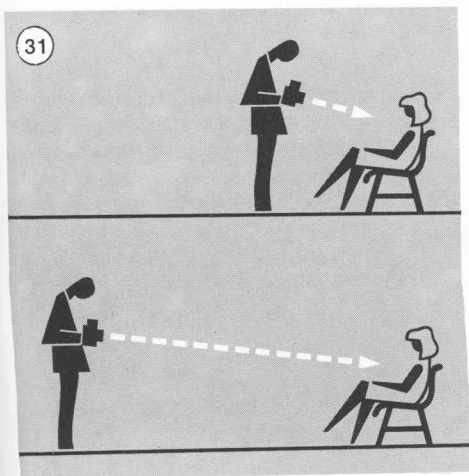


Simulated measurement

with the Kodak grey card, for example, (according to their instructions) is highly advisable in these difficult lighting conditions. Grey card measurement produces an average value for the best possible compromise, with optimum reproduction of the middle tones in the picture.

Close-up reading

is another alternative in difficult lighting conditions. The subject is metered with the camera a small distance away and the indicated aperture read. The exposure is then made from the intended position by setting the aperture manually → fig. 31, or with the measured value locked in as described in tip 12.

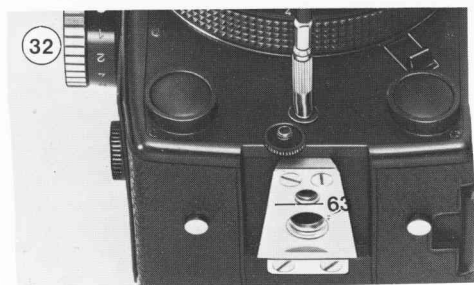


9 Long-time exposures

Unscrewing a cap gives access to the cable release thread. One 1/4" and one 3/8" thread are available for tripod connection.

The rapid tripod coupling 63 on the camera base fits the Rollei rapid tripod attachment → fig. 32 and facilitates a smooth change-over between hand-held and tripod exposures.

For longer time exposures, the shutter is set to B and opened through normal release, and then kept open for the required exposure period by switching off the camera (with central switch on 0). After the exposure, the camera is switched back on and the shutter released once more to terminate the exposure.



Practical tips from A to Z

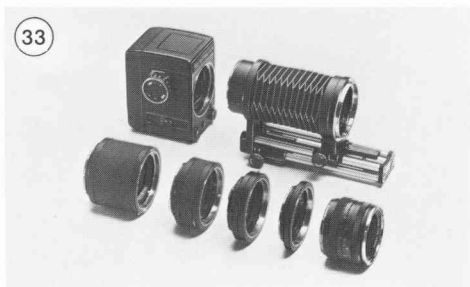
10 Macrophotography

Extension tubes and bellows extend the optical possibilities into the sphere of macrophotography → fig. 33.

The bellows and extension tubes can be used together with the electronically controlled automatic exposure mechanism remaining fully operational.

The SLX extension tubes are available in lengths of 9, 17, 34 and 68 mm – all with double Rollei bayonet mount to permit them to be used in any combination, with a maximum extension of 5.04 in (128 mm) when all four tubes are used.

The SLX bellows offers extensions of 2.64 to 8.03 in (67 to 204 mm). The special compendium is a valuable accessory for such photographs which usually utilise difficult lighting techniques.



11 Manual aperture selection

This is used when, for example, the required depth of field for flash pictures necessitates a specific aperture, for intentional over- or under-exposure, when working with a pre-released mirror, and in every case when working outside the range of the automatic exposure control → fig. 34.

12 Memory hold

A substitute object (e. g. grey card) is measured, the metering key held pressed down and the subject of the photograph exposed with the measured value fixed in this way.

