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PENTAX®

PZ-1

OPERATING MANUAL

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Welcome to the exciting world of Pentax autofocus SLR photography! This camera is an autofocus 35mm SLR camera featuring 18 different Pentax exclusive functions, a power zoom mechanism, and one-touch switching between three programmable modes. It's all a photographer could wish for in an automated camera.

With an easy-to-use power zoom lens action, this camera gives photographer complete control over magnification and focal length.

Highlights of this camera are:

- Predictive Autofocus
- Multi(8)-Segment Metering
- Interval timer
- Multiple exposures of up to 9 frames
- Choice of multi(8)-segment metering and spot metering

Please read this operating manual thoroughly before use.

The names of the working parts are shown on the front and back flaps, so keep them unfolded for quick reference.

Commercially available lenses and accessories produced by other manufacturers are not made to our precise specifications and therefore, may cause difficulties with — or actual damage to — your Pentax camera. We do not assume any responsibility or liability for difficulties resulting from the use of lenses and accessories made by other manufacturers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LCD panel indication 2
Viewfinder indication 3
Easy to use! (for beginners) 4
Cameras and lens mounts 6
Camera functions available with various lenses 7
How to use this guide 8

BASIC OPERATION (PREPARATION)
Attaching the camera strap 9
Inserting the battery 10
Mounting the lens 12
Adjusting the viewfinder diopter 14
Using the shutter release button 15
Main switch operation 15
Film loading 16
Unloading the film 20

BASIC OPERATION (SHOOTING)
Using the basic exposure mode 22
Basic drive modes 24
Using zoom lenses 26
Holding the camera 29
Selecting an autofocus mode 30
Autofocusing 30
Using the focus lock function 30
Taking a picture 34
Using the built-in flash (RTF) 34
About "Red-Eye" 36

ADVANCED OPERATIONS
Focusing on a subject manually 37
Hard-to-autofocus subjects 40
Switching metering modes 41
About memory lock 41
Selecting an exposure mode 42
Using the hyper programmed AE mode 44
Using the programmed AE mode 46
Using the shutter-priority AE mode 48
Using the aperture-priority AE mode 50
Using the hyper manual mode 53
Using the manual (bulb) mode 56
About exposure compensation 58
Selecting a drive mode 59
Using the auto bracketing mode 62
Using the multi-exposure mode 64
Using the interval shooting mode 65
Using the 12-second-delay self-timer mode 68
Using the 2-second-delay self-timer mode 69
Using the triple-frame self-timer mode 70
Extended power zoom functions 71
Using the zoom-clip mode 72
Using the image size tracking mode 74
Using the zoom effect mode 77
Using the built-in flash (RTF) 80
Pentax functions [PF] 84
Setting the film speed (ISO) manually 94
Stopping the electronic beep 95
Using a Pentax dedicated external flash 96
Contrast-control flash photography 99
Accessories 100
Accessories (optional) 100
Soft case 101

SOME BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Effects of aperture and shutter speed 102
Depth of field 104
About the infrared index 105

OTHERS
Precautions on battery 107
Taking care of your camera 108
Troubleshooting 110
Specifications 112
Warranty policy 116

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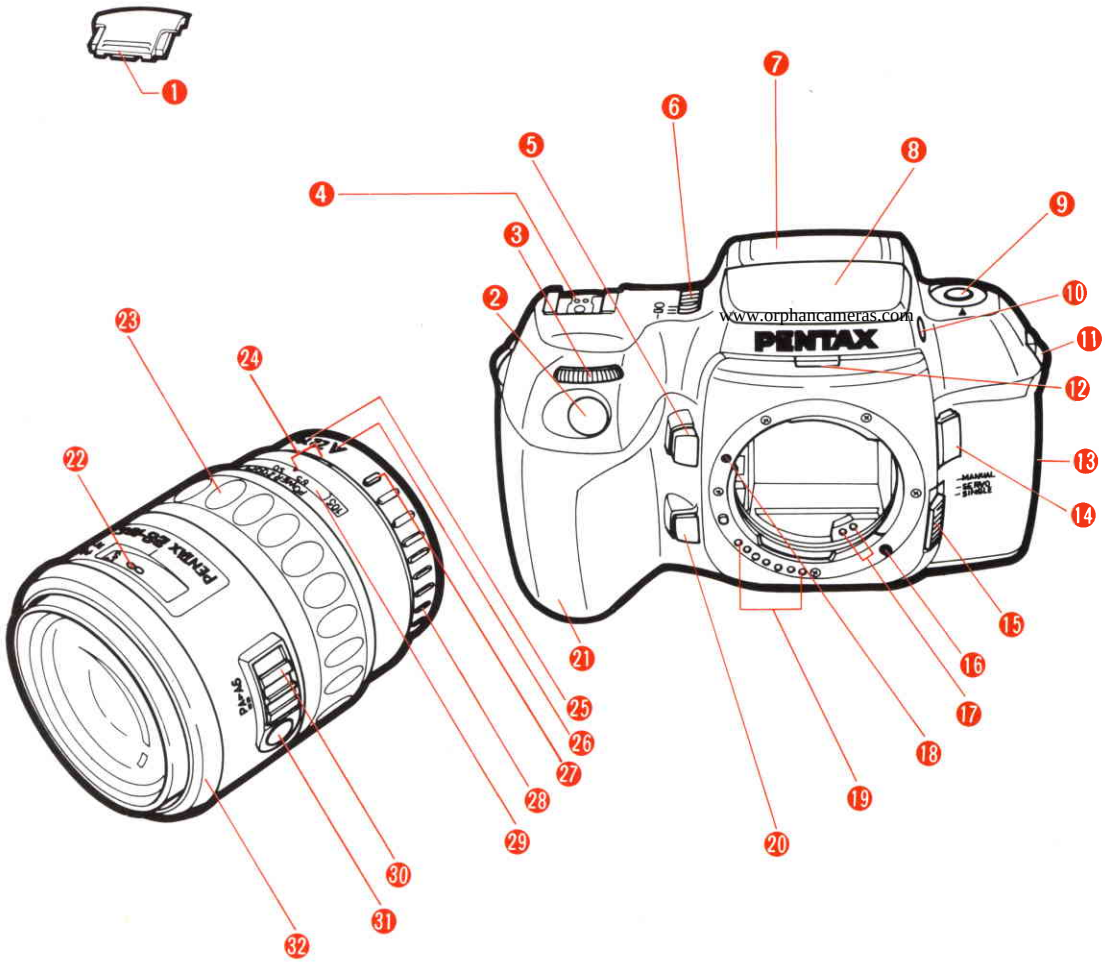
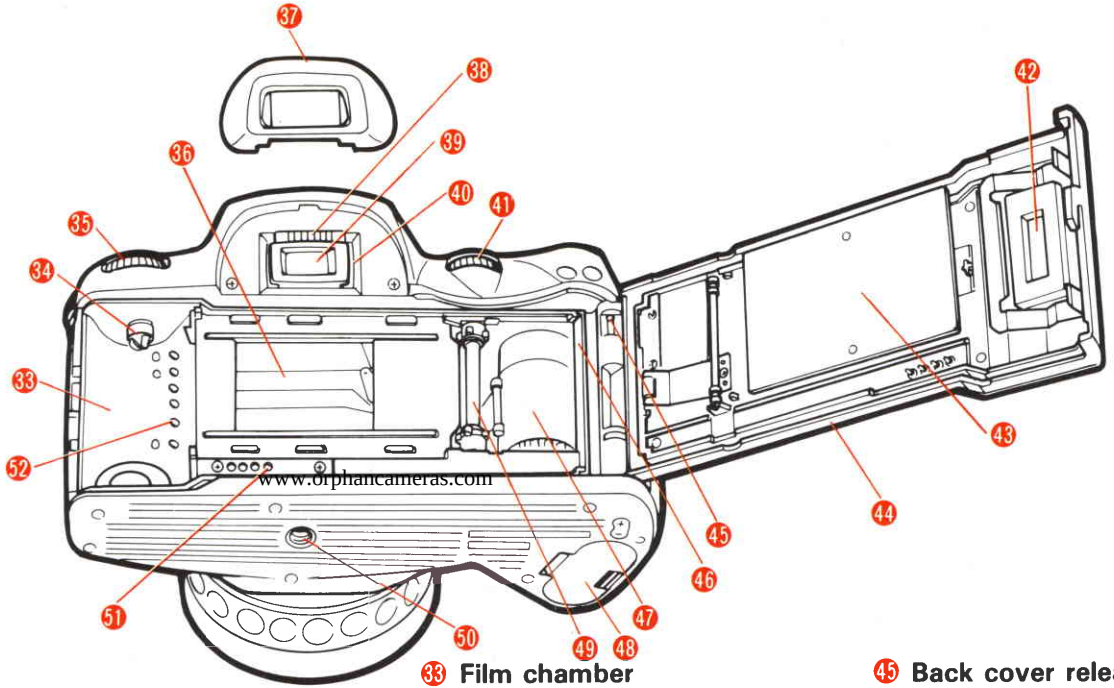
NAMES OF WORKING PARTS



1. Hot shoe cover FD
2. Shutter release button
3. Tv direct dial
4. Hot shoe
5. Preview button
6. Main switch
7. LCD panel
8. RTF built-in flash
9. Mode set button
10. Flash pop-up button
11. Strap lug
12. Self-timer lamp
13. Back cover release lever
14. Release socket cap FD
15. Focus mode switch
16. AF coupler
17. Power supply contacts
18. Lens mount index
19. Lens information contacts
20. Lens lock button
21. Hand grip
22. Distance scale window
23. Power zoom ring
24. Aperture/zoom index
25. Aperture scale
26. Aperture-A index
27. Aperture-A lock button
28. Aperture ring
29. Zoom scale window
30. Auto zoom switch
31. Zoom set button
32. Focusing ring

NAMES OF WORKING PARTS (BACK)



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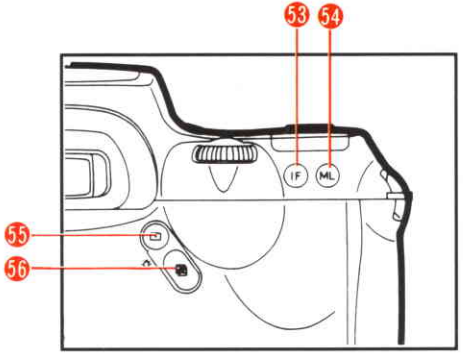

33 Film chamber
34 Rewind shaft
35 Mode dial
36 Shutter curtains
37 Eyecup Fᴅ
38 Diopter adjustment lever
39 Viewfinder eyepiece
40 Viewfinder accessory groove
41 Av direct dial
42 Film information window
43 Pressure plate
44 Back cover
45 Back cover release pin
46 Film leader end mark
47 Take-up spool
48 Battery chamber cover
49 Sprocket
50 Tripod socket
51 Cordless contacts
52 DX-information pins
53 IF button
54 Memory lock button
55 Metering mode switch button
56 Exposure compensation button

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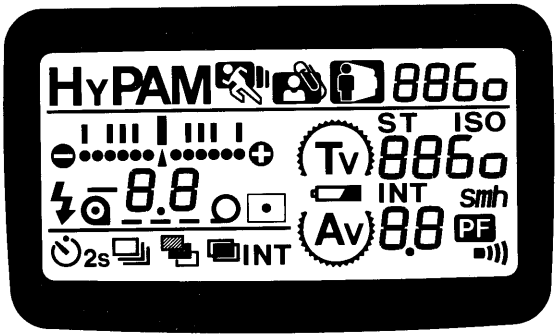
LCD PANEL INDICATION

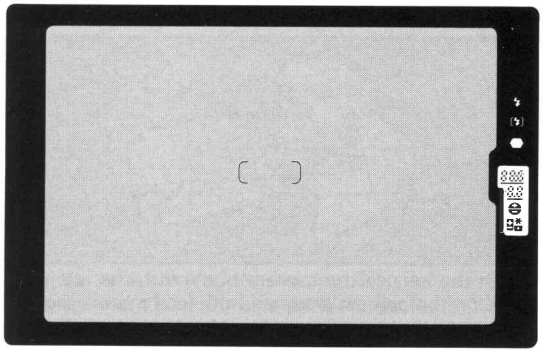


HYP——Hyper Programmed AE
P——Programmed AE
A(Av)——Aperture-Priority AE
A(Tv)——Shutter-Priority AE
HYM——Hyper Manual
——Image Size Tracking
——Zoom Clip Mode
——Zoom Effect
8000——Shutter Speed
32——Aperture
——Metering Mode

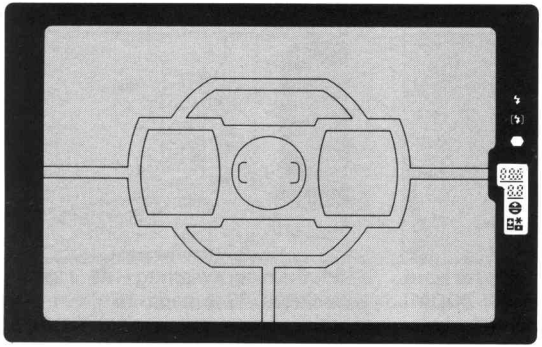
——Self-Timer with 12-Sec Delay
2s——Self-Timer with 2-Sec Delay
——Triple-Frame Consecutive Self-Timer
INT——Interval Shooting
——Exposure Compensation
ISO——ISO Film Speed
(Tv)——Tv Value
(Av)——Av Value
PF——Pentax Function
——PCV Beep Tone
——Battery Exhaustion Warning
——Flash Information
24——Frame Counter Indication
——Film Status Information
——Single-Frame Mode
——Multi-Frame Consecutive Mode
——Auto Bracketing
——Multi-Exposure

* By pressing the exposure compensation button [ ] and metering mode switch button [ ] simultaneously, the LCD panel will stay illuminated for about 5 seconds.

VIEWFINDER INDICATION



- Autofocus Frame
- External Flash Information
- Built-in RTF Information
- Focus indication
- 8000 — Tv Value (Shutter Speed)
- 32 — Av Value (Aperture Value)
- Overexposure indication
- Underexposure indication
- Exposure Compensation
- Metering Mode
- Exposure-Value Memory Lock



MULTI(8)-SEGMENT METERING

This camera incorporates a high-precision eight-segment TTL metering system. Light values are measured in eight segments within the image field, enabling the optimal exposure to be made under a variety of lighting conditions. With conventional averaged metering systems, underexposure of the subject results from the brightness of the background affecting the overall metering. With multi(8)-segment metering, the camera records the brightness in eight zones within the image field and uses these measurements to choose an exposure that will not underexpose the subject. The multi(8)-segment metering system also calculates exposure values for a scene to automatically compensate for high-contrast and other difficult lighting conditions. Even the beginner can achieve excellent results with ease.

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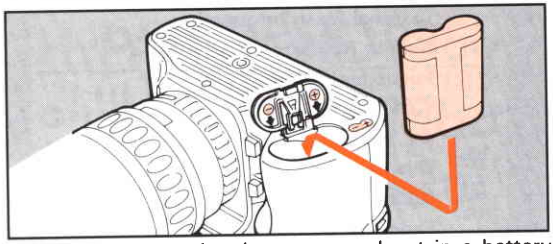
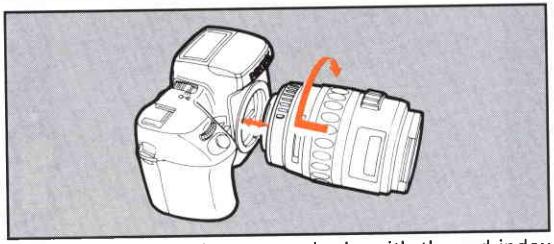
EASY TO USE! (For Beginners)

1. Battery installation



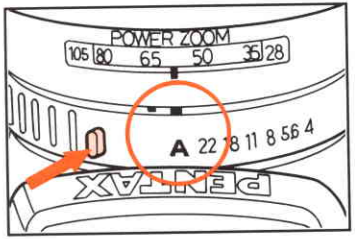
Open the battery chamber cover and put in a battery (2CR5) according to the markings (+, −) on the camera base. (See page 10.)
Remember to re-latch the cover to secure the battery.

2. Mounting the lens



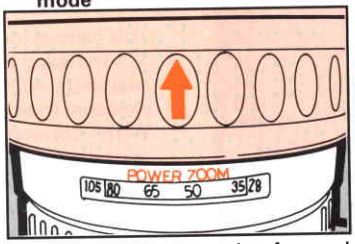
Attach the lens to the camera body with the red index marks on the camera body and the lens mount aligned. Then turn the lens fully to the right, until you hear a clicking sound. (See page 12.)

3. Positioning the aperture ring



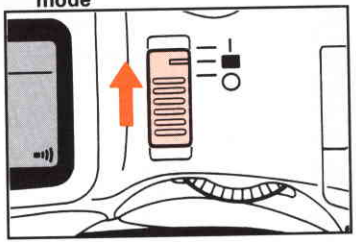
Hold the aperture-A-lock button in and turn the aperture ring to the [**A**] position. (See page 23.)

4. Selecting the power zoom mode



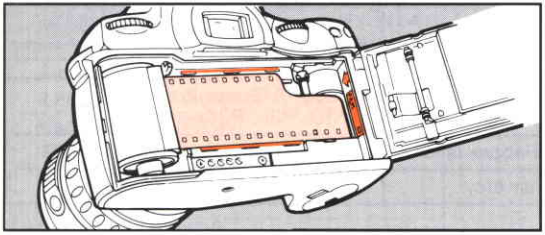
Slide the power-zoom ring forward until it clicks and [**POWER ZOOM**] can be seen on the top of the lens. Ensure that the auto-zoom switch is at [**P**]. (See page 27.)

5. Selecting the basic exposure mode



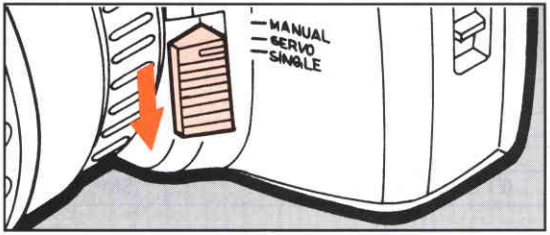
Set the main switch to [■] (green position). (See page 15.)

6. Film loading



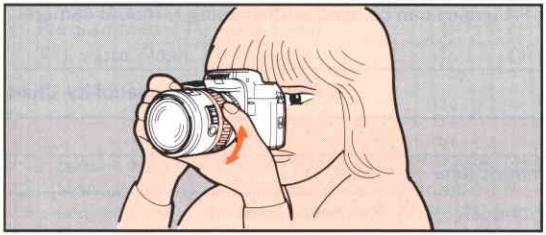
Open the back cover of the camera, drop in a roll of film, align the end of the film leader with the red mark, and close the back cover. The film should advance to the first frame automatically. (See page 16.)

7. Selecting the autofocus mode



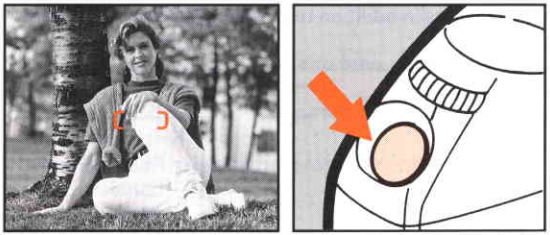
Set the focus mode switch to [**SINGLE**]. (See page 30.)

8. Composing with the power zoom ring



While looking through the viewfinder, turn the power zoom ring to obtain the subject size you want. (See page 26.)

9. Focus on subject and shoot



Aim the AF frame [‹ ›] at your subject and press lightly on the shutter release button to lock focus. (See page 34.) Depress the shutter release button fully to expose frame.

* If the mode dial is set to [PF], the shutter will not release. Use another mode setting when you are taking photos.

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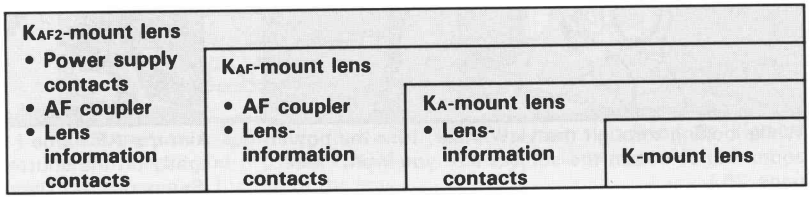
CAMERAS AND LENS MOUNTS

Mount	Lens type	Camera name
(A) K_{AF2}-mount	Pentax-FA lens	Z−1/PZ−1, Z−10/PZ−10
(B) K_{AF}-mount	Pentax-F lens	SFX_N/$SF1_N$, SF7/SF10
(C) K_A mount	Pentax-A lens	Super-A/Super Program, $P30_N$/$P3_N$, $P30_T$
(D) K-mount	Pentax-M lens and Pentax lens	LX, K1000
(E) Screw mount	SMC TAKUMAR lens, etc.	ESII, SP

(A) through (D) are K-mount (bayonet) lenses.
(A) and (B) are autofocus lenses.
(C) through (E) are manual-focus lenses.
(E) is an old screw mount lens. Mount Adapter K is needed for use on this camera.
(A) through (C) are lenses with an "A (auto)" position on the aperture ring. Pentax-FA lenses have the following attachments in addition to those of the K-mount lenses. Pentax-FA lenses can be used with existing K-mount cameras.

- Power supply contacts
- AF coupler
- Lens-information contacts

K-Mount Lens Compatibility Chart



CAMERA FUNCTIONS AVAILABLE WITH VARIOUS LENSES

Function / Lens [Mount type]	FA lens [K AF2]	F lens [K AF]	A lens [K A]	M lens [K]	S lens [P]
Autofocus (Lens only)	○	○	×	×	×
(Lens with AF Adapter 1.7x)	—	—	○*1	○*1	×
Manual focus (FI) *2	○*3	○*3	○*3	○*3	×
(Matte field)	○	○	○	○	○
Power zoom	○*4	×	×	×	×
Zoom clip	○*4	×	×	×	×
Image size tracking	○*4	×	×	×	×
Auto zoom effect	○*4	×	×	×	×
Hyper Programmed AE	○	○	○	×	×
Programmed AE	○	○	○	×	×
Aperture-Priority AE	○	○	○	○*5	○*5
Shutter-Priority AE	○	○	○	×	×
Hyper Manual	○	○	○	○*5	○*5
Programmed TTL Auto Flash	○	○	○	×	×
TTL Auto Flash	○	○	○	○	○

○: Can be used ×: Cannot be used

Notes:

*1. Lenses with a maximum aperture of f/2.8 or brighter. (Details are found in the instruction manual for the AF adapter.)
*2. Manual focusing using the focus indicator (FI) [⬡] in the viewfinder.
*3. Lenses with a maximum aperture of f/5.6 or brighter.
*4. Pentax-FA zoom lenses only
*5. When the aperture ring is at **[A]**, the aperture cannot be set using the **Av** direct dial.
* For lenses made earlier than Pentax-M (lenses without lens information contacts), center weighted metering system is used instead of the multi(8)-pattern metering. However, the spot metering system can be used.

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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is divided into the following sections to help you make best use of your camera:

I. BASIC OPERATION (PREPARATION)

II. BASIC OPERATION (SHOOTING)

III. ADVANCED OPERATIONS

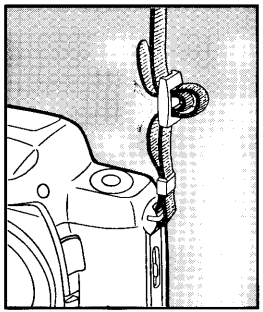
IV. SOME BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PHOTOGRAPHY

V. OTHERS

- If you want to begin taking pictures with this new camera as soon as possible, read sections I and II, "BASIC OPERATION (PREPARATION)" and "BASIC OPERATION (SHOOTING)." These sections introduce only the basic functions of this camera — details can be found in the following sections.
- Be sure to read "BATTERY PRECAUTIONS" (page 107), "TAKING CARE OF YOUR CAMERA" (page 108), and "WARRANTY POLICY" (page 116) before using your camera.

I. BASIC OPERATION (PREPARATION)

(1) ATTACHING THE CAMERA STRAP



Attach the enclosed camera strap as shown in this illustration.

* To stop the camera from swinging excessively while walking, adjust the strap so the camera hangs.

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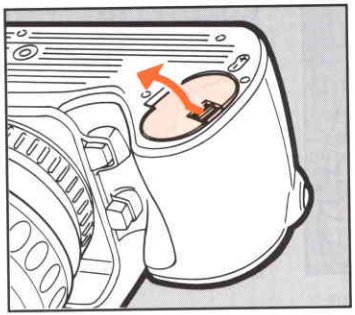
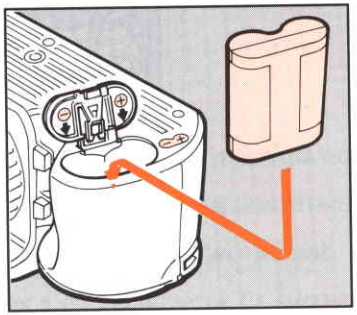
(2) INSERTING THE BATTERY

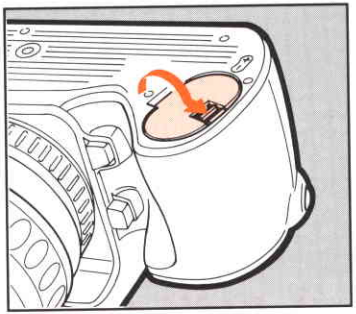
1



2



3



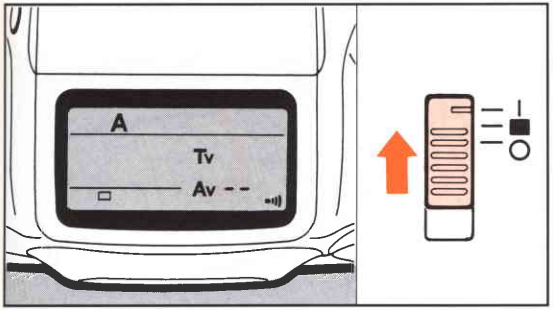
1. Open the battery cover by sliding the release lever in the direction of the arrow.

* This camera will not operate without a battery. Be sure to use the specified lithium battery (2CR5).

2. Insert the battery electrode-end first. Make sure that the battery polarity matches the markings (+, −) on the camera base.

3. To close the battery cover, apply pressure while moving the release lever back to its original position.

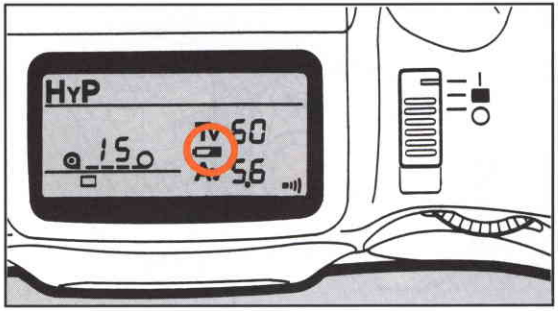
4



4. Set the main switch to [■] or [▌] and check that the LCD panel shows the information in this illustration.

* This may be displayed if the battery polarity is reversed, but the shutter will not operate. Be sure to insert the battery properly.

*



* Low Battery Warning

Towards the end of the battery's life, the low battery warning [▭] appears on the LCD panel. Change the battery as soon as possible after this symbol appears. Later, when the low battery warning [▭] starts blinking, the shutter cannot be released.

* When the low battery warning [▭] starts blinking, all indications in the viewfinder disappear.

* Whenever the battery is replaced, all camera settings except the exposure count, [PF] settings, and film speed (ISO) are reset.

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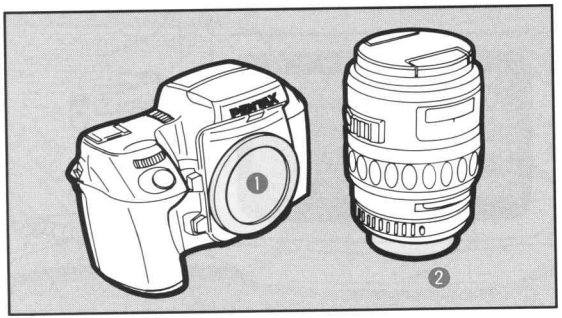
(3) MOUNTING THE LENS

1

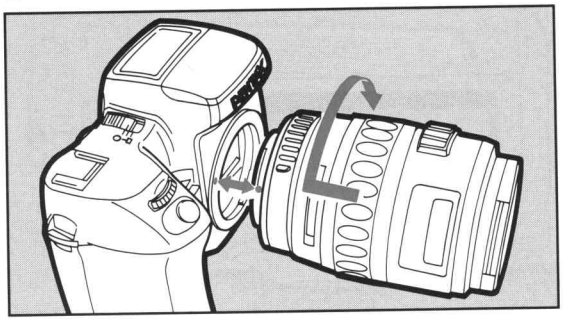


1. Remove the cap from the body mount ❶ and the rear lens cap ❷ as shown in the illustration.

* The body mount cap protects the camera against scratches and dust at the factory. For storage after purchase, an optional accessory called the "Body Mount Cap K" is available.

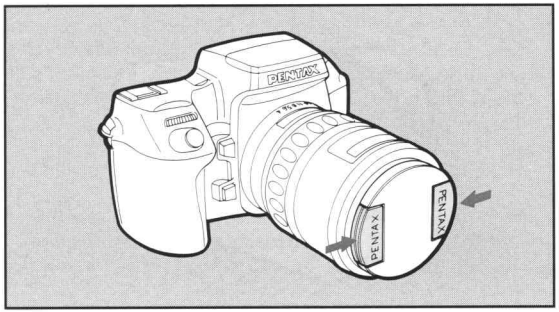
* To prevent unexpected operation of the FA zoom lens while you are mounting it, ensure that the main switch is at [○].

2



2. Align the red index marks on the camera and lens mount, attach the lens to the camera body, and turn it fully to the right until you hear a clicking sound.

3

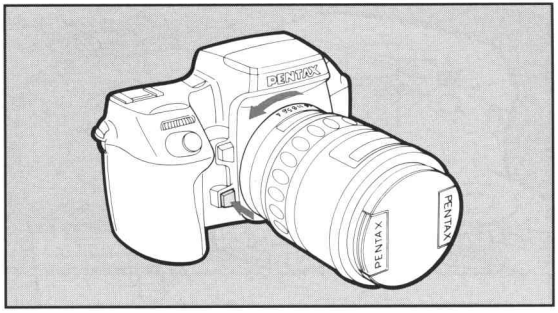


3. To remove the lens cap, squeeze the tabs on both sides in the direction of the arrows.

* We assume no responsibility nor liability for damage resulting from the use of lenses made by other manufacturers.

* The camera body and lens mounts incorporate lens information contacts and an AF coupler. Dirt, dust, or corrosion may lead to problems with the electrical system. Clean the contacts with a soft, dry cloth.

*



* To remove the lens, turn it to the left while holding in the lens-lock-release button.

* To protect the contacts and coupler of the lens after removal, be sure to set it down with the mount upward.

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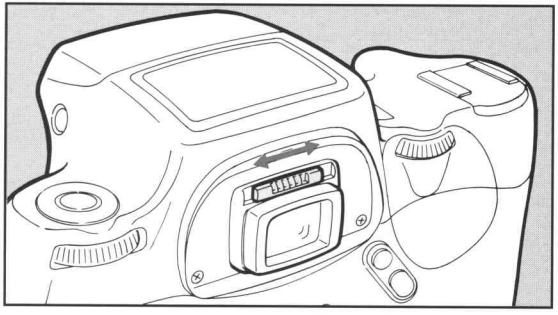
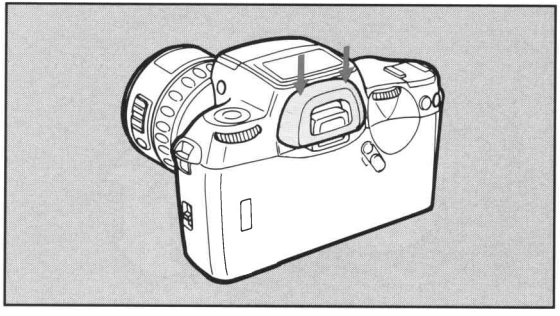
(4) ADJUSTING THE VIEWFINDER DIOPTER

1



2



1. Aim the camera at a bright object. While looking through the viewfinder, move the diopter adjustment lever to the left or right until the autofocus frame [‹ ›] appears to be clearest.

* If the viewfinder is fitting with an Eyecup FD, remove it by sliding it upward before adjusting the diopter.

* The adjustment range is + 1.5D to − 2.5D (diopters).

2. After adjustment, reattach the Eyecup by sliding it down the accessory mounting grooves on both sides of the viewfinder.

* To attach the Eyecup FD, slide it down the grooves on both sides of the viewfinder.

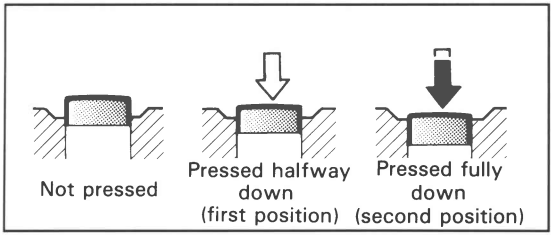
(5) USING THE SHUTTER RELEASE BUTTON

The shutter release button has two positions. Pushing it halfway down (first position) turns on the exposure meter and the autofocus mechanism. Pushing it fully down (second position) releases the shutter to take a picture. When taking a picture, hold your breath and gently press the shutter release button down to prevent camera shake.

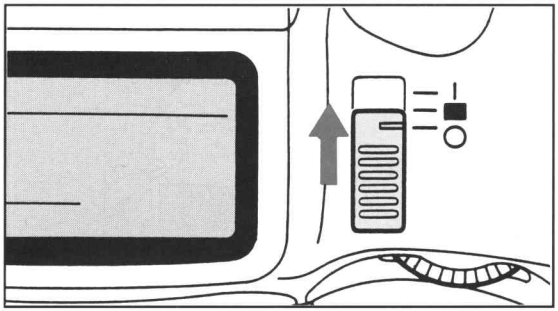
* Before loading a roll of film, slowly press the shutter release button to learn where the first position is.

* When the mode dial is at [PF], the exposure meter and autofocus mechanism do not switch on when the shutter release button is depressed halfway. Additionally, the shutter will not release if the button is pressed fully down.

* The exposure meter stays on for about five seconds after the button is released from the halfway position. If the shutter release button is held at the halfway position, the exposure meter stays on.



(6) MAIN SWITCH OPERATION



The main switch has three positions.

[▌] : Full-feature position (all functions of this camera available).
[■] : Green position (for easy picture taking in either Programmed AE or Aperture-Priority AE mode).
[○] : OFF position (for when the camera is not in use).

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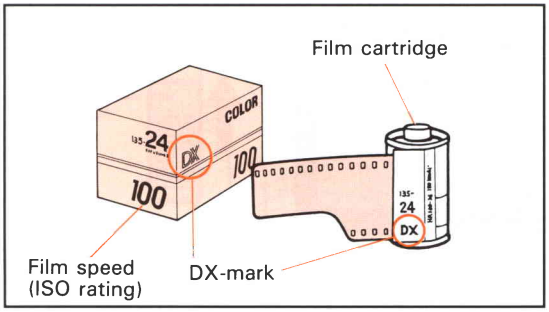
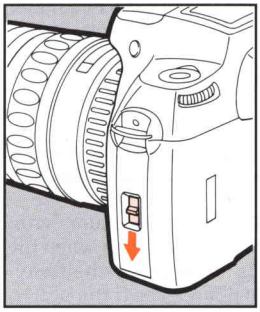
(7) FILM LOADING

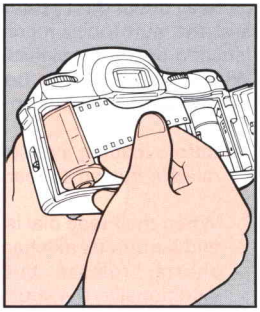
1



2



3



* We suggest that first you operate this camera with no film loaded to become familiar with its operation.

1. When DX-coded film is used, the correct film speed is automatically set for the camera. This camera can set a DX-coded film speed within the range ISO 25 to ISO 5000.

* The shutter curtain is a high-precision mechanism, and is very delicate. Accidental contact with the shutter curtain while loading film can damage it.

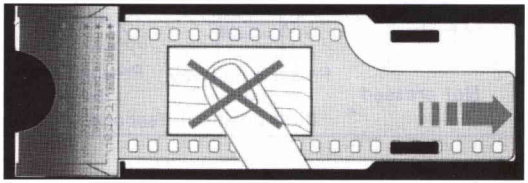
* Do not expose the film to direct sunlight during loading.

* If a non-DX-coded film is used, manually set the film speed (ISO) as described on page 94.

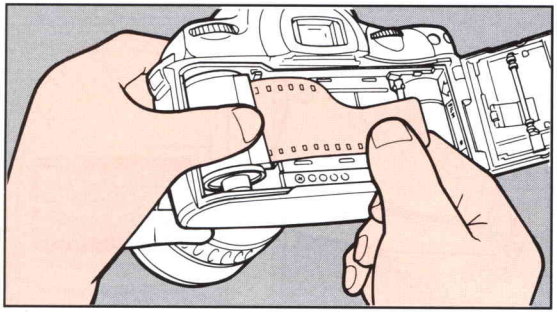
2. To open the camera back, slide the back-cover-release lever in the direction of the arrow.

3. Hold the film cartridge with the protruding end down and slide the top end in first.

* Before loading the camera with film for the first time after purchase, open the camera back and remove the protective card as shown in the photo. Take care not to touch the shutter curtain.



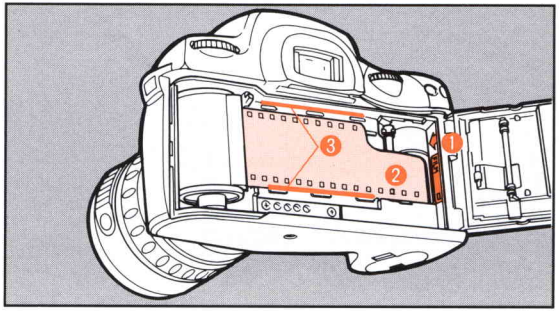
4



4. Hold the film cartridge with a finger and draw out the film leader as shown in the illustration. Ensure that your finger or the film end does not touch the shutter curtain. If you have pulled out too much film, push it back into the cartridge to reduce the slack.

* The DX information pins in the film chamber read the film speed information from the cartridge. Keep them clean and free of scratches. If necessary, clean the pins with a soft, dry cloth.

5



5. Align the film leader and the red leader end mark ❶ as shown in the illustration.

* Ensure that the film perforations are properly engaged with the sprocket teeth ❷ and that the film lies between the guide rails ❸ (shown as red lines in the illustration).

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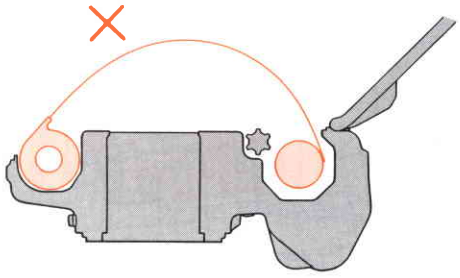
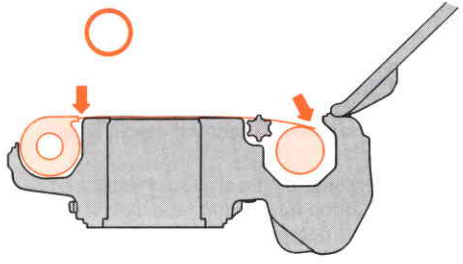
Film loaded with slack

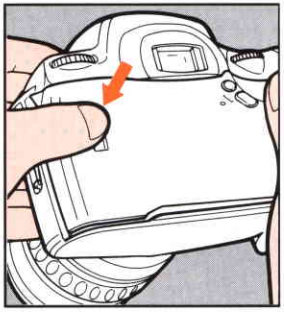


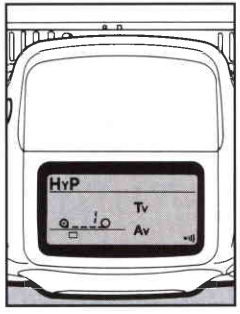
Film loaded flat



* If the film leader is very distorted, flatten with your fingers or cut off the distorted portion.

6

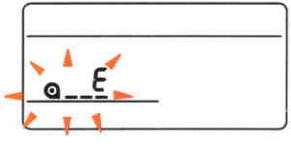




6. Close the back cover and set the main switch to [■] or [▌]. The film automatically advances to the first frame. Check that [1] and [⊙___○] are displayed on the LCD panel.

* The exposure count on the LCD panel is incremented by one each time the shutter is released.

* If [⊙___E] is blinking on the LCD panel, it indicates that the film has not loaded properly. Open the back cover and load the film once again.



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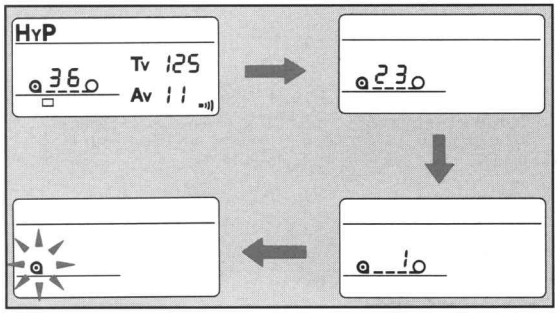
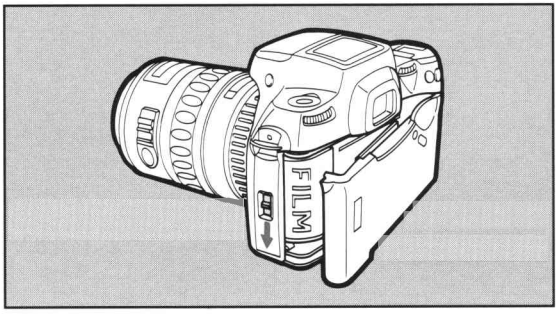
(8) UNLOADING THE FILM

1



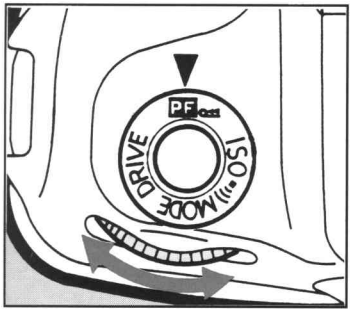
2



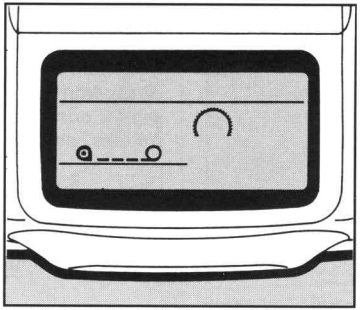
1. When the end of the roll is reached, the camera automatically rewinds the film.
* When automatic rewinding is not specified with a Pentax function [PF], rewind the film as explained in "Rewinding a Film in Mid-Roll" on the next page. Then remove the film.
* While the film is rewinding, [◎ ___ ○] blinks on the LCD panel.
* As the film rewinds, the exposure numbers are displayed in descending order.
* When the film is fully rewound, the LCD panel displays a blinking [◎] and the exposure counter disappears.
* When removing the film from the camera, protect it from exposure to direct sunlight.

2. Open the back cover and remove the film.
* It takes about 10 seconds to rewind a 24-exposure roll of film.
* When you are not using the camera, be sure to set the main switch to [○].
* Before opening the back cover, check that a blinking [◎] is displayed.
* It may be possible to take more pictures than the number of frames specified on the film package. However, these pictures may be cut off during development.
* If the camera stops operating during rewinding due to a low battery, replace the battery without opening the back cover.
* Using a Pentax function, you can leave the rewound film leader outside the film cartridge. (See page 90.)

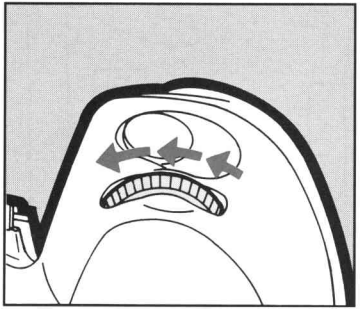
1



2



3



Rewinding a Roll of Film in Mid-Roll

Use this function to rewind and unload a film before the end of a roll.

* This function cannot be used when the main switch is at [○].

1. Set the mode dial to [PF].
2. While holding down the mode set button, turn the **Tv** direct dial to the left to clear [PF] from the LCD panel, then release the mode set button.
3. Turning the **Tv** direct dial three positions to the left will initiate rewinding. After the film is rewound, check that [◎] is blinking on the LCD panel and then remove the film.

* To cancel this function before rewinding starts, simply press the mode set button.

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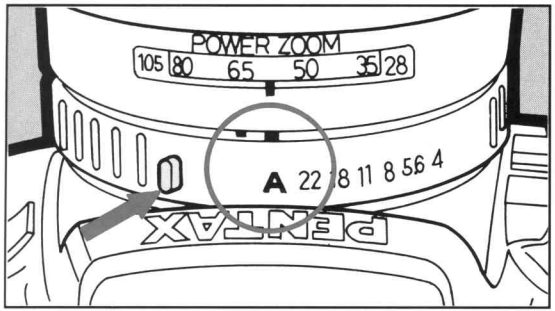
II. BASIC OPERATION (SHOOTING)

(1) USING THE BASIC EXPOSURE MODE

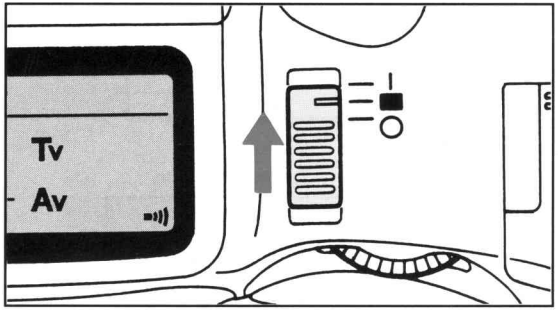
This camera offers an advanced range of automatic exposure modes. For easy picture-taking, select the basic Programmed AE mode by turning the main switch to the green position (■). For the uses of other exposure modes, see the respective explanations on page 42.

* In the Programmed AE mode, the camera automatically selects the combination of aperture and shutter speed, allowing you to take pictures simply by pressing the shutter release button.

1



2



SELECTING THE PROGRAMMED AE MODE

1. Turn the aperture ring to [**A**] as shown in the illustration.

* When turning the aperture ring to or from the [**A**] position, hold in the aperture-A lock button.

2. Set the main switch to [■].

* [**P**] appears on the LCD panel to indicate that the Programmed AE mode is selected.

* If the mode dial is at [PF], [**P**] is not displayed. Change the mode dial to another setting.

* If the aperture ring is not at [**A**], the Aperture-Priority AE mode is selected automatically. (See page 50.)

* If the main switch is at [■], you cannot manually compensate the exposure. (See page 58.)

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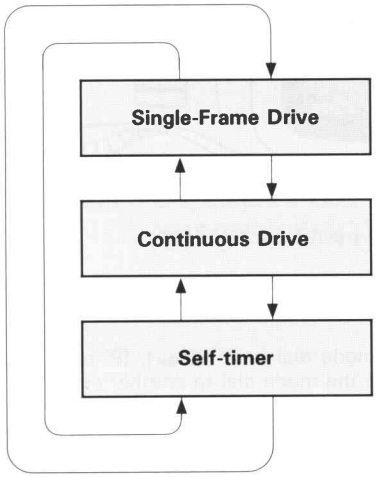
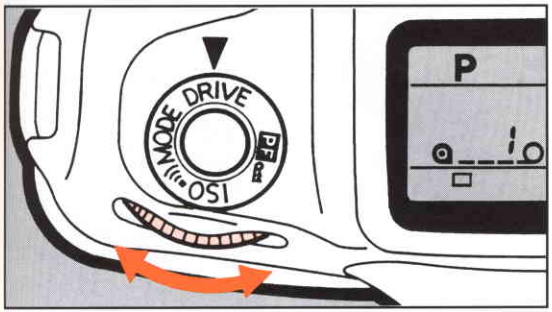
(2) BASIC DRIVE MODES

Assuming that the main switch is at [■], one of three drive modes can be selected. For the use of other drive modes, see the explanation of the drive modes applicable to each operation on page 59.

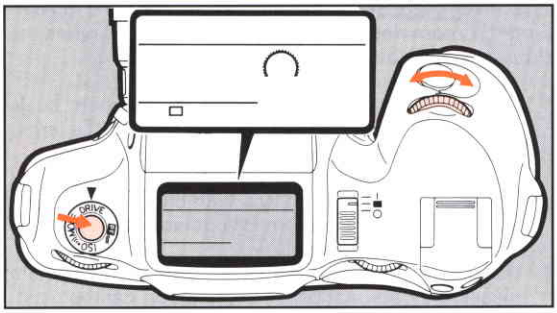


- [□]: Single-Frame Drive (One picture is taken each time you press the shutter release button.)
- [▣]: Continuous Drive (Two or more pictures are taken by holding down the shutter release button.)
- [⏲]: Self-timer (The shutter is released about 12 seconds after the shutter release button is pressed.) See page 68 for details.

1



2



Changing the Drive Mode

1. Set the mode dial to [**DRIVE**].

2. Change drive mode by turning the **Tv** direct dial while holding down the mode set button. To start with, select the Single-Frame mode [□].

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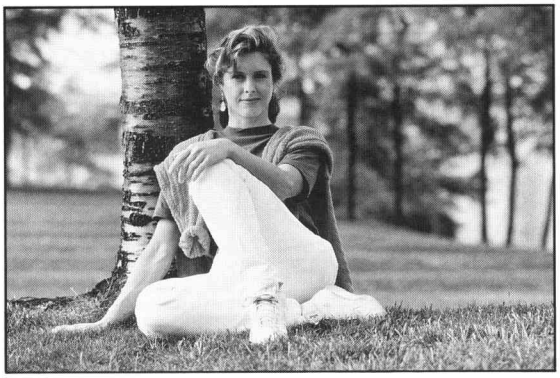
(3) USING ZOOM LENSES

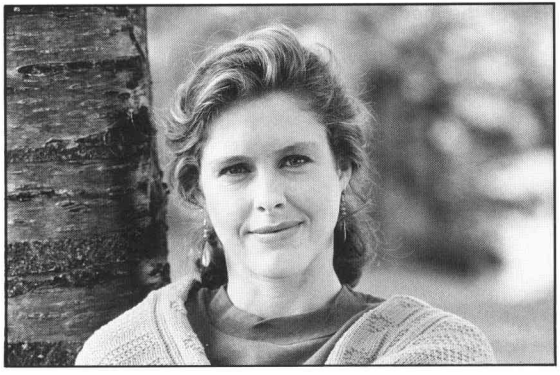
The zoom function allows you to make the subject appear larger (telephoto) or smaller (wide angle) in the viewfinder. Turn the zoom ring to the desired position and press the shutter release button.

* The smaller the number shown in the zoom scale window, the wider the angle. Conversely, the larger the number, the more magnified the image.

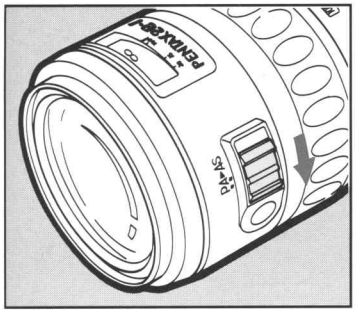
* Using a Pentax-FA zoom lens with this camera allows you to use the power zoom (electronic zoom) function.

* Using a conventional Pentax-F lens on this camera means only the manual zoom function can be used.

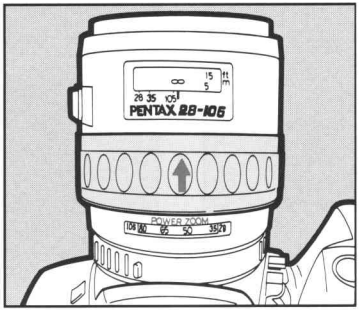




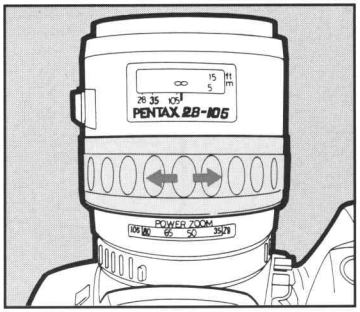
1



2



3



Using the Power Zoom Function

* Only Pentax-FA zoom lenses offer the power zoom function.

1. Pentax-FA zoom lenses have an auto-zoom switch. Set this switch to [**P**].

2. Push the power zoom ring forward until [**POWER ZOOM**] can be seen on the top of the lens.

3. Turning the power zoom ring to the right brings the subject closer (telephoto) and turning it to the left makes the subject appear smaller (wide angle). To stop zooming, release the power zoom ring.
   There are three zooming speeds. Turning the power zoom ring fully to the right or left zooms the lens quickly. Turning it slightly gives slow operation. At an intermediate position, the lens zooms at medium speed.

* If the power is turned off while a Pentax-FA zoom lens (except Pentax-FA zoom lenses 100-300mm and 250-600mm) is in use, the lens automatically retracts to its smallest focal length position. The focusing ring turns to the ∞ position.

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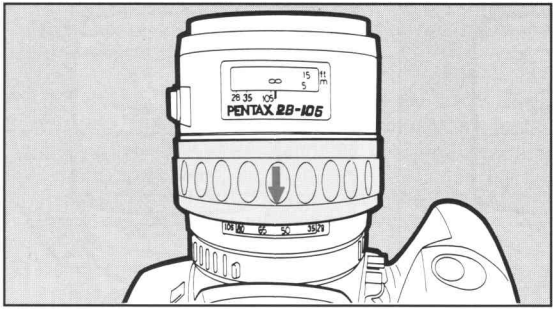
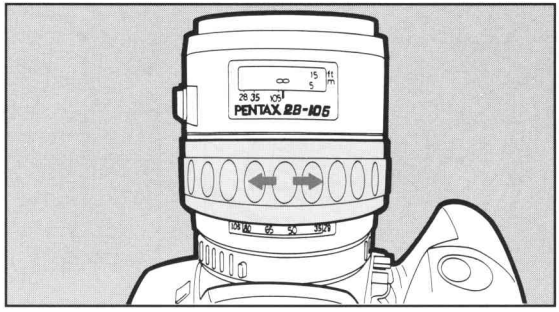
1



2



Using the Manual Zoom Function

* Pentax-FA zoom lenses can be zoomed as manually if the power zoom ring position is changed. In the manual zoom mode, these lenses act like conventional Pentax-F lenses.

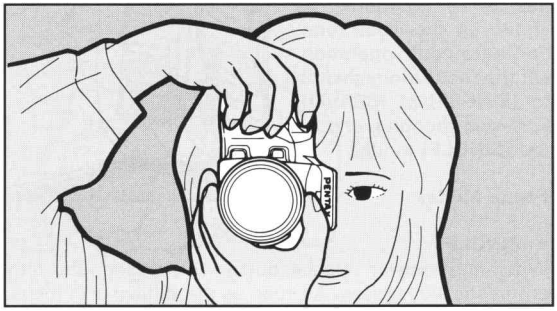
1. Pull the power zoom ring toward the camera body until [**POWER ZOOM**] is hidden.

2. Turning the power zoom ring to the right makes the subject appear larger (telephoto) and turning it to the left makes the subject appear smaller (wide angle). Select the desired focal length manually.

(4) HOLDING THE CAMERA

Camera held horizontally

Camera held vertically



For best results, be sure to hold the camera correctly.

* While taking a picture, hold your breath and gently press the shutter release button. (Sudden force on the shutter release button will cause camera shake.)

* To reduce camera shake, support your body or the camera on a solid object — a table, tree, or the wall of a building, for instance.

* For shutter speeds of 1/30 seconds or slower, or when using a telephoto lens, use a tripod and optional cable switch F.

* To further reduce camera shake use a tripod.

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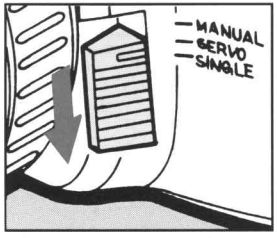
(5) SELECTING AN AUTOFOCUS MODE

The focus mode switch has three positions, as shown in the illustration. For autofocus operation, set the focus mode switch to [**SINGLE**] or [**SERVO**]. For basic shooting, choose the [**SINGLE**] mode.



Focus Modes

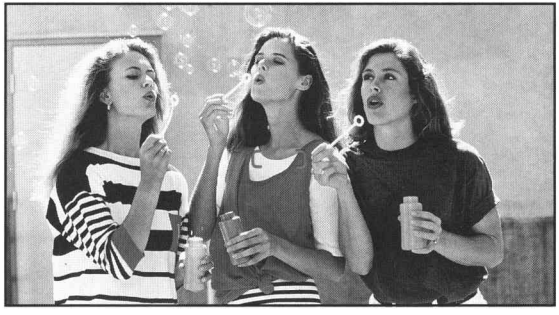
• [**SINGLE**]:
When the shutter release button is pressed, the lens automatically focuses. As soon as the subject is in focus, the shutter is released. For normal use, select this position.

• [**SERVO**]:
If the shutter release button is held at the halfway position, the lens focuses continuously to follow the subject. The predictive autofocus function is effective in this mode.

• [**MANUAL**]:
You can focus on a subject manually. Select this position when the subject is difficult to focus. (See page 40.)

(6) AUTOFOCUSING

1

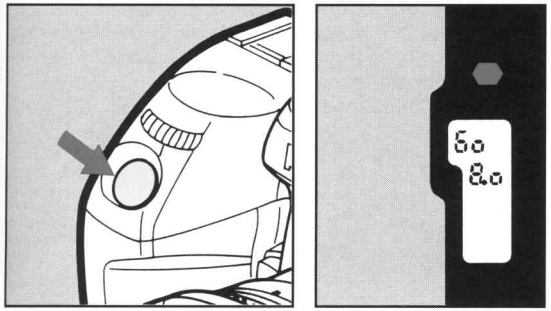


1. Aim the AF frame [‹ ›] at your subject.

* If the mode dial is set to [PF], the autofocus function is not engaged. For normal use, set the mode dial to another position.

* If your composition does not allow the AF frame [‹ ›] to be aimed at the subject, use the focus lock function. (Page 32.)

2



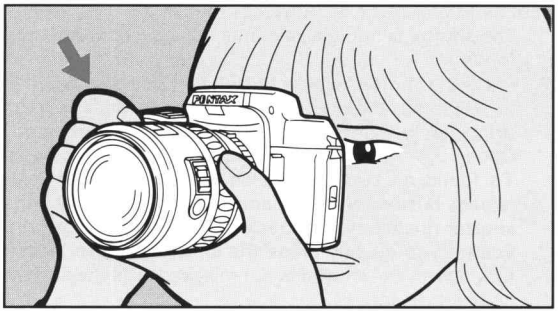
2. If your subject comes into focus while the shutter release button is still in the halfway position, the green indicator [⬡] inside the viewfinder lights up and an electronic beep is heard.

* To avoid damage to the zooming mechanism, do not prevent the lens from rotating.

* If [⬡] blinks continuously, autofocusing is impossible for one of the following reasons:
❶ The subject is too close.
❷ The subject is difficult to focus. (Page 40.)

* The electronic beep can be turned off by clearing [◂))] on the LCD panel. (See page 95.)

3



3. To take the picture, press the shutter release button fully down.

* When using the SMC Pentax-F Soft 85mm f/2.8 lens, set the aperture between f/2.8 and f/4.5. (See page 40.)

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Shooting in the Single Autofocus Mode (Focus Mode Lever at [SINGLE].)

* The shutter is not released until the subject comes into focus.
* Press the shutter release button halfway down. While [⬡] is on, the camera-to-subject distance is fixed (focus lock). See "Using The Focus Lock Function."
* Once [⬡] is lit in the viewfinder, the focus is fixed. To focus on something else, let go of the shutter release button, aim the camera again, and return the shutter release button back to the halfway position.
* Even if you quickly press the shutter release button fully down, the shutter is not released until the subject comes into focus.
* The predictive autofocus function is not active in this mode.

Shooting in the Servo Autofocus Mode (Focus Mode Switch at [SERVO].)

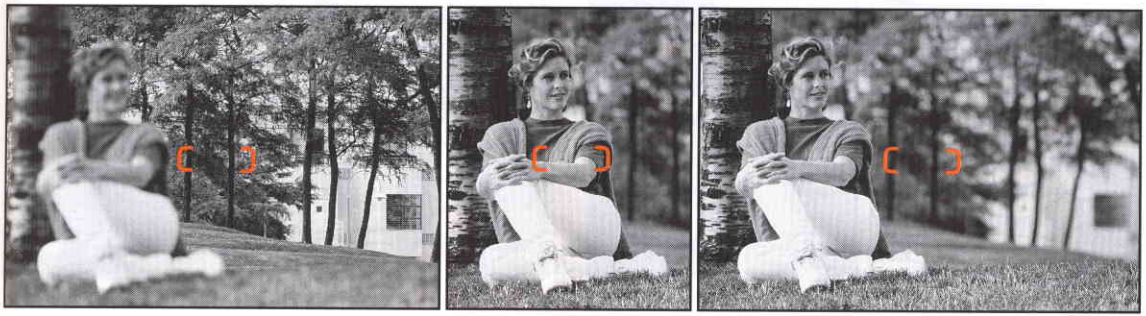
* The shutter is released whether or not your subject is in focus. If the shutter release button is held in the halfway position, the camera continuously focuses on anything within the AF frame [‹ ›].
* The Servo Autofocus mode allows sharp pictures to be taken of moving subjects because of the predictive autofocus function.
* In the Continuous Drive mode ([⧉] displayed on the LCD panel), the subject may be out of focus in the first frame.
* The focus lock function is not active.

Using the Focus Lock Function

The camera focuses on whatever is in the AF frame [‹ ›] in the center of the viewfinder. If your composition does not allow the AF frame [‹ ›] to be placed over the subject, use the focus lock function.

* Set the focus mode switch to [**SINGLE**].

1 2 3



1. Normally if you depress the shutter release button fully down when the AF frame [‹ ›] is not over the subject, the camera will focus on the background as shown in the photo.

2. To prevent this, press the shutter release button halfway down while the AF frame [‹ ›] is over the subject. While the shutter release button is held in the same position (the in-focus indicator [⬡] should be on), the camera locks the focus.

3. While holding the shutter release button halfway down, return to your original composition. Press the shutter release button fully down.

* Lifting your finger off the shutter release button clears the in-focus indicator [⬡] in the viewfinder and cancels the focus lock function.

* To reset the focus, lift your finger off the shutter release button and repeat the procedure.

* The focus lock function is canceled after each picture is taken.

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