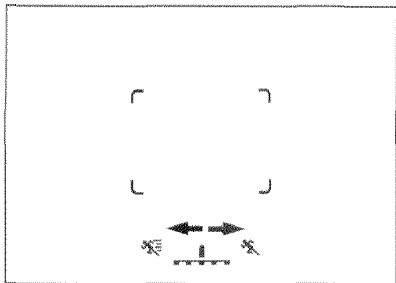
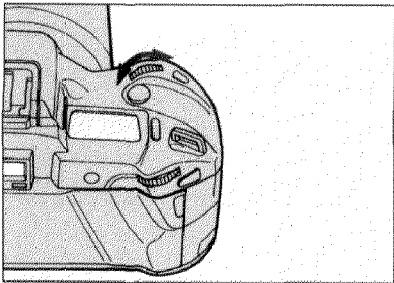


- To return to P mode, press the program re-set button; to return to P mode and keep any changes you have made to the camera's operation, press the flash pop-up button.
- The flash will not fire automatically while you are in PA.
- To turn the depth index off, press and hold the program re-set button down and move the main switch back to ON. Repeat to turn the index on again.
- Most lenses will not use all the positions on the index.
- The approximate depth which is indicated may be incorrect if the background is very close to the subject.
- If you move the front dial, the camera will change to Ps. See next section for more information.
- For more information on aperture and depth, see p.84.

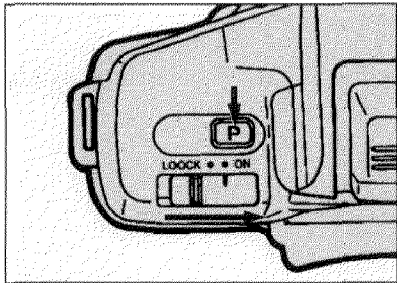
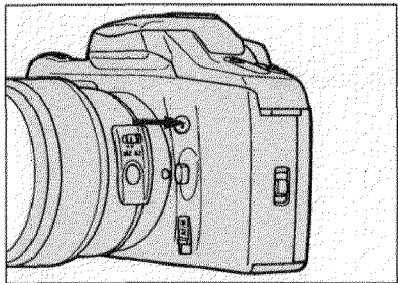


In P mode, if you move the front control dial, the depth index will be replaced by the action index. It shows the approximate amount of action-stopping ability the current shutter speed setting will provide for the subject which the camera currently detects. If you move the indicator to the right by turning the front dial to the right, then the camera will set a faster shutter speed and will adjust the aperture to maintain a correct exposure; turning the dial to the left will provide slower shutter speeds.

- To return to P mode, press the program re-set button; or, to return to P mode and keep any changes you have made to the camera's operation, press the flash pop-up button.
- If you do not touch any controls for 30 sec., the camera will return to P mode automatically.
- If the aperture display blinks, the aperture required for a correct exposure is not available. If the lens' largest f-number blinks, move the indicator to the right; if the smallest f-number blinks, move it to the left.
- If the metering indicators ► ◀ blink in the viewfinder data panel, the light level is beyond the coupling range of the camera and lens. In bright light, attach a neutral density filter; in low light, return to P mode.
- The flash will not fire while you are in Ps.



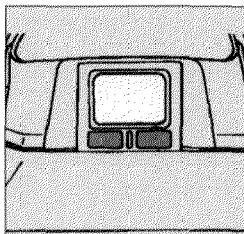
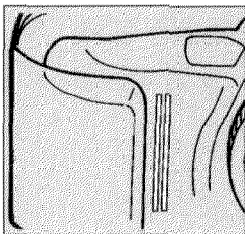
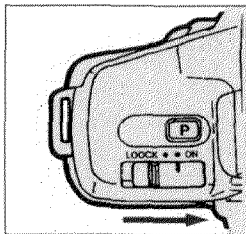
—NEXT PAGE—



- To turn off the action index, press and hold the program re-set button down and move the main switch back to ON. Repeat to turn the index on again.
- If you move the rear dial, the camera will enter PA. See previous section for more information.
- For more information on subject motion and shutter speed, see p.87.
- The action index should only be used with moving subjects. It will not provide relevant information about stationary subjects. The camera-shake warning will be more helpful in this case.

OPERATIONS IN DETAIL

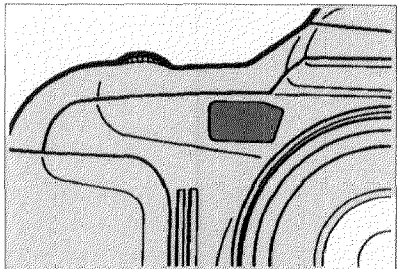
MAIN SWITCH/EYESTART



When you move the main switch to **ON**, the body data panel and the grip sensor activate. When you then touch the grip sensor, the eyepiece sensor is activated. This sensor then immediately activates autofocus, autoexposure, and, if you are using an xi-Series Autozoom lens, auto stand-by zoom when it detects an object near the viewfinder. By the time you frame your subject, therefore, the camera has performed many of its set-up operations and is ready to make an exposure. The shutter-speed and aperture displays in the body data panel will disappear 4 sec. later.

FOCUSING DETAILS

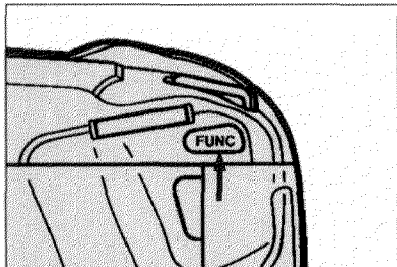
Autofocus Illuminator



In low-light or when subject contrast is too low to be read by the autofocus sensors, the AF illuminator will activate. It projects a pattern of lines onto your subject which the AF sensors can then detect.

- Be careful not to obstruct the AF illuminator while you are holding the camera.
- The AF illuminator will not work if the focal length of the lens you are using is 300mm or longer (excluding AF Zoom 100–300/4.5–5.6 and AF Zoom 75–300/4.5–5.6), or if you are using the 3X–1X Macro Zoom.

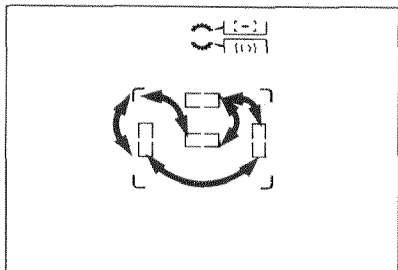
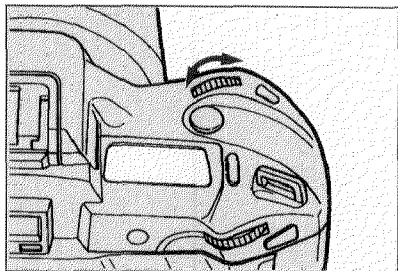
Local AF Area Selection



If you want to use a specific AF sensor, you can manually override the selection sequence and use only one of the four sensors.

1. Press the dial function selector twice; $\frac{[\cdot]}{[\text{AF}]}$ will appear in the viewfinder.

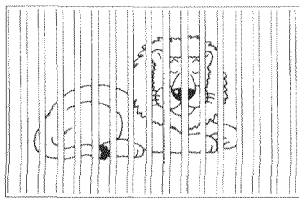
—NEXT PAGE—



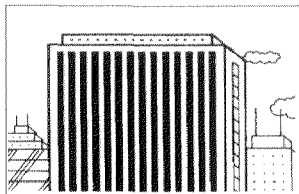
2. Turn the front control dial until the AF sensor you want appears in the viewfinder or the body data panel.
 3. Press the shutter-release button partway down to enter the area you have chosen and return to normal operating mode, or wait 4 sec. and your choice will be entered automatically.
- Autofocus does not function while you are selecting a local AF area.

Special Focusing Situations

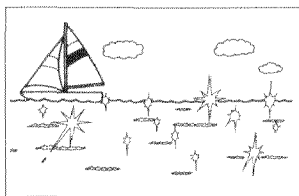
The camera's autofocus system will produce sharp pictures in nearly any situation. In the cases described below, however, it may be difficult or impossible for the camera to autofocus properly – manual focusing may be necessary.



If two subjects at different distances overlap within the focusing frame



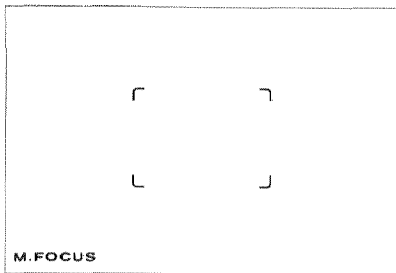
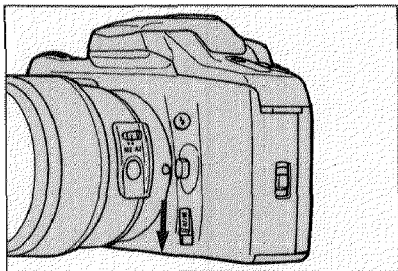
If a subject composed of alternating light and dark lines completely fills the focusing frame



On very bright subjects
On low-contrast subjects

- You can also lock focus on another object of equal distance and then recompose your picture (see p. 28).

Manual Focus



To manually focus the lens:

1. Slide the focus mode switch down to set the camera to manual focus mode.

- "M. FOCUS" will appear in the lower left corner of the viewfinder.

2. If you are using an AF lens, turn the focusing ring until the subject appears sharp. With an xi-Series lens, pull and turn the zoom ring. For more information, refer to the lens manual.

- When your subject comes into focus, the green in-focus signal will light.
- In manual focus mode, the shutter will release even if the subject is not in focus.

—NEXT PAGE—

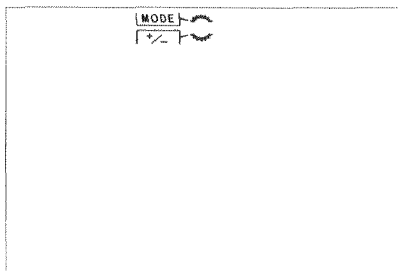
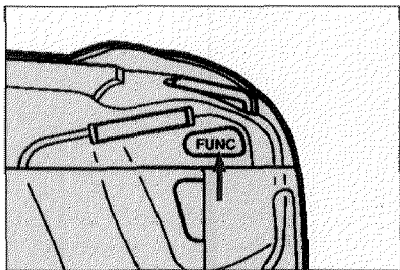
3. To return to autofocus mode, slide the focus mode switch down.


- Pressing the program re-set button will also return the camera to autofocus mode, but this will also change all of the programmable functions to their default settings.

EXPOSURE DETAILS

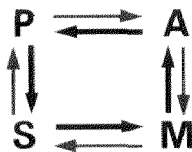
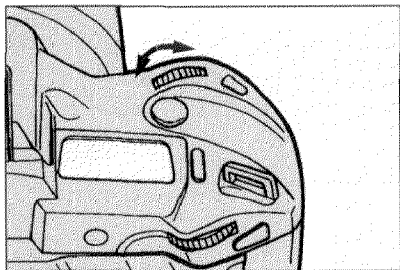
The camera has four exposure modes: programmed autoexposure (P), aperture-priority autoexposure (A), shutter-priority autoexposure (S), and manual exposure (M).

Changing Exposure Mode



1. Press the dial function selector button once;  will appear in the viewfinder.

—NEXT PAGE—



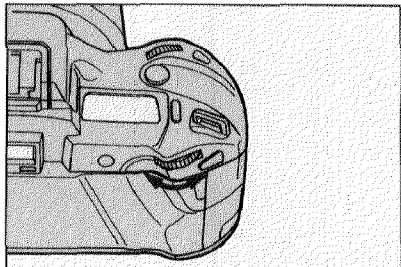
2. Turn the front control dial until the exposure mode you want appears in the body or the viewfinder data panel.

- The modes will cycle in the sequence shown above.
- In M mode, M does not appear in the viewfinder data panel.

3. Press the shutter-release button partway down to enter the mode you have chosen and return to normal operating mode; or wait 4 sec. for it to be entered automatically.

- Pressing the program re-set button returns the camera to **P** mode and re-sets the camera's programmable functions to their default settings.

Aperture Priority (A)

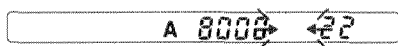
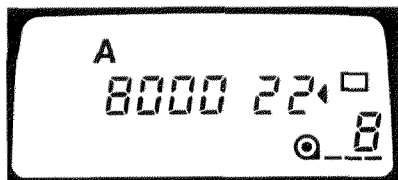


In aperture priority (A) mode, you set the aperture you want and, if the shutter speed is available, the camera will automatically maintain the correct exposure.

1. Refer to p.46 (Changing Exposure Mode) and select **A**.
 - The depth index will appear in the lower part of the viewfinder screen and the indicator will show the approximate depth that the current aperture will provide.
2. To set the aperture, turn the rear control dial to the left or right.

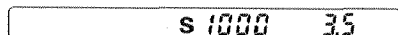
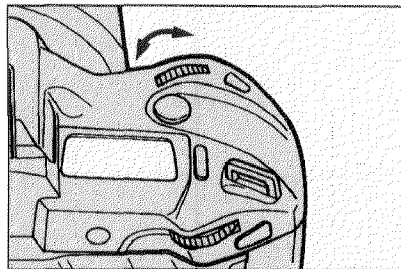
The aperture display in the body and viewfinder data panels will change in 1/2-stop increments with each click of the dial. The depth index's indicator will also move to reflect the changes in the depth that different apertures will provide. When the indicator is all the way to the right, the aperture that is set will provide maximum depth of field. As you open up to larger apertures (smaller f/numbers), the indicator will move toward the graphic on the left, to indicate a gradual loss of depth in the picture.

—NEXT PAGE—



- Available apertures and are limited to those within the range indicated on the lens you are using.
- The shutter speed display will blink if the required speed is beyond the range of the camera. If "8000" blinks, set a smaller aperture; if "30" blinks, set a larger aperture.
- If the metering indicators ► ◀ blink in the viewfinder data panel, the lighting is beyond the range of available apertures and shutter speeds. In bright light, attach a neutral density filter; in low light use a faster lens or faster film.

Shutter Priority (S)



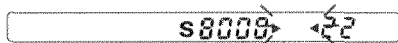
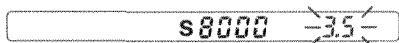
This exposure mode lets you select a shutter speed and, if the lens you are using allows, the camera will automatically set the correct aperture to ensure a proper exposure.

1. Refer to p.46 (Changing Exposure Mode) and select **S**.
 - The action index will appear in the lower part of the viewfinder screen and the indicator will show the approximate amount of action-stopping the current shutter will provide.
2. To set the shutter speed, turn the front control dial.

The shutter speed display in the body and viewfinder data panels will change in half-stop increments with each click of the dial. The indicator on the action index will also move to illustrate the changes that different shutter speeds will have on your photograph.

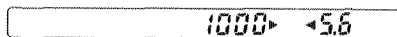
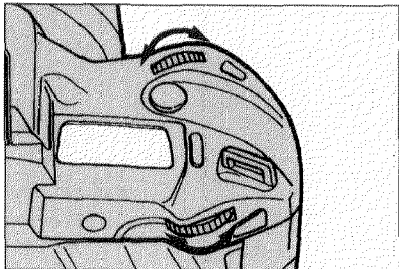
When the indicator is all the way to the right (towards the stop-action runner), then the shutter speed which you have set will stop the action of your subject. As you set slower shutter speeds, the indicator will move to the left, towards the picture of the blurred runner.

—NEXT PAGE—



- If the aperture display blinks, the aperture required for a correct exposure at the shutter speed you have selected is not available. If the lens' minimum aperture blinks, set a faster shutter speed; if the maximum aperture blinks, set a slower shutter speed
- If the metering indicators ► ◀ blink in the viewfinder data panel, the light level is beyond the coupling range of the camera and lens. In bright light, attach a neutral density filter; in low light, use a faster lens or faster film.
- You cannot select BULB in **S** mode. See next section.

Manual Exposure (M)



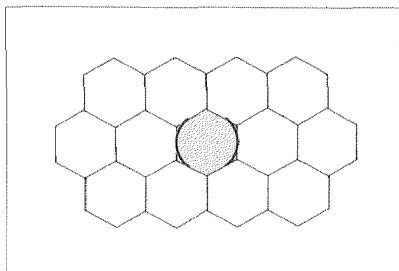
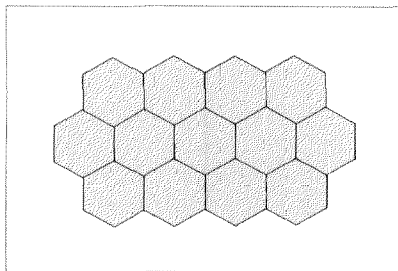
Manual mode should be used whenever you want full creative control over the exposure settings. In this mode, you select the shutter speed and aperture and the camera will tell you whether your settings will provide an over-, under-, or correctly-exposed picture.

1. Refer to p.46 (Changing Exposure Mode) and select **M**.
 2. To set the shutter speed, turn the front control dial to the right for faster shutter speeds or to the left for slower. To set the aperture, turn the rear control dial to the right for smaller apertures or to the left for larger.
- Both The shutter speed and aperture displays will change in half-stop increments.

1000▶ ◀5.6	Exposure is set correctly.
750▶ 5.6	Over exposure
1500 ◀5.6	Under exposure
8000▶ ◀22	The light level is beyond the meter's range.

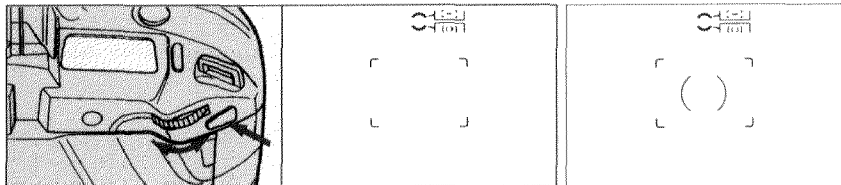
In manual mode, the above displays in the viewfinder data panel will relate information regarding your settings.

METERING MODES



The camera's standard metering mode is AF-Integrated, 14-Segment, Honeycomb-Pattern Metering, which will provide the correct exposure in almost all situations. Spot metering can also be manually selected, in which case, the center segment in the honeycomb pattern is used exclusively to measure the subject's brightness.

To use spot metering:

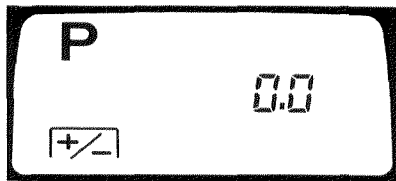
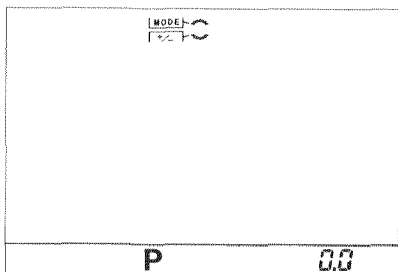


1. Press the dial function selector twice; $\frac{1}{100}$ (M) will appear in the viewfinder.
 2. Turn the rear dial one click-stop in either direction to select spot metering.
 3. Press the shutter release button partway down to enter your selection and return to normal operating mode or wait 4 sec. for it to be entered automatically.
 4. Center the spot metering circle in the viewfinder over the area that you want to meter.
 5. Press and hold the AE lock button, recompose the scene, and press the shutter release button all the way down to take the picture.
- If the area you want to meter is not the same distance from the camera as where you want to focus, first lock focus on your subject. Then position the spot circle over the area to be metered, press and hold the AE lock button, recompose the scene as desired, and press the shutter-release button all the way down.
 - In manual exposure mode, spot metering will only provide a meter reading of the area within the center circle. The camera will not automatically set this reading.

To return to honeycomb-pattern metering, repeat the selection procedure and turn the rear dial one click-stop in either direction.


- Pressing the program re-set button will return to AF-integrated 14-segment honeycomb multi-pattern metering, but will also return the camera's other programmable functions to their default settings.

EXPOSURE COMPENSATION

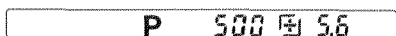
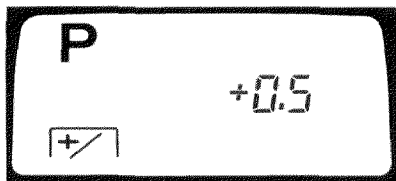


This function enables you to bias the camera's exposure calculation up to 4 stops. Over or under the normally metered selection.

To set:

1. Press the dial function selector button once;  will appear in the viewfinder.
2. Turn the rear control dial until the compensation figure you want appears in the viewfinder and body data panels.
3. Press the shutter release button partway down to enter the exposure factor and return to normal operating mode or wait 4 sec. for your selection to be entered automatically. The exposure which appears in the viewfinder and body data panels will include this factor.

—NEXT PAGE—

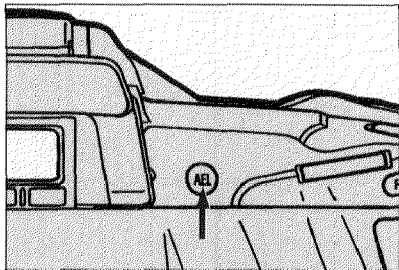


- After you enter the compensation factor, the number will disappear, but “+” or “-” will remain as a reminder that an adjustment has been made. To check the amount of compensation at any time, press the dial function selector once. The compensation figure will again appear in the viewfinder and body data panels.

To cancel the compensation, set 0.0 adjustment and return to normal operating mode.

- Pressing the program re-set button will cancel any exposure compensation and return all the camera's programmable functions to their default settings.

AE LOCK

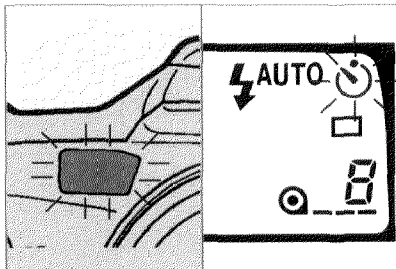
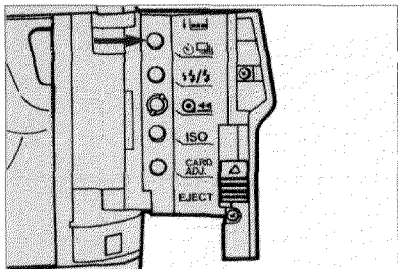


P 500 5.6 AEL

To lock the exposure system independently of the autofocus system, position your subject in the viewfinder and press the AE lock button; AEL will appear in the viewfinder data panel. Hold the button in as you recompose and take the picture.

- If you release the AE lock button before you take the picture, the exposure system will re-evaluate the scene and continue functioning as normal.

SELF-TIMER



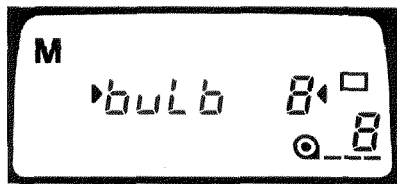
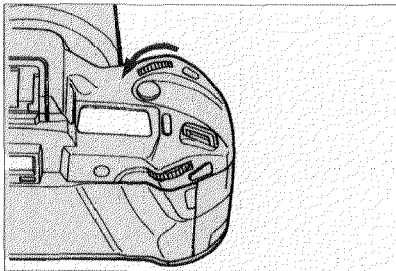
The electronic self-timer will delay release of the shutter about 10 sec. after you press the shutter-release button.

To set:

1. Open the card door and press the self-timer/drive-mode button once. The self-timer indicator will appear in the body data panel.
 2. Compose your scene and attach the eyepiece cap.
 3. Press the shutter-release button all the way down to start the timer.
- The AF illuminator will blink twice per second until the shutter releases.
 - The self-timer can be stopped during countdown by moving the main switch to LOCK. To restart the timer from the beginning of its countdown, move the main switch back to ON and press the shutter-release button again. To cancel the self-timer, move the main switch back to ON and press the self-timer/drive-mode button.
 - The self-timer automatically switches off after shutter-release. To make another exposure with the self-timer, repeat steps 1 – 3.

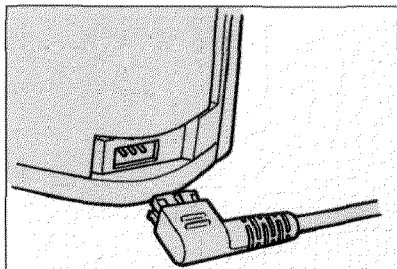
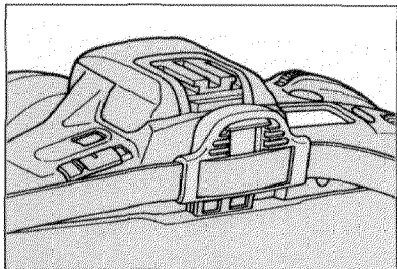
BULB: LONG EXPOSURES

To make bulb exposures:



1. Mount the camera on a tripod.
2. Refer to p.46 and set the exposure mode to manual (M).
3. Turn the front control dial to the right until **bulb** appears in the body data panel. Turn the rear dial to set the aperture.
4. Compose your scene and focus the lens.
 - If the scene is too dark, autofocus may not function. Slide the focus mode switch down and focus the lens manually.

— NEXT PAGE —




5. Attach the eyepiece cap.


6. To take the picture, press the shutter-release button and hold it down for the duration of the exposure. The shutter will remain open until you release it.


- To prevent camera shake, attach Remote Cord RC-1000 S/L. Open the card door, remove the remote-control terminal cover, and insert the remote cord's plug into the terminal. The shutter will remain open as long as you hold the remote control button down.
- When "--" appears in the aperture display of the body data panel (eg., when a lens is not attached), the shutter will lock if film is in the camera to prevent accidental exposures. If you want to release shutter under such conditions (eg., when the camera is attached to a telescope), contact your nearest authorized Minolta Service facility.


FLASH SYSTEM

FLASH MODES

 AUTO : Autoflash

 AUTO : Autoflash with pre-flash

OFF  : Flash cancel (in P mode)

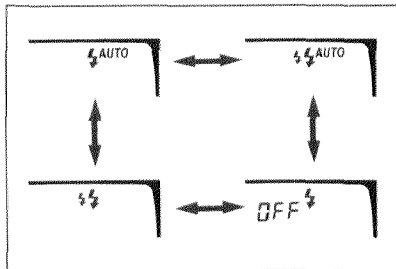
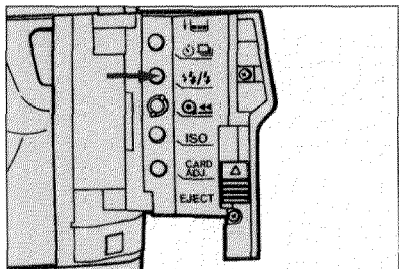
 : Remote/Wireless off-camera TTL flash (blinking alternately)

The built-in flash operates in four different modes: single-burst, single-burst with pre-flash, flash cancel, and as a remote trigger for an off-camera flash. Autoflash is the camera's standard mode. In pre-flash mode, the flash will fire a small burst before the exposure in order to reduce red-eye in portraits. Flash cancel allows you to take pictures using only available light. Remote/Wireless off-camera flash control is explained beginning on p.70.

CAUTION

The lens hood should not be used when taking pictures with the camera's built-in flash since vignetting will result.

To set the flash mode:





1. Open the card door and press the flash mode button.
 2. Turn the front or rear dial. The flash mode indicators will appear in the body data panel in the sequence shown above.
 3. Press the flash mode button again to enter the mode you have selected.
- Flash cancel in P mode can be selected only when the flash is down.

PROGRAM MODE FLASH OPERATION

The camera uses an advanced flash control system to provide correct flash exposures in P mode whenever it is required. The camera's TTL (through-the-lens) flash metering system controls the flash output to ensure a proper exposure.

Viewfinder Signals and Flash Control

As soon as the camera detects that flash will be required, the flash-on indicator  appears in the viewfinder data panel. The flash-ready indicator  will light when the flash is fully charged. When you press the shutter release partway down, the flash will pop-up, and it will fire when you take the picture. After you release the shutter, if the flash output was sufficient to provide a correct exposure, the flash-ready signal will blink. The flash can also be forced to fire at any time by pressing and holding the flash pop-up button while you take the picture.

- The shutter will lock while the built-in flash is charging to prevent underexposure.
- If the flash pops up and you press it back down, it will remain off until you take the camera away from your eye and wait for Eye-Start to turn off the metering system (aperture and shutter speed will disappear from the body data panel). To resume normal autoflash operation without taking the camera away from your eye, press the flash pop-up button.
- If you press the flash pop-up button and do not keep it pressed down, the flash will pop-up, but will only fire when necessary.
- The built-in flash or an accessory flash will not fire while the camera is set in Creative Program Control (PA/PS).









A, S, AND M MODE FLASH

In A, S, or M mode if the flash is down it will not fire; if the flash is up, it will fire each time you press the shutter-release button. To raise the flash, press the flash pop-up button; it will not pop-up automatically in any of these exposure modes. Single-burst, single-burst with pre-flash, flash cancel, and remote off-camera control can all be selected in any of these exposure modes, as well.

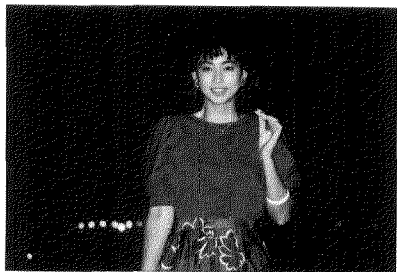
In S mode, the shutter speed and aperture will be set automatically by the camera. In A and M mode, you can set any aperture within the lens' range. In M mode, you can select any shutter speed between 1/200 sec. and 30 sec., as well as BULB.

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EXPOSURE MODE	FLASH POP-UP	BURST
P MODE	Auto	Auto
A MODE	Manual with pop-up button	UP; burst DOV
S MODE		
M MODE		

	FLASH MODE	AVAILABLE SHUTTER SPEED
	 AUTO; Auto flash  AUTO; Auto with pre-flash OFF  ; flash cancel  ; remote/wireless off  camera flash	1/200 to 30sec. (set automatically)
V;off V;off	 ; single-burst	1/200 sec.
	 ; single with pre-flash	1/200 to 30sec. (set automatically)
	 ; remote/wireless off camera flash	1/200 to 30sec. and bulb

SLOW-SHUTTER SYNC FLASH



The slow-sync shutter option will set a slower shutter speed to increase the background or ambient lighting exposure in a flash picture. Flash output will be decreased automatically to maintain a correct exposure of your subject.

1. Frame your subject and press and hold the shutter-release button partway down.
2. Press and hold the AE lock button.

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