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PENTAX

SUPER PROGRAM



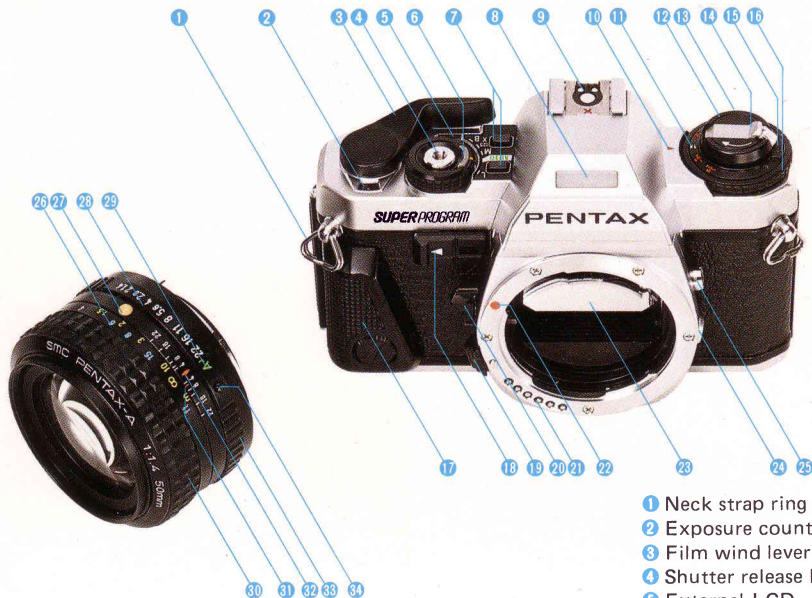
Welcome to the World of Pentax Multi-mode Photography

Pentax Super Program is an ultra-sophisticated 35mm SLR. Incorporating the latest electronics technology, it invites you to explore the possibilities of six different exposure modes. As the situation demands you can use Programmed AE (Automatic Exposure), Aperture-priority AE, Shutter-priority AE, Metered Manual, TTL Automatic Flash or Programmed Auto Flash. In each mode, all the exposure information you need is digitally displayed in the viewfinder by means of an LCD or Liquid Crystal Display.

You can enjoy the full versatility of the Super Program with a wide range of Pentax accessories including dedicated TTL automatic flash units, a motor drive that shoots up to approx. 3.5 frames per second, a digital data back, etc.

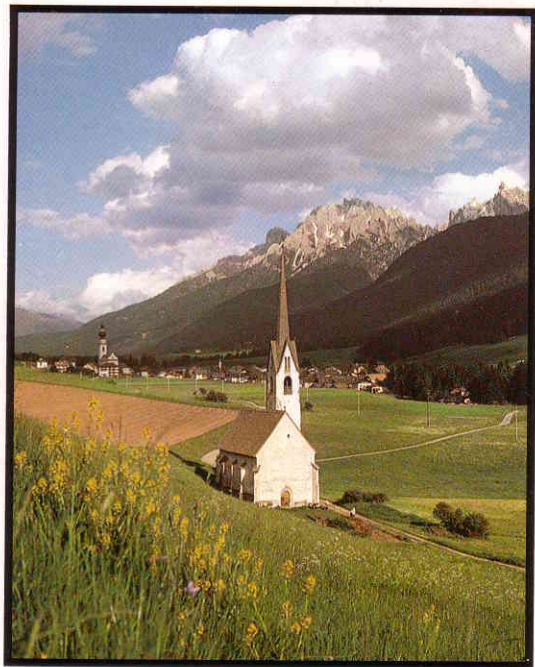
Since the Super Program has a great many special features and functions, take the time to read this manual carefully. It will help you take full advantage of an extraordinary camera.

DESCRIPTION OF PARTS



- 1 Neck strap ring
- 2 Exposure counter
- 3 Film wind lever
- 4 Shutter release button
- 5 External LCD
- 6 Shutter auto lock button

- 7 Manual shutter speed select buttons
- 8 Illuminating window
- 9 Hotshoe
- 10 Exposure compensation index mark
- 11 Exposure compensation scale
- 12 Film rewind knob/Back cover release knob
- 13 ASA/ISO film speed scale
- 14 Film rewind crank
- 15 Film speed dial lock button
- 16 Film speed dial/Exposure compensation dial
- 17 Grip Super A
- 18 Self-timer lever
- 19 Lens release lever
- 20 Preview lever
- 21 Lens information contacts
- 22 Lens alignment index
- 23 Instant return mirror
- 24 Lighting button for viewfinder LCDs
- 25 X-synch terminal
- 26 Distance scale
- 27 Lens alignment node
- 28 Aperture scale
- 29 "A" index on aperture scale
- 30 Focusing ring
- 31 Depth-of-field scale
- 32 Aperture/Distance index
- 33 Aperture ring
- 34 Aperture auto lock button



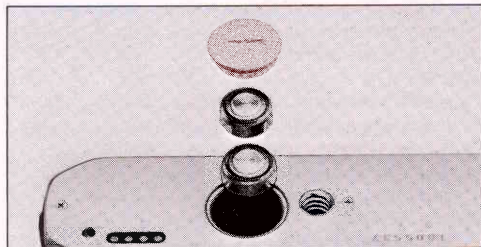
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THE SUPER PROGRAM IN 9 EASY STEPS

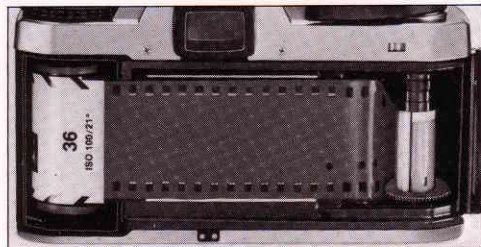
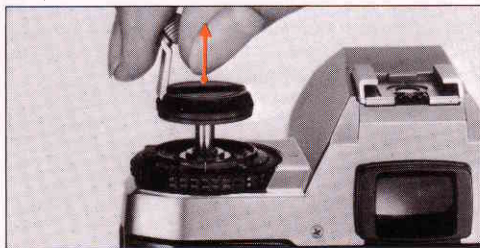
Follow the 9 steps below, and in a very short time you'll be able to take pictures with the Super Program in its Programmed AE mode. For more details about each step, consult the accompanying page numbers.

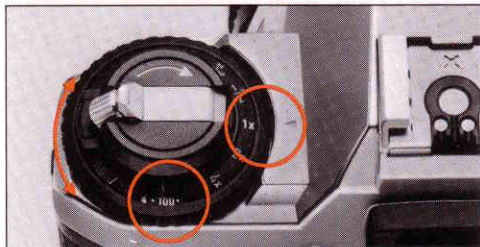
* Remove the cap from the viewfinder eyepiece.



1. Open the battery compartment with a coin and insert batteries. (p. 6)

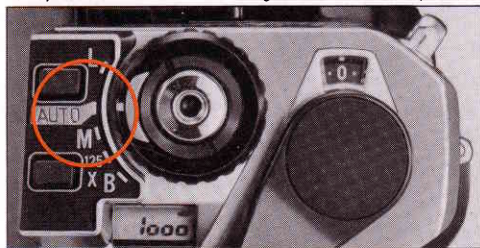
2. Open the camera back, put in a roll of film, close the back and advance the film to the first frame. (p. 16)





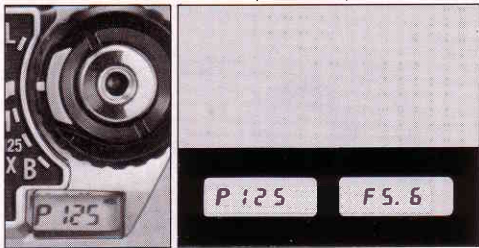
3. Set the ASA/ISO film speed to the appropriate number. (p. 15)
Set the exposure compensation dial to 1x. (p. 46)

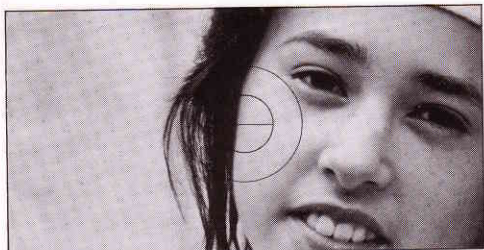
5. Set the shutter dial to Auto. With both lens and shutter on Auto, the camera is now in the Programmed AE mode. (p. 32)



4. Rotate the aperture ring on your "A" series lens to the Auto position (indexed in green), while depressing the aperture auto lock button. (p. 28)

6. Gently press the shutter release button. You will see both shutter speed and aperture setting indicated on the viewfinder LCD and on the external shutter speed LCD. (p. 32)



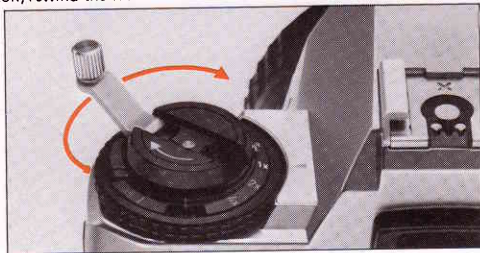
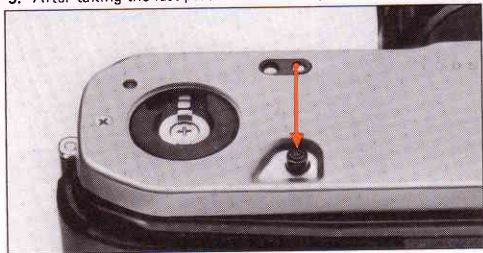


7. Focus the lens by rotating the focusing ring. (p. 21)



8. Make sure that the LCD shows a shutter speed faster than 1/60 second. With slower speeds, camera shake may cause blurred pictures. If the speed is 1/60 or faster, release the shutter.

9. After taking the last picture on the roll, push the film rewind button, rewind the film and remove it from the camera. (p. 23)

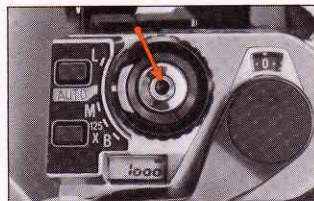
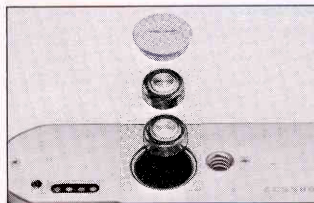
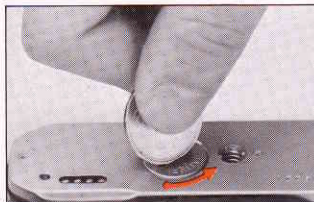


OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Please refer to pages 32 ~ 43 for detailed information on the Super Program six exposure modes.

- Programmed AE mode
- Aperture-priority AE mode
- Shutter-priority AE mode
- Metered Manual mode
- TTL Auto Flash mode
- Programmed Auto Flash mode

INSERTING BATTERIES



Your Super Program doesn't operate without batteries. Use two 1.5V silver or alkaline batteries, or a 3V lithium battery. Before inserting batteries in the battery compartment, wipe them with a clean dry cloth.

- Open the battery compartment cover with a coin or similar object.
- Place the two batteries in the compartment with '+' marks downward, and close the cover.

Battery check

To confirm battery status, set the shutter dial to AUTO and slightly depress the shutter release button to activate the metering system. If the LCDs on the camera top and in the viewfinder indicate shutter speed information, the batteries are properly inserted and sufficient in voltage for normal camera functioning.

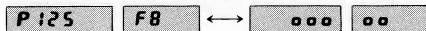
Note: The shutter speed LCD will indicate "1000" until the exposure counter registers "0". This fast speed saves time when advancing film to the first frame. Starting with the first frame on the counter, the LCD provides proper shutter speed and aperture value according to the designated exposure mode.

Automatic power cut-off

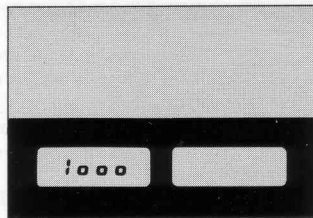
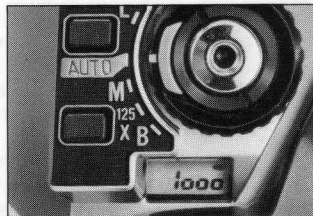
As an energy-saving measure, a timer switch is integrated into the exposure meter circuit. It automatically shuts off power approximately 30 sec. after you take your finger off the shutter release button.

Low battery warning

When batteries become weak, the display windows both inside and outside the camera warn you by alternately displaying exposure information and a row of 000's.



This alternate LCD indication tells you that both batteries should be replaced promptly to restore the camera to normal functioning.



Using batteries correctly

- Incorrect usage of batteries causes such hazards as leakage, heating or explosions. Polarity markings should be carefully checked while inserting batteries. If either battery is erroneously inserted, unexpected mishap may occur.
- The battery discharges small amounts of energy even when not in use. Therefore, the batteries supplied with your camera may be slightly below full capacity, as it has taken some time to reach you.
- Replace both batteries at the same time. Do not mix battery brands and types, or old batteries with new batteries.
- Battery life is approximately six months for alkaline and approximately one year for silver or lithium batteries.
- When not using the camera for long periods of time, you should remove batteries from the camera. Old batteries are apt to leak and damage the battery compartment. Always keep batteries out of the reach of children.

- Never break, recharge, or throw used batteries into fire as a precaution against explosions.
- Batteries should be kept warm in cold climates to prevent lowering of performance.
- Keep spare batteries on hand for convenience in photographing outdoors or while traveling, etc.
- When keeping the camera in a bag or case, lock the shutter release button to avoid the unnecessary consumption of battery power that may result from accidentally releasing the shutter.

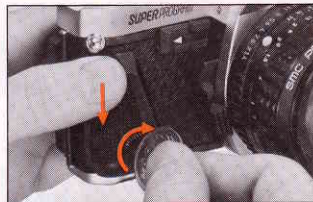
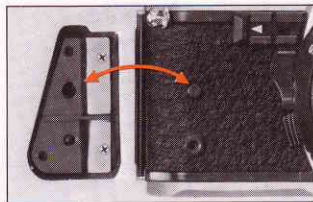
GRIP SUPER A

- Fit the Grip mount socket (on the rear side of the Grip) to the Grip lug on the camera.

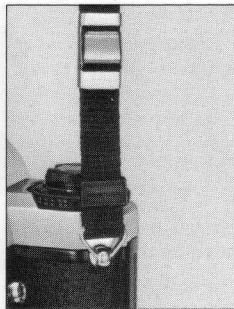
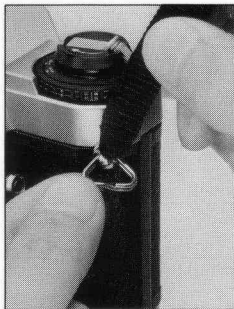
- Align the Grip mount screw with the Grip mount receptacle on the camera, and keeping the Grip pushed down as indicated by the arrow, tighten the Grip mount screw with a coin.

- To remove the Grip, loosen the Grip mount screw fully, and keeping the camera faced downward, slide the Grip up until it comes off.

Note: The Grip Super A should be removed from the camera body when using the Motor Drive A or the Winder ME II.



STRAP AND CASE



- First strip the clasp and belt ring from either end of the strap.
- Let the strap end go through the neck strap ring and then the belt ring, and further through neck strap ring of the camera. The strap is then folded back.
- Let the strap end run through the belt ring and then clasp as illustrated. Now the end is tightly caught by the clasp. The strap end may be passed through the inside or outside of the clasp.
- Insert the camera body into the back case and put both case hooks around the camera's strap eyelets. The camera body is now held securely in the case.
- The standard soft case comes complete with a front cover.
- To remove the front cover, turn the cover a full 180° while pulling it slightly towards you and the fastener of the cover unlocks.

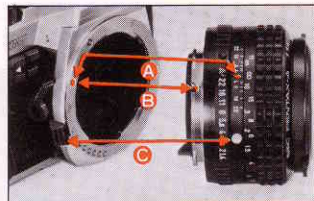
LENS MOUNTING

To mount or interchange Pentax K, K_A and K_f mount lenses follow the steps below. (For screw mount lenses, see p. 57).

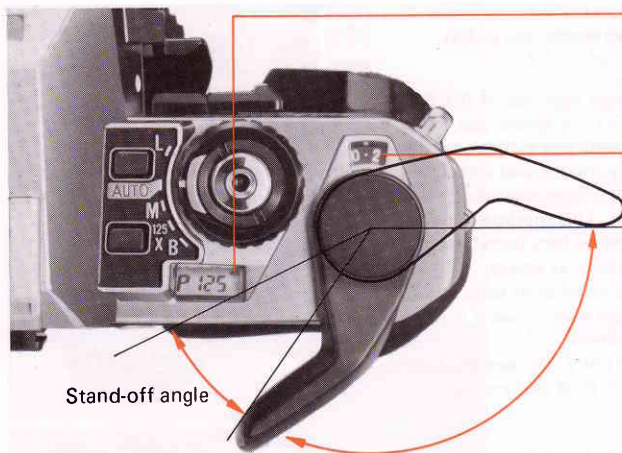
- Remove the body mount cap and the rear lens cap. If the finder cap is still on the eyepiece, remove it. (For the finder cap, see p. 53).
- Align the red dot on the camera body with the red dot on the lens (See A, B.). Seat the lens in the body mount and turn it clockwise until the lens locks with a click. When mounting the lens in dim light, method (C) is recommended. This method allows lens mounting by touch. Align the raised node on lens barrel with the lens release by touch. Then turn and lock as above.
- To remove the lens cap, press in on the notches at both sides.
- To remove the lens, press the lens release lever toward the camera body while turning the lens counter-clockwise.
- After removing a lens from the camera body, replace the front and rear lens caps to protect the lens from dust and stains.




Note: Don't damage or stain the electrical contact points on the mount face. When they become stained, wipe them with a clean, dry cloth.



FILM WIND LEVER



Film-advance/shutter-cocked indicator

When one frame is completely wound and the shutter is cocked for the next shot, the  mark appears on the shutter speed LCD.

Exposure counter

The scale is indexed as follows:

● . 0 . 2 . 4 34 . 36, with 0, 20, 34, 36 coded in red. The counter, which is interlocked with the film winding mechanism, indicates the number of exposed frames.

Stand-off angle

Setting the wind lever for rapid shooting

The film wind lever can be set at the stand-off position for faster film advance. Even if you remove your thumb from the lever, it remains at the stand-off angle, ready for the next quick shot. After completing a series of pictures, the lever should be pushed in to the original position.

Film advance stroke

The film wind lever should be thrown as far as it goes.

Note: The wind lever may stop in the middle of a stroke when the film comes to its end. Do not force the lever and rewind the film, leaving the lever as it is.

SHUTTER DIAL, SHUTTER RELEASE BUTTON AND RELEASE BUTTON LOCK

- The shutter dial is automatically locked at the AUTO position. To set the dial to other positions (L, M, 125X or B), rotate the shutter dial while depressing the shutter auto lock button, and align the index mark (red line) on the dial to the desired position.

L = Shutter release button lock

AUTO = Automatic shutter speed control

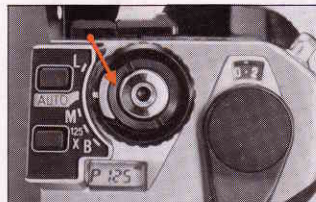
M = Manual shutter speed selection

125X = 1/125 sec. for synchronization with electronic flash unit

B = Bulb shutter speed setting for time exposures

- By lightly depressing the shutter release button, you activate the exposure meter. Further pressure will release the shutter. The exposure meter automatically switches off approx. 30 seconds after you take your finger off the shutter release button.

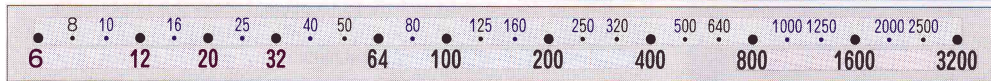
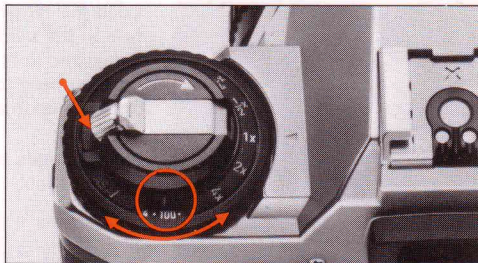
- If you have finished shooting and the shutter is cocked, use the shutter release button lock to avoid accidental release. Set the shutter dial index to "L", and the shutter release will be locked with the exposure meter switched off.





SETTING ASA/ISO FILM SPEED, MEMO HOLDER/GRIP

Set the film speed dial to the film speed indicated on your film package. Depress the film speed dial lock button, and set the desired ASA/ISO speed to the red index mark. Make sure that the dial is securely locked in position, by releasing the lock button and slightly rotating the dial to either side. The chart below represents the index markings on the Super Program ASA/ISO film speed scale. The midway markings are not effective.



Memo Holder/Grip

As a reminder of the type of film in your camera, tear off the top of the film package and insert it in the memo holder frame on the grip at the right end of the back cover. The grip is shaped to give your thumb a firmer hold on the camera.

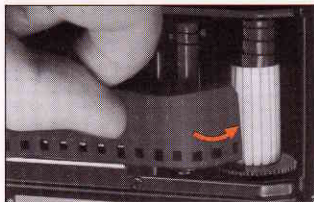


FILM LOADING

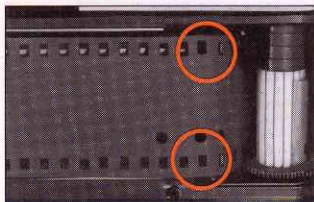


Load the camera with a 35mm film cartridge. Load or unload the film in the shade, avoiding direct sunlight. Set the shutter dial index (red line) to AUTO or M. This will automatically set the shutter speed to 1/1000 sec. so that you can advance film quickly until the counter registers "0".

- The camera back opens when you lift up sharply on the film rewind knob.



- Insert the film cartridge in the film chamber and lock the cartridge in place by returning the film rewind knob to its original position. If the knob does not fit tightly in to place, rotate the knob while lightly depressing it.
- Draw the film leader across the back and insert it between any of the white needles surrounding the film take-up spool. Insert the film in the direction shown in the illustration.

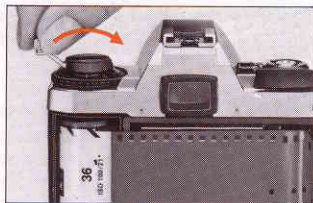


- Slightly wind the film by advancing the film wind lever to the position indicated in the photo, while making sure that both top and bottom sprockets engage the film perforations.

- Lightly rotate the film rewinding knob until any slack is taken up, and confirm that the film is properly fitted between both guide rails. Close the back cover tightly.

- Advance the film wind lever to check that the red vertical stripes of the film wind/rewind indicator flicker; this indicates that the film is advancing properly. Film advance can be also checked by the rotation of the rewinding knob.

- Repeat shutter-tripping/film-advancing operation until the exposure counter reaches to "0". The next frame is ready for the first shot.



The split-image center spot and its surrounding microprism collar are brighter and easier to focus than the matte field although any of these can be used for focusing.

Visible at the bottom inside the viewfinder are two LCD displays for shutter speed and aperture value. In addition, viewfinder information includes auto/manual exposure data for each exposure mode, automatic flash data, exposure compensation warning, low battery warning, and error indication.

Shutter information LCD

P Programmed AE mode.

2000 ~ **15"**
Shutter speed in use. 2000 stands for 1/2000 sec. 15", stands for a full 15 sec. Shutter speeds are displayed in full stop increments.

B "Bulb" time exposure.

⚡ Means completion of flash recycling, and auto flash exposure confirmation with a dedicated flash unit.

E Error in shutter speed setting (flickering).
Combination of shutter speed and aperture is not appropriate.

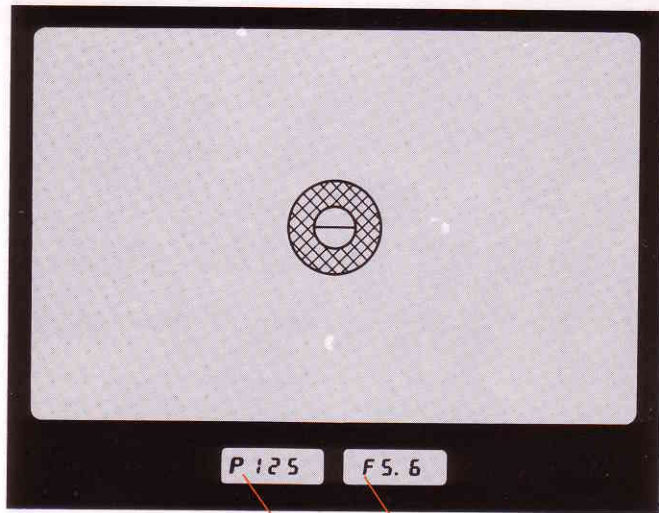
Aperture information LCD

F 1.2 ~ **F 45**
Aperture value. An aperture range from f/1.2 through f/45 is indicated in 1/2 stop increments.

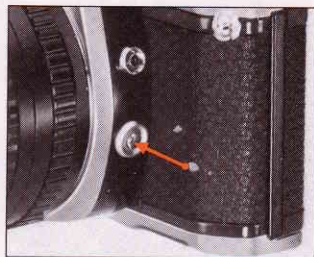
EF Exposure compensation warning (flickering). This warning indicates the exposure compensation dial is not set in the normal 1X position.

± Match numeral exposure adjustment indication in Metered Manual mode. -3 to +3 indicate exposure deviation from the proper value which is denoted by ±0.

Low battery warning is indicated by alternate displays of shutter-speed/aperture combination, and the mark **ooo** **oo**.



Aperture information LCD
Shutter information LCD



**Lighting button for
viewfinder LCDs.**

In dim light, the viewfinder
LCDs may become hard to see.
In that event, press the
illumination button to throw
more light on the finder LCDs.



P250

F11

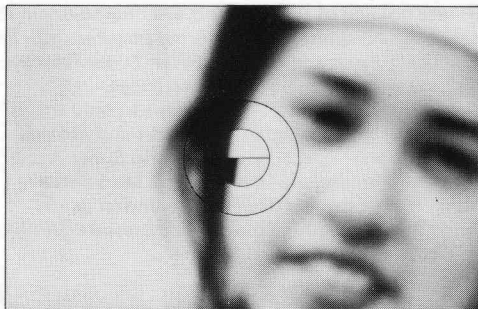
FOCUSING

You can focus in three ways, with the split-image, microprism, and/or matte field. To focus using the split-image, turn the focusing ring until the two images in the split-image circle at the center of the focusing screen are perfectly aligned. When using the microprism collar, focus until the glitter disappears from inside the collar. With the matte field, focus until the image on the matte field appears sharp and crisp.

Note: If the maximum aperture of the attached lens is smaller than $f/5.6$ (for example, $f/8$ as in the case of a long telephoto), it is easier to focus on the matte field since the split-image and microprism collar areas become much too dark for satisfactory focusing.

Diopter adjustment for viewfinder eyepiece

People who wear eyeglasses due to myopia, hypermetropia or presbyopia, sometimes find it difficult to focus while wearing their glasses. In this case, use the accessory diopter correction lenses M (See page 55).



HOLDING THE CAMERA

Proper holding of the camera is essential to minimize camera shake which causes blurred pictures.

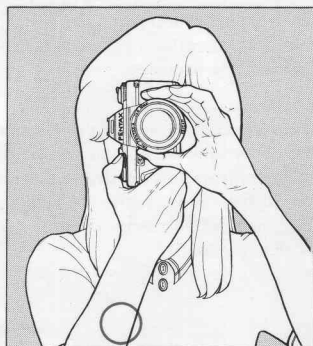
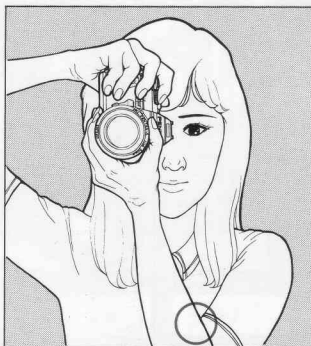
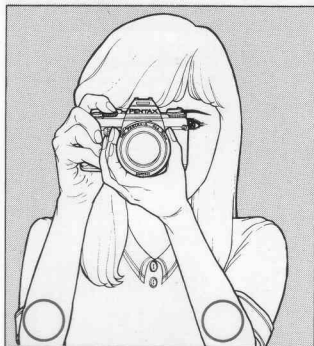
Practice holding and operating your Super Program before inserting your first film cartridge.

Generally there are three basic ways to hold the camera. In any case, hold the camera tightly to your face with your hands. Accessory Grip Super A and the memo holder/grip will help you keep a steady hold on your camera. Release the shutter gently while slowly breathing out. Strong pressure on

the shutter release button may cause blurred photographs. Take a secure, well-balanced posture without straining yourself. The portion marked ○ in the illustration should be drawn to your body.

It is a good idea to stabilize your body and the camera using a tree, building wall, table, etc.

For long exposures or while using telephoto lenses, it is recommended to use a tripod and a cable release in order to reduce camera shake to the minimum.



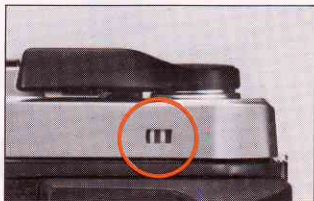
UNLOADING THE FILM

When the last frame of the film has been exposed, the film should be rewound into the cartridge before unloading from the camera. Do not force the wind lever beyond the number of frames indicated on the film cartridge.

To unload a cartridge

- Depress the film rewind button.
- Turn the rewind crank in the direction of the arrow to rewind the film.
- The red stripes in the film rewind indicator will flicker during rewinding, and they will cease flickering when rewinding is completed.
- After rewinding, lift up sharply on the film rewind knob to open the camera back and remove the film cartridge.

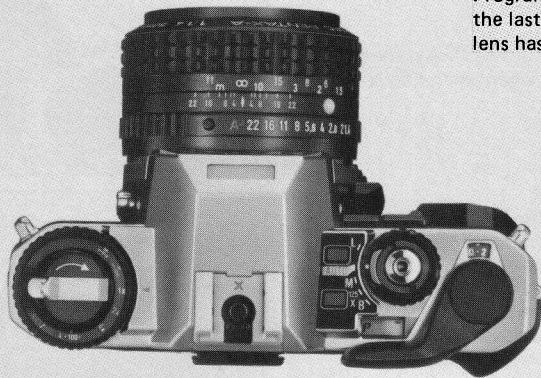
Note: Should you erroneously open the back before rewinding, do not leave it open. Close it immediately. The last few frames may be ruined by direct light exposure, but the majority of frames on the roll may still be unharmed. Whenever possible, it is also advisable to take the same pictures again with a new film.

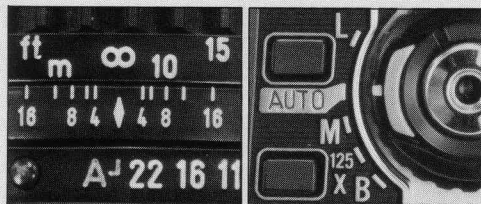


SIX EXPOSURE MODES

Pentax Super Program provides six different exposure modes. Choose the mode that suits the photographic situation and the subjects or feelings you want to express.

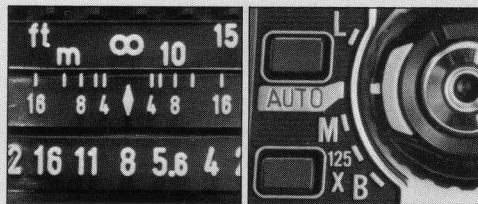
When using conventional Pentax K and Kf mount lenses on your Pentax Super Program, you can use the Aperture-priority AE, Metered Manual and all Auto Flash modes. When using new "A" series lenses, you can also select Shutter-priority AE and Programmed AE modes. The reason for this is that the last three modes are only available when the lens has an "A" or auto aperture setting.





Programmed AE (lens on "A", shutter dial on "A")

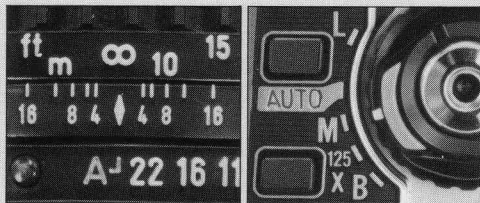
Your Super Program itself automatically selects the most appropriate combination of shutter speed and aperture to obtain proper exposure, changing them simultaneously according to the subject's brightness. The Programmed AE mode is most suitable for advanced photographers who want to shoot very quickly or for novices who do not want to be bothered by setting exposure controls according to light conditions. (Rf. 32 page for details)



Aperture-priority AE

(lens on any f-number, shutter dial on "A")

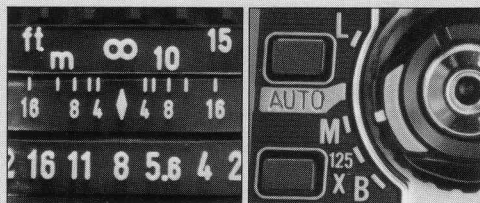
When the aperture is set manually, the shutter speed is automatically adjusted by built-in electronic circuitry according to subject's brightness to provide appropriate exposure. When "depth-of-field" is important for your picture, this mode is recommended. It is suitable for both general photography and carefully controlled pictures such as portraits. (Rf. 34 page for details)



Shutter-priority AE

(lens on "A", shutter dial on "M")

The shutter-speed is set manually, and the aperture value is automatically controlled according to subject's brightness. Suitable for general photography, this mode is especially convenient for fast-moving situations, such as in sports photography. (Rf. 36 page for details)



Metered Manual

(lens on any aperture, shutter dial on "M")

The combination of shutter speed and aperture is completely up to you. Guided by the meter indication in the viewfinder, you can adjust both controls to obtain proper exposure. If necessary, deliberate over- or under-exposure are also possible. (Rf. 38 page for details)

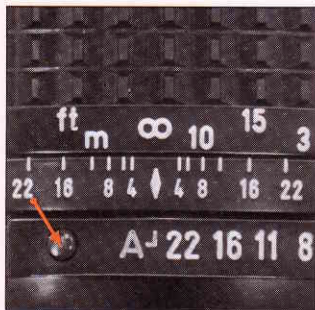
TTL Auto Flash

When connected with a Pentax dedicated TTL Auto Flash unit, the metering cell inside the mirror box of the Super Program will detect the light hitting the film plane, and automatically control flash output. If you use a TTL flash unit, and set the camera in the Aperture-priority AE mode, you can choose any aperture in the flash range, thereby achieving great control over depth-of-field in flash photos. (Rf. 42 page for details)

Programmed Auto Flash

If you use a Pentax dedicated TTL flash unit with the camera in the Programmed AE or Shutter-priority AE mode, the camera will automatically select the proper aperture and automatically control flash output. (Rf. 43 page for details)





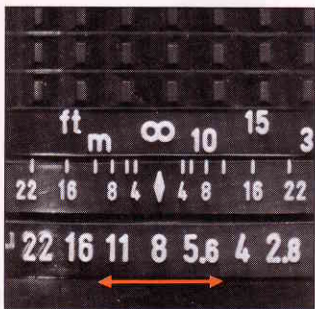
To set the lens in the A position, match the A-index (green line) on the aperture ring to the \diamond index mark while depressing the aperture auto lock button. Release the button to lock the lens in the A position.

To release the lock, rotate the aperture ring towards aperture scale with the auto lock button depressed.

A (auto) setting

Programmed AE mode

Shutter-priority AE mode



The following modes are available when the lens is set in the manual f-stops:

f/number setting

Aperture-priority AE mode

Metered Manual mode

SHUTTER DIAL

Shutter dial is automatically locked when set at the AUTO position. To select other positions (L, M, 125X or B) rotate the shutter dial, depressing the shutter auto lock button, and match the index (red line) to the desired position. The following modes are available according to the position of the shutter dial.

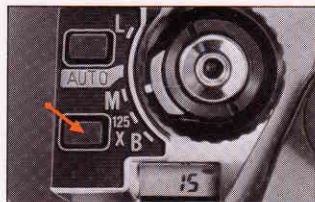
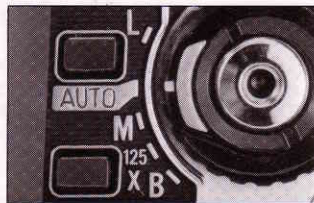
AUTO	Programmed AE mode Aperture-priority AE mode
M	Shutter-priority AE mode Metered Manual mode
125X	Shutter-priority AE mode with the speed fixed at 1/125 sec.

Manual shutter speed select button

In the Shutter-priority AE or Metered Manual mode, select the desired shutter speed by depressing either of the two buttons next to the shutter dial. The digital figure on the shutter speed LCD indicator increases or decreases step by step as you press the buttons. The front button stops at 2000 (1/2000 sec.), and the rear button at 15" (15 secs.).

















Precautions for shutter speed

If you shoot at shutter speeds slower than 1/60 sec. (30 — 15" on the LCD), you may occasionally get blurred pictures. If you couldn't use a faster shutter speed due to light conditions, the use of a tripod or flash unit is recommended. The use of film with higher sensitivity will also help avoid such low shutter speeds.



WARNING INDICATIONS IN EACH EXPOSURE MODE

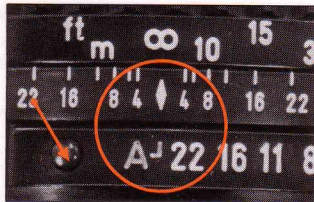
- LCD displays on the camera top cover and inside the viewfinder flicker to warn of various errors or problems.
- The LCD displays in the table below show the examples. They vary depending on the lens in use, film speed (ASA/ISO), or the subject's brightness.
- The external shutter speed LCD provides the same figure as the shutter speed information LCD inside the viewfinder does.

External display	Viewfinder display		Meaning
External LCD	Shutter speed information LCD	Aperture information LCD	
 P 1000	 P 1000	 F 2.2	These displays show exposure combinations beyond the meter coupling range in the Programmed AE mode. Correct exposure cannot be obtained.
 P 2''	 P 2''	 F 1.4	
 2000	 2000		Overexposure. The camera is in the Aperture-priority AE mode. It has chosen the fastest possible shutter speed for the aperture you have set. But the picture will still be overexposed unless you select a smaller aperture.
 15''	 15''		Underexposure. The camera is in the Aperture-priority AE mode. It has chosen the slowest possible shutter speed for the aperture you have set. Try selecting a larger aperture. If the flickering stops, take your picture. If not, there is insufficient light for a normal exposure.
 500	 500	 F 1.4	They indicate beyond the shutter/aperture coupling range in the Shutter-priority AE mode. Appropriate exposure is obtainable by changing the shutter speed.
 60	 60	 F 2.2	

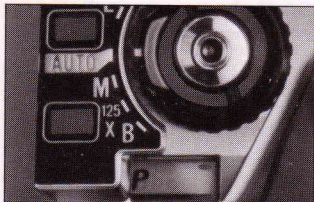
			These show beyond the meter coupling range in the Shutter-priority AE mode. Correct exposure cannot be obtained.
			These warnings appear in the Metered Manual mode. +3 means you are three stops over normal exposure. -3 means three stops under. Adjust aperture or shutter speed until you see the ±0 sign.
			Beyond meter coupling range in Metered Manual mode. It is not possible to get correct exposure by changing aperture or shutter speed. Use flash or a different sensitivity film.
			The flickering letters EF in the viewfinder LCD remind you that the exposure compensation dial is set to a value other than normal - 1x.
			If you set the shutter dial to "B" when the lens aperture ring is set at "A", LCD displays "E" to show an erroneous setting.
			Weak battery warning. In all exposure modes, when you see a row of 000 alternating with exposure information, it's time to change batteries.

- Refer also to the explanations concerning warnings in each exposure mode.
- As to the meter coupling range in the Programmed AE mode, refer to the diagram of Programmed AE control on Page 44. Meter coupling and shutter/aperture coupling ranges are explained on page 45.

SELECTING THE PROGRAMMED AE MODE



- Depress the auto lock button on the aperture ring of your Pentax "A" lens, and rotate its A-index (green line) to the index.



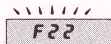
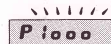
- Set the shutter dial index (red line) on top of the camera to the AUTO position. "P" (Programmed) will then be displayed on the LCD windows on the camera's top cover and inside the viewfinder.



- Lightly press the shutter release button, and a programmed combination of shutter speed and aperture value will be displayed on the LCD indicator in the viewfinder. At the same time, the same shutter speed will appear in the external LCD indicator. Further pressure on the button will release the shutter. When you take your finger off shutter release button, the meter switch automatically turns off after about 30 seconds as an energy-saving measure, and the displays of shutter speed and aperture value disappear. However, the "P" display remains on.

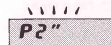
Programmed AE mode warnings

When the programmed combination of shutter speed and aperture value is beyond the meter coupling range, the camera displays two warnings.



Both shutter speed and aperture flickering at high values.

This indicates that the light situation exceeds the Super Program's light measuring ability since subject brightness is extremely high. To get a proper exposure, use another film with lower sensitivity or an ND filter.



Both flickering at low values.

The subject is extremely dark and below the lowest limit of the Programmed AE mode's meter coupling range. Use a higher speed film, flash or some other illumination source to throw more light to the subject.



Should you happen to shift the shutter dial to "B" (Bulb), a flickering "E" (Error) warning appears on the shutter speed LCD. The shutter cannot be released even if the button is depressed.

When you are using dedicated flash (TTL Auto, or Programmed Auto) in Programmed AE mode, the displays of shutter speed and aperture value are replaced by displays for flash photography when the flash is ready to fire.

