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Nikon

F2A

Photomic

FINDER

DP-11

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

NOMENCLATURE

Power check button

Coupling lever release

Meter coupling lever

Finder release lever

Meter window

ASA film-speed index ring

ASA film-speed scale





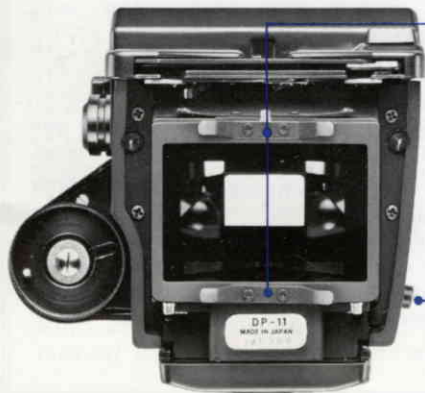
Shutter-speed selector

Shutter-speed index

Shutter-speed scale

Ready-light

Viewfinder eyepiece



Focusing screen seating springs

Ready-light contact

CONTENTS

Foreword	5
Preparation for use	6
Attaching the finder	6
Shutter speed coupling	7
Removing the finder	7
Coupling lever lock/release operation	8
Setting the film speed	9
Installing the batteries	10
Checking the batteries	11
Eyepiece ready-light	12
Exposure measurement	13
Determining exposure	14
Metering range	16
High-contrast lighting situations	16
Stop-down exposure measurement	20
Exposure compensation adjustments	22
Adjustments for focusing screens	22
Adjustments for film compensation	24
Care and handling	25
Features/specifications	26

FOREWORD

The Nikon F2A Photomic Finder DP-11 is a compact, precision pentaprism finder assembly designed to fit any F2 Nikon camera body. The DP-11 incorporates the Nikon center-weighted thru-the-lens metering method that concentrates 60% of the reading within the 12mm-diameter central portion of the view-field; thus, metering is precise for varied lighting situations, and covers virtually 100% of the picture image frame as visible on the focusing screen.

One outstanding new feature with the DP-11 is the provision for operation with the new Nikkor lenses capable of automatic maximum aperture indexing during mounting on the camera body. The meter coupling lever provided on the DP-11 engages the meter coupling ridge provided on these new lenses to provide for lens/meter coupling and automatic indexing of the lens' maximum aperture. And the DP-11 is also fitted with a small viewing prism at the base of the front plate to provide for aperture-direct-readout from the scale provided on the lens.

Other merits of the DP-11 include the display of the shutter speed setting (as well as the aperture setting previously mentioned) within the finder, the meter display both inside and outside the finder, full usability for both full-aperture and stop-down measurement as required, threaded eyepiece frame for attaching various viewing aids, and the ready-light built into the eyepiece for convenience when operating with flash units.

To ensure you get the best results from your F2A Photomic Finder DP-11, read this instruction manual carefully. Keep the manual handy until you have thoroughly familiarized yourself with the unit and its operation. A few minutes of preparation will help you avoid costly mistakes.



Attaching the Finder

The F2A Photomic Finder DP-11 attaches to any F2 Nikon camera body without the need for modifications or adjustments, and provides for automatic maximum aperture indexing and full-aperture exposure measurement (via the built-in coupling lever) with all Nikkor lenses fitted with a meter coupling ridge. Additionally, the DP-11 can be mounted on the camera body at any time either before or after the lens is attached.

If the finder is to be used with a lens fitted with a meter coupling ridge, mount the finder as follows: Set the aperture ring on the lens (if attached) to the maximum aperture setting, gently place the finder in the mounting position and, then, press the finder downward until it clicks and locks into place; be sure to press firmly to ensure that the finder mounting clamps engage the seating pins on the camera body. Lastly, check that the coupling lever is released and (if a lens is mounted) that the meter and lens are properly coupled.

If the finder is to be used with a lens not fitted with a meter coupling ridge, mount the finder as follows: Lock the meter coupling lever in the up position (see "Coupling Lever Lock/Release Operation" on page 8 for details), position the finder for mounting and, then, press it downward until it clicks and locks into place; again,

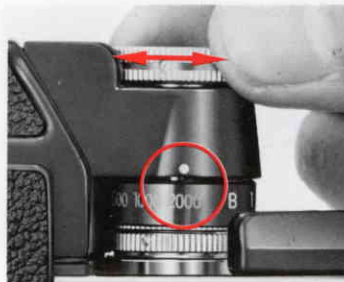
be sure to press firmly to ensure proper engagement with the seating pins. Note that operation with lenses not fitted with a meter coupling ridge will require stop-down exposure measurement as described on page 20.

Shutter Speed Coupling

The shutter-speed selector of the DP-11 finder is part of an extender assembly that couples with the camera's shutter-speed dial. After mounting the DP-11 on the camera, turn the selector left or right until it engages with the camera's shutter-speed dial and the two can be turned in tandem.

Removing the Finder

To remove the DP-11 from the camera, press the finder release lever inward and rotate toward the front (this action releases the mounting clamps); then, depress the finder release button at the rear of the camera body and lift the finder out of the camera.



PREPARATION FOR USE—continued

Coupling Lever Lock/Release Operation

The DP-11 finder is fitted with a meter coupling lever that provides for coupling between the finder's metering circuit and the lens' meter coupling ridge. When the camera body is used with lenses offering automatic maximum aperture indexing, the lever remains in the normal position. However, when the camera body is used with lenses and/or accessories not provided with this feature, the lever must be locked up to permit exposure measurement via the stop-down method. To lock up the lever prior to mounting the lens, simply push the lever upward and to the right until it clicks and locks into position. To release the lever for operation with a lens or accessory capable of automatic maximum aperture indexing, simply slide the coupling lever release (located just above the lever) to the right until the lever returns to its normal lowered position; then, mount the lens or accessory as normal.

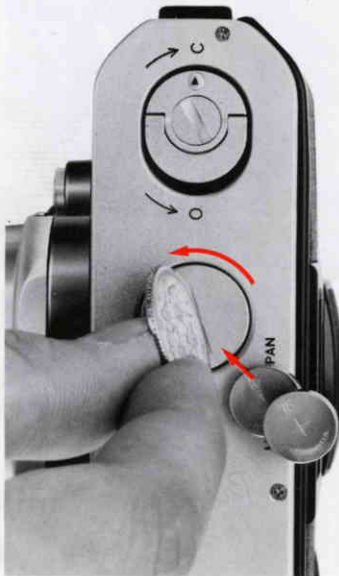


Setting the Film Speed

The exposure meter of the DP-11 must be adjusted to the speed of the film in use to ensure correct exposure; thus, a film-speed scale (ASA graduations) and an index ring are provided on the finder. To adjust, lift up the milled ASA film-speed index ring and turn it until the red index triangle is aligned with the ASA value for the film in use. The meter can be set across the full range of from ASA 6 to ASA 6400. The film-speed dial has two dots between each pair of numbers for intermediate settings such as 64, 80, 125, etc.



PREPARATION FOR USE—continued



Installing the Batteries

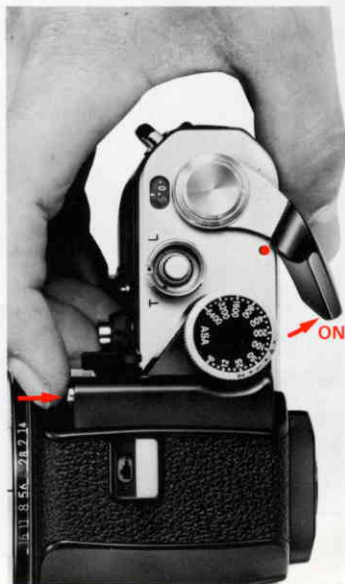
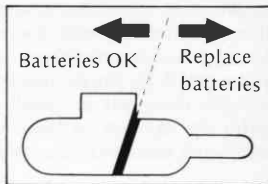
The F2A Photomic Finder DP-11 is powered by two high-performance silver-oxide batteries loaded in the battery chamber in the baseplate of the camera. To install the batteries, first remove the battery chamber cover (turn it 90° counterclockwise using a coin or similar object); then, place two 1.5V silver-oxide (button-cell type) batteries in the chamber, making sure that the plus (+) side of each unit faces out. After inserting and properly seating the batteries, replace the cover and lock it to secure the assembly.

Caution: Remove the batteries when the camera is not to be used for a long period.

At below-freezing temperatures, the batteries may malfunction or cease to operate until the temperature rises again. Be careful not to expose them to severe cold for long periods.

Checking the Batteries

The camera's film-advance lever serves as the ON/OFF switch for the DP-11 finder. To check battery power, pull the lever out just far enough to uncover the red meter ON index on the top of the camera, press the power check button and check the meter window at the center of the finder for indication of the power level. If the needle within the window swings to the right edge of the front notch (or beyond), battery power is sufficient. If the needle fails to swing, battery positioning should be checked; then, if the needle still fails to move, replace batteries.



EYEPIECE READY-LIGHT

The DP-11 finder has a built-in ready-light for use with Nikon Speedlight Units. This unique feature provides for greater ease of operation during flash photography, as the photographer need not remove his eye from the eyepiece to check if the Speedlight Unit is ready for the next exposure; this built-in lamp lets the photographer know the condition of the flash (either "ready" when on, or "not ready" when off) at all times even while viewing. (For additional information, see the instruction manual supplied with the Speedlight.)

EXPOSURE MEASUREMENT

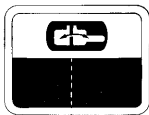
The exposure meter of the DP-11 features a center-weighted TTL metering system coupled to the shutter speed and aperture controls. The meter reads the light over the entire focusing screen but favors the central 12mm-diameter area. This allows you to make precise readings of the selected subject area, resulting in balanced overall readings.

The amount of light reaching the film is determined by a combination of the lens aperture and the shutter speed. Of course, since the two are interrelated, different combinations will give the same amount of exposure when carefully chosen. The best combination for your needs will depend on the results desired. Use fast shutter speeds to freeze motion, or use slow speeds to create deliberate blur. Small apertures give greater depth of field, while large apertures restrict sharp focus to the main subject. The table below shows how control settings are interrelated; all combinations shown give the same exposure.

Aperture	f/1.4	f/2	f/2.8	f/4	f/5.6
Shutter speed (second)	1/500	1/250	1/125	1/60	1/30

EXPOSURE MEASUREMENT—continued

Exterior meter window



Correct exposure

Overexposure



Underexposure



Interior meter indicator

Determining Exposure

The DP-11 features an exposure meter display visible within the viewfield for easy-to-read operation while viewing and focusing. Additionally, the selected shutter speed and lens aperture settings are visible on either side of the meter display to allow the photographer to check at a glance the camera settings in use.

To determine the correct exposure with the DP-11: Switch on the meter by moving the film-advance lever to the 20° standoff position; with this action, the meter will swing to indicate the exposure condition of overexposure (needle to the left), correct exposure (needle to the center) or underexposure (needle to the right). If the needle moves to the left, increase the shutter speed or decrease the aperture until the needle is centered; if the needle remains at the right, decrease the shutter speed or increase the aperture until the needle is centered. The figure on this page shows the various meter needle indications. Note that the same metering operation may be performed using the external meter window positioned atop the finder.



Metering Range

If the finder's meter needle fails to center, even after all possible lens-aperture/shutter-speed combinations have been tried, then the available light is too bright or too dim for the meter's range. To correct this situation, several measures may be taken, as follows: Switch to a new film (either higher or lower ASA) that more closely matches the available light; mount a neutral density filter on the lens to decrease the light reaching the film plane; or use artificial lighting (i.e., an electronic flash unit) to increase subject illumination. The DP-11's metering range extends from EV 1 (f/1.4 at 1 second) to EV 17 (f/8 at 1/2000 second) with a 50mm f/1.4 lens and ASA 100 film.

High-Contrast Lighting Situations

When there are substantial brightness differences between the main subject and the background, unimportant bright spots or dark spots can adversely influence the finder reading, and thus the final exposure. To prevent under- or overexposure of the main subject under these shooting conditions, some corrective action must be taken to ensure proper exposure of the main subject. Fortunately, the DP-11's center-weighted TTL metering action simplifies adjustments, making for quicker camera operation

and more accurate final results.

To compensate for an excessively bright or dark background, target the main subject in the center of the focusing screen while performing metering; this action ensures that the main emphasis of the meter reading will be on the chosen subject. Then, after completing aperture and shutter speed adjustments, recompose to the desired picture composition and make the exposure without readjusting the camera controls. For example, when shooting landscapes, it is often advisable to aim the camera slightly downward during exposure measurement to eliminate the effects of a bright expanse of sky; without such compensation, the landscape may appear underexposed in the final print. Also, for backlit subjects, it may be necessary to move closer to the subject to ensure a proper reading. (See following pages for example photos.)

EXPOSURE MEASUREMENT—continued



8



250

- Metering with a bright area in the center will cause underexposure of the main subject.



- For correct exposure, first measure the main subject; then, recompose and shoot.

STOP-DOWN EXPOSURE MEASUREMENT



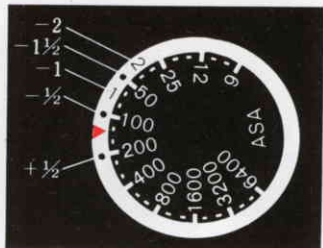
With some Nikkor lenses, full-aperture exposure measurement is not possible, either because the lens has no automatic diaphragm, or because the lens does not couple with the finder's meter; with certain accessories, too, lens/finder coupling is not possible, thus, preventing full-aperture measurement. However, the DP-11's Photomic meter can still be used for exposure measurement via the stop-down method. Before mounting the lens (or accessory) on the camera body, push the meter coupling lever up and to the right; with this action, the lever will remain locked up for stop-down exposure measurement (to release the lever after removing the lens/accessory, push the release to the right as described in "Coupling Lever Lock/Release Operation" on page 8). After setting the finder, mount the lens or lens/accessory combination on the camera, switch on the meter by moving the film-advance lever to the standoff position, and then set the controls for correct exposure as follows:

For automatic diaphragm lenses with no coupling ridge, set the camera to the desired shutter speed; then, depress the depth-of-field preview button to stop down the lens diaphragm and, while holding the button depressed, adjust the aperture ring until the meter needle indicates correct exposure. Be sure to release the depth-of-field button prior to making the exposure.

For fixed-aperture lenses, such as Reflex-Nikkor lenses, simply adjust the shutter-speed selector until the meter needle indicates correct exposure. For convenience, shutter speeds can be set at intermediate settings in the 1/80 sec. to 1/2000 sec. speed range for precise exposures. The exposure can additionally be controlled via built-in or accessory ND filters.




For bellows units, extension rings and preset lenses, set the camera to the desired shutter speed; then, stop down the lens manually until the meter needle indicates correct exposure. Preset-type lenses include PC-Nikkor lenses.

EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENTS



Adjustments for Focusing Screens

Light transmission properties vary somewhat with focusing screen type, thus occasionally requiring exposure correction to compensate for the combined effects of the lens/screen combination in use. The numbers listed in the various blocks of the table on the opposite page denote the amount of correction necessary in f/stops. To adjust the DP-11 for the indicated f/stop correction, lift and turn the ASA film-speed index ring until the ASA value for the film in use is aligned with the appropriate mark engraved on the ring. In the example figure shown, ASA 100 is aligned with the $-\frac{1}{2}$ mark to provide the correction required when using the Type C screen with a DP-11 Photomic Finder-equipped F2 Nikon camera and the Fisheye-Nikkor 6mm f/2.8 lens, as indicated in the table. (When "0" is indicated in the table, no compensation is required.)

-  = Exposure measurement via full-aperture method.
-  = Exposure measurement via stop-down method.
-  = Exposure measurement not possible; lens/screen combination permits only focusing operation.

Blank space indicates lens/screen combination cannot be used.

Lens	Screen	A/L	B	C	D	E	G1	G2	G3	G4	H1	H2	H3	H4	J	K/P	M	R
Fisheye	6mm f/2.8	0	0	-1/2	-1/2	0	0	0			0	0			0	0	0	0
	8mm f/2.8	0	0	-1/2	-1/2	0	0	0			0	0	0		0	0	0	0
	16mm f/3.5	0	0			0	-1/2				0				0	0	0	0
	13mm f/3.6	0	0			0		-1				-1/2			0	0	0	0
	15mm f/5.6	0	0			0		-1/2				-1/2			0	0	0	0
Wideangle	18mm f/4	0	0			0	-1				-1				0	0	0	0
	20mm f/3.5	0	0			0	-1				-1/2				0	0	0	0
	20mm f/4	0	0			0	-1				-1/2				0	0	0	0
	24mm f/2	0	0			0		0			+1/2	0			0	0	0	0
	24mm f/2.8	0	0			0		0			+1/2	0			0	0	0	0
	28mm f/2	0	0			0		0			+1/2	+1/2			0	0	0	0
	28mm f/2.8	0	0			0	-1/2				0				0	0	0	0
	28mm f/3.5	0	0			0	-1	-1/2			0	0			0	0	0	0
	35mm f/1.4	0	0			0		+1/2			+1/2	+1/2			0	0	0	0
	35mm f/2	0	0			0	+1/2				+1/2	0			0	0	0	0
Normal	35mm f/2.8	0	0			0		0			+1/2	0			0	0	0	0
	50mm f/1.2	0	0			0		0							0	0	0	0
	50mm f/1.4	0	0			0		+1/2				+1/2			0	0	0	0
	50mm f/1.8	0	0			0		+1/2				+1/2			0	0	0	0
	85mm f/2	0	0			0		+1/2			+1/2	+1/2			0	0	0	0
Telephoto	105mm f/2.5	0	0			0		0			+1/2	+1/2			0	0	0	0
	135mm f/2	0	0	0	0	0		+1/2				+1/2			0	0	0	0
	135mm f/2.8	0	0	0	0	0		0				+1/2			0	0	0	0
	135mm f/3.5	0	0			0		-1/2				+1/2			0	0	0	0
	180mm f/2.8	0	0	0	0	0		0			0	0	0		0	0	0	0
	200mm f/4	0	0	0	0	0		-1/2							0	0	0	0
	* ED 300mm f/2.8 IF	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	+1/2	0	0		0	0	0	0
	300mm f/4.5	0	0	0	0	0		-1/2	-1/2	-1/2	-1/2	-1	-1/2	-1	0	0	0	0
	* ED 300mm f/4.5 IF	0	0	0	0	0		-1/2	-1/2	-1/2	-1/2	-1	-1/2	-1	0	0	0	0
	400mm f/4.5	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
Super Telephoto	ED 400mm f/5.6	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	* ED 400mm f/3.5 IF	0	0	0	0	0			-1	-1/2				0	-1/2	0	0	0
	* ED 400mm f/5.6 IF	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	600mm f/5.6	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	* ED 600mm f/5.6 IF	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	* ED 800mm f/8 IF	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	* ED 1200mm f/11 IF	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	28-45mm f/4.5	0	0			0					-1/2				0	0	0	0
	35-70mm f/3.5	0	0			0		0				0			0	0	0	0
	43-86mm f/3.5	0	0			0		-1/2				-1/2			0	0	0	0
Zoom	50-300mm f/4.5	0	0			0									0	0	0	0
	ED 50-300mm f/4.5	0	0			0			-2				-1/2	-1/2	0	0	0	0
	80-200mm f/4.5	0	0			0			-1/2				-1/2	-1/2	0	0	0	0
	ED 180-600mm f/8	0	0	0	0	0								-1/2	0	0	0	0
	200-600mm f/9.5	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	ED 360-1200mm f/11	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	28mm f/4	0	0			0									0	0	0	0
PC	35mm f/2.8	0	0			0									0	0	0	0
Noct	58mm f/1.2	0	0			0		0			0	0			0	0	0	0
	55mm f/3.5	0	0			0									0	0	0	0
Micro	105mm f/4	0	0			0									0	0	0	0
	200mm f/4	0	0	0	0	0							-1/2	-1	0	0	0	0
Medical	200mm f/5.6	0	0			0									0	0	0	0
Reflex	500mm f/8	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
Telephoto	1000mm f/11	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0
	2000mm f/11	0	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0

* Internal focusing type

EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENTS—continued



Adjustments for Film Compensation

Some exposure correction may be necessary when certain types of films are used for copying or photomicrography applications; the amount of correction required, however, will depend on the type of film and the specific application. The following table lists the exposure corrections in f/stops required for various film/shooting requirements. Compensation is possible by adjusting the shutter speed or the aperture by the indicated amount; also, compensation is possible by adjusting the ASA film-speed index ring. In the example shown, the index ring is set so that the red mark is aligned with ASA 50; this setting is the correct position to achieve a one-stop increase in exposure (three scale graduations equal one stop) as required when performing photomicrography (see table) using ASA 100 panchromatic film.

Original Type of film	Repro-Copying & Slide-Copying			Photo- micrography
	B & W or color photo	Letters or Figures on light back- ground	Letters or Figures on dark back- ground	
Panchromatic film for general use	No compensation necessary	+1-1/2 stops	-1/2 stop	+1 stop

CARE AND HANDLING

Your F2A Photomic Finder DP-11 is durable. However, it also deserves the same care you would give any precision instrument. Follow the simple precautions given below and the finder will give you many years of dependable performance.

- Always attach or remove the finder properly. Do not use excessive force in either case.
- When not in use, store the finder with a prism guard in a case. Avoid storing it where it is liable to be exposed to excessive heat, cold or dampness.
- Avoid fingerprints and dust on the prism surface. Brush away grit with a soft brush or use a rubber lens blower. Do not use cloth or ordinary tissue. If smudges or fingerprints persist, use a lens tissue sparingly dabbed with a professionally-recommended lens cleaner. Wipe with a circular motion and gentle pressure. (Even an approved lens cleaner can cause damage if it seeps into the prism mount.)
- When it is not being used for a long period, check the finder periodically to see that it operates properly.
- Before leaving for a holiday, make a few trial exposures and allow at least two or three weeks' time for film processing and making any needed repairs or adjustments. This simple precaution will make your holiday a memorable one.

FEATURES/SPECIFICATIONS

Type of unit: Interchangeable eyelevel pentaprism type finder with built-in exposure meter for F2 Nikon cameras; no modification or adjustment required for mounting

Exposure measurement: Thru-the-lens (TTL) center-weighted system; both full-aperture and stop-down measurement possible

Exposure indication: Via meter needle display visible within finder; over- and underexposure markings provided; display also provided atop finder with provision for battery power check indication

Film speed range: ASA 6 ~ 6400

Metering range: EV 1 to EV 17 (f/1.4 at 1 sec. to f/8 at 1/2000 sec.) with 50mm f/1.4 and ASA 100

Aperture coupling: f/1.2 ~ f/32; meter coupling lever provided for coupling and automatic maximum aperture indexing with AI Nikkor lenses

Shutter speed coupling: 1 ~ 1/2000 sec. via direct coupling

Meter ON switch: Built into camera's film-advance lever

Power source: Two 1.5V (button-cell type) silver-oxide batteries mounted in camera body

Dimensions: 78mm x 43mm x 66mm

Weight: 220g

Accessories included: Plastic prism guard