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# Contaflex 126

Instructions for use

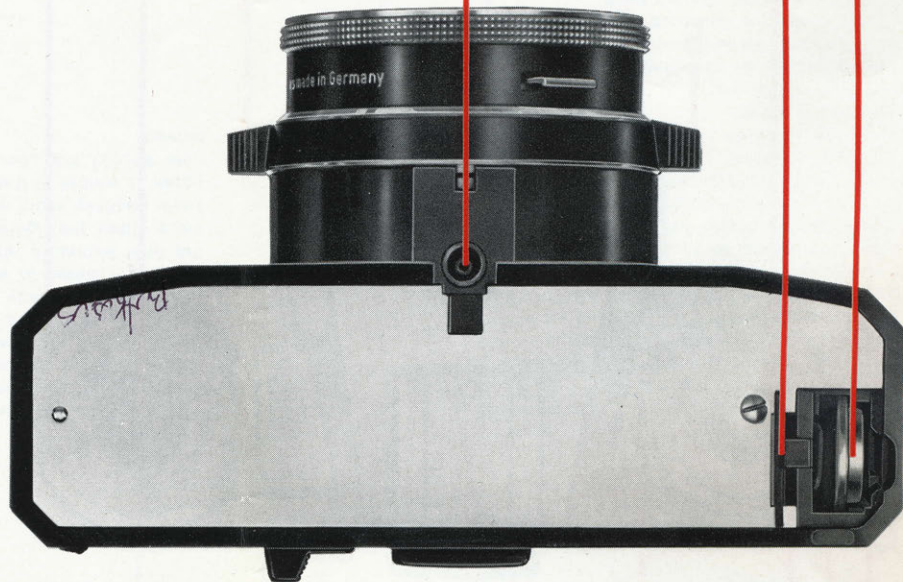


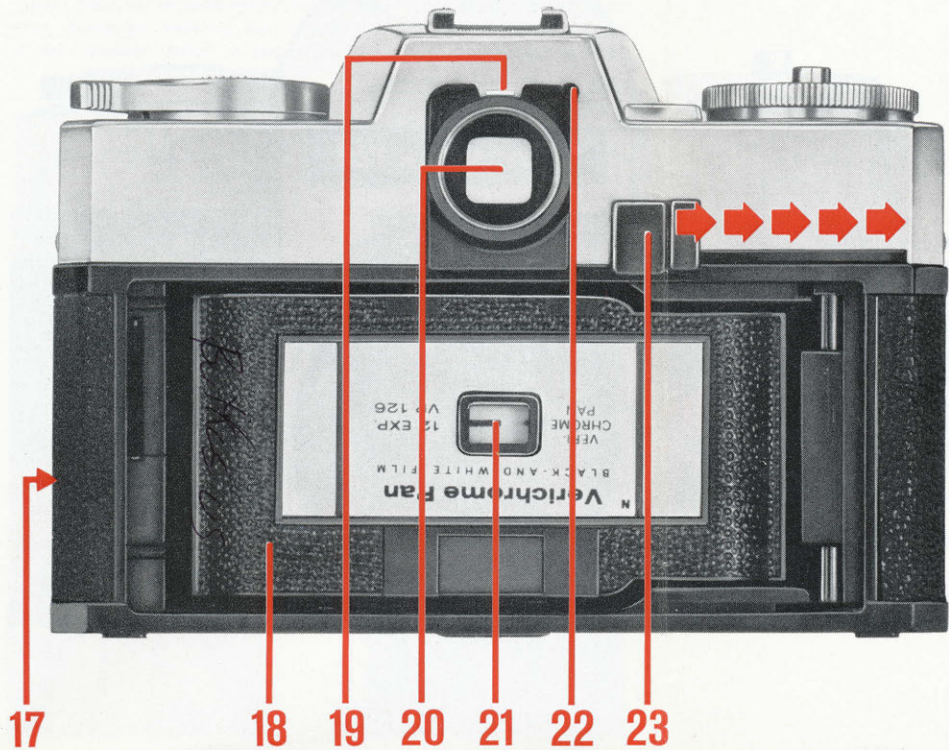
*from the Golden Program*

**ZEISS IKON**  
**VOIGTLÄNDER**

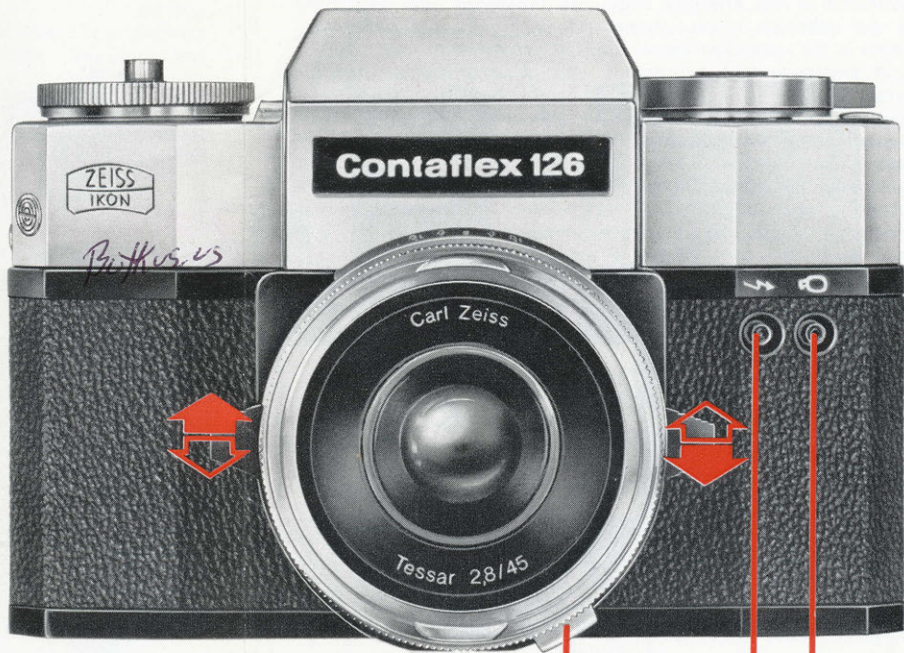
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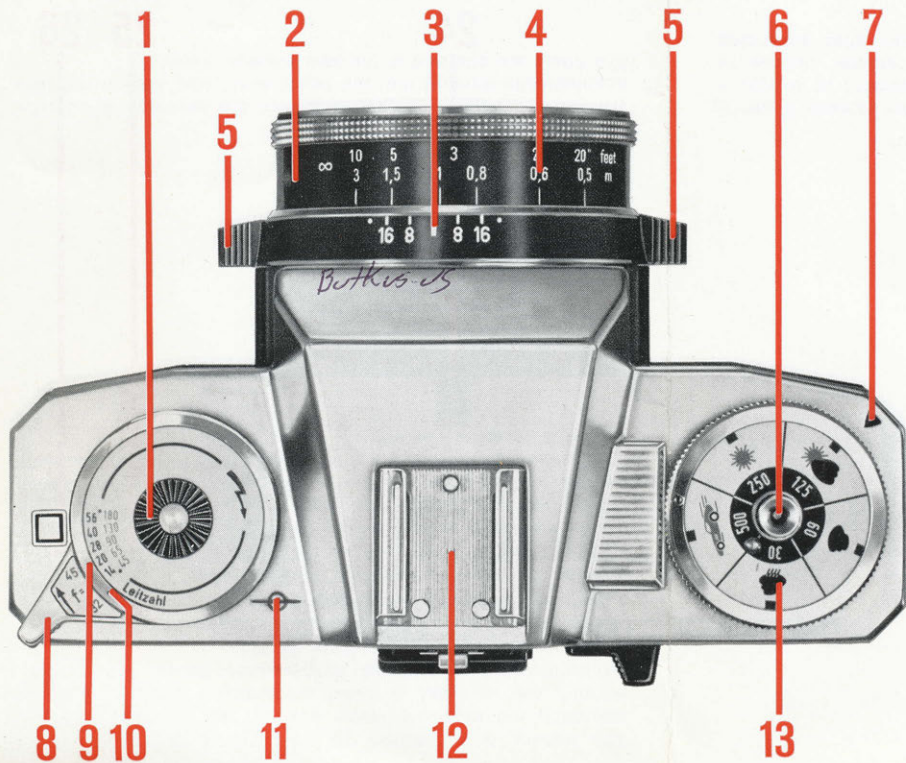


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14

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16



# Controls

- 1 milled ring for setting flash guide number
- 2 interchangeable lens
- 3 focusing mark with depth of field scale
- 4 distance scale in metres and feet
- 5 focusing grips
- 6 shutter release with thread socket for cable release
- 7 shutter speed setting mark
- 8 lever for switching on automatic flash
- 9 flash guide number setting mark for standard lens  
( $f = 45$  mm focal length)
- 10 flash guide number setting mark for wide angle lens  
( $f = 32$  mm focal length)
- 11 focal plane mark
- 12 accessory shoe
- 13 shutter speed ring
- 14 locking pawl for changing lens
- 15 flash socket for electronic flash
- 16 flash socket for flashbulb equipment
- 17 lock for opening camera back
- 18 loaded film cartridge 126
- 19 eyepiece cover slide
- 20 viewfinder eyepiece
- 21 control indicator (for exposure number)
- 22 battery testing key
- 23 rapid winding key
- 24 tripod socket
- 25 battery catch
- 26 loaded battery

## **Loading and unloading**

Open the camera back by pressing down lock 17. Insert "film cartridge 126" as shown in the illustration (writing on the film cartridge must be upside down) and close the camera back. Keep pushing rapid winding key 23 to the right until it locks. The figure "1" is now in the control indicator on the camera back. The camera is ready for taking shots. The key has to be moved about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times to advance the film after each exposure. After the final exposure and according to the type of film in the camera either the figure 12 or 20 will appear in the film counter — keep pushing rapid winding key 23 to the right until no yellow paper is visible in the control indicator on the camera back. Only now should the camera be opened and the film cartridge removed.

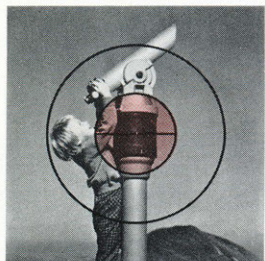
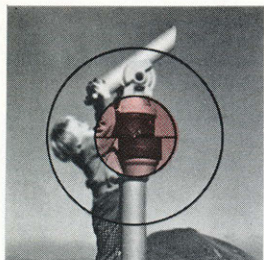
## **Taking an exposure**

### **Focusing**

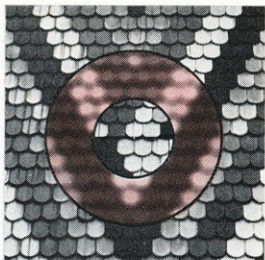
Hold the camera against the eye and using grips 5 bring the split image visible in the viewing area into coincidence or use the fine focusing ring when the subject has no distinct lines to obtain a sharp picture.

The focused distance is indicated on scale 4 at setting mark 3.





focusing  
with split image



focusing  
with fine focusing ring

### Aperture and depth of field

Each photographic subject is recorded in sharp outline over a limited area in front of and behind the focused distance. This zone of sharpness increases as the diaphragm is stopped down. The range for the individual apertures is indicated on depth of field scale 3. It extends from the distance opposite the aperture value on the left to the distance opposite the same aperture value on the right.

#### Please note:

large aperture (2.8) = small depth of field  
small aperture (22) = largest depth of field

For special photographic subjects, exact values can be taken from the attached booklet containing the relevant tables.

## Setting the shutter speed

Turn milled ring 13 until the desired shutter speed is opposite setting mark 7. Do not set at an intermediate value! The numbers on ring 13 indicate fractions of a second (60 is  $\frac{1}{60}$ th sec, etc.). Selection of the shutter speed depends on the available light and the movement of the subject to be photographed. The faster the movement, the shorter the exposure time. The symbols on the setting ring are intended to indicate suitable settings.

## Automatic exposure

The CdS light metering system provides fully automatic setting of the aperture. The film speed is also set automatically when film cartridge 126 is loaded in the camera. If there is no film cartridge in the camera, the indicated value refers to a film speed of about 30 DIN.

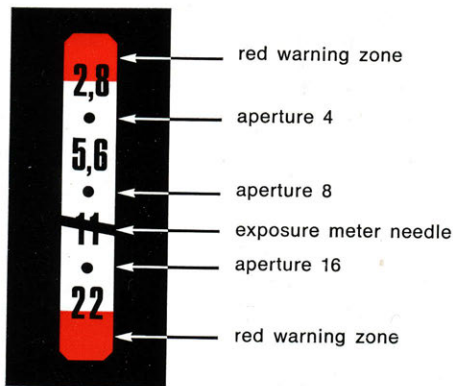
Pre-select the shutter speed. Hold the camera against the eye and towards the subject to be photographed. If the exposure meter needle lies within the aperture scale (on the left of the viewfinder), adequate light is available and the picture can be shot.

The automatic aperture setting can be read direct from the scale in the viewfinder (when checking the depth of field).

If the exposure meter needle lies in one of the red zones, exposure is not possible under the prevailing light conditions or at the pre-selected shutter speed. Adjust the shutter speed until the needle swings back into the aperture scale. If the available light is not adequate for automatic exposure, the needle will remain in the red zone even after adjustment of the shutter speed (use flashlight).

When the shutter is run down, the exposure meter needle is blocked.

If a definite aperture is desired, this can be set by turning shutter speed ring 13 until the exposure meter needle is opposite the desired aperture value. Use only a clicked-in shutter speed. The shutter speed ring has full stops at  $\frac{1}{30}$  sec and  $\frac{1}{500}$  sec.



## Exposure

When taking an exposure press down shutter release 6 gently and smoothly — not jerkily. At the exact moment of exposure the viewfinder image disappears and the shutter release is blocked. The viewfinder image reappears only after advancing key 23.

## Exposure meter

The light falls on a CdS cell arranged in the viewfinder. By means of this arrangement only that light is metered which actually reaches the film through the lens. Lens of any focal length can be fitted to the camera and still high precision light metering is provided.

When taking photographs with a tripod and cable release, light can reach the highly sensitive cell through viewfinder eyepiece 20 which is not covered by the eye. In such cases, the viewfinder eyepiece should be covered by pulling up slide 19.

The battery, type "Mallory PX 13", loaded in the camera for operating the exposure meter will last for about 2 years with normal use. In order to avoid unnecessary drainage it should be protected from extreme temperatures (below  $-10^{\circ}$ ). If this is not possible, use type "Mallory PX 625".

### **Testing and changing the battery**

Tension the camera and hold it against the light so that the exposure meter needle lies in the centre of the aperture scale. Then press down battery testing key 22 briefly. If the needle drops more than one aperture stop within 1 to 2 sec, the battery must be changed. It is accessible by lifting up catch 25. Insert the new battery as indicated on the catch. Batteries are obtainable from photographic dealers.

## **Exposures with filters**

When using filters, the filter factor for the exposure is adjusted automatically through the cell being positioned behind the lens. The filters are attached to the lens bayonet mount.

## **Close-ups**

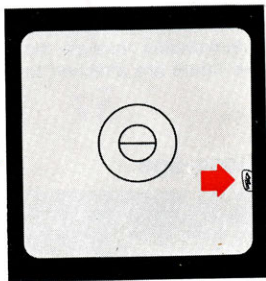
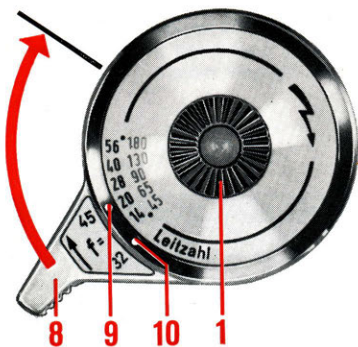
The supplementary lenses available for the CONTAFLEX 126, like each filter, fit all CONTAFLEX lenses from 32–135 mm. In order to obtain an adequate depth of field, the shutter speed should be so selected that an aperture of at least 5.6 is possible. Any additional filters should be mounted in front of the supplementary lens. Attention is drawn here to our universal copying unit REPROPHOT which is equipped with the practically indispensable focusing slide for close-ups.

### Flash exposures with automatic flash

All types of flash equipment can be connected to the CONTAFLEX 126. Only the cableless flash equipment with M-contact requires an adapter which is available from photographic dealers. The synch cable is connected at socket 15 (flash symbol) for electronic flash and socket 16 (flashbulb symbol) for flashbulb equipment. Now set the guide number of the flash by turning milled ring 1. (The guide number is given on the flashbulb packing or in the instructions for use with the flash equipment.) If the engraved numbers do not include the guide number that is given for the flash, select an intermediate setting. The setting  $f = 45$  in fig. 9 applies when using the standard lenses ZEISS TESSAR or COLOR-PANTAR 2.8/45 mm,  $f = 32$  — in fig. 10 — for wide angle lens ZEISS-DISTAGON 2.8/32 mm.

Measure the distance before taking a flash exposure. When taking photographs of subjects with greater depth, focus a spot in the central zone. Move lever 8 as far as it will go when taking a flash exposure and hold in this position whilst pressing down the shutter release. This automatically selects the correct shutter speed and the appropriate aperture. The exposure meter and setting of the shutter speed with milled ring 13 are now cut out.

When lever 8 is moved a flash symbol appears at the right-hand



edge of the picture in the viewfinder. If this symbol is fully covered by a red disc, this indicates that the flashlight is either too strong for the selected distance.

The distance between the camera and the subject must be corrected and the distance re-set until the red disc no longer fully covers the flash symbol.

When lever 8 is released the camera reverts to automatic exposure.

## Changing the lens

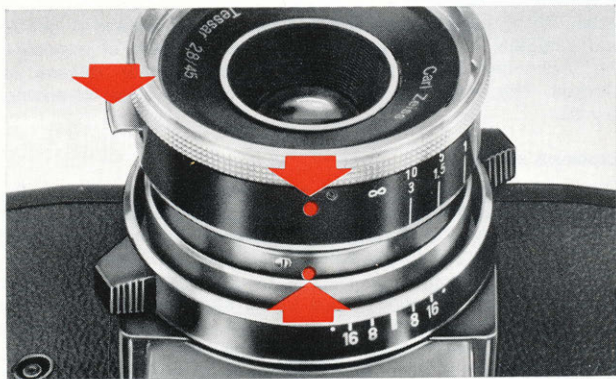
The lenses can be interchanged in full daylight without fogging the film but it is obvious that the opening in the camera should be protected from direct sunlight.

### Removal

Press locking pawl 14 towards the camera and turn the lens anti-clockwise as far as it will go and take out.

### Attachment

Place the red dot on the lens opposite the red dot on the camera bayonet mount. Push the lens in as far as it will go (do not tilt) and then turn clockwise until locking pawl 14 clicks in audibly.





# Accessories

## Lenses

- 11.1101 ZEISS DISTAGON 2.8/32 mm
- 11.1102 COLOR-PANTAR 2.8/45 mm
- 11.1103 ZEISS TESSAR 2.8/45 mm
- 11.1104 ZEISS SONNAR 2.8/85 mm
- 11.1105 ZEISS TELE-TESSAR 4/135 mm

## Viewfinder accessories

- 20.1614 angle telescope
- 35.0207 eyepiece shield
- 20.0504 eyepiece correction lens  $\pm 0.5$  to  $\pm 5$  dptr.

## Lens hoods

- 20.0718 Lens hood (telescopic) for 32 to 85 mm lens S. 56  $\phi$   
The ZEISS TELE-TESSAR has an adjustable lens hood incorporated in the lens mount.

## Filters

- 20.1051 yellow for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1052 green for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1053 orange for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1054 red for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1055 UV for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1058 skylight for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1056 IKOLOR A for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1057 IKOLOR B for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1208 polarizing filter (Contapol) for 32 to 135 mm lens B 50  $\phi$

## Accessories for close-ups

- 20.0846 supplementary lens  $f = 2.0$  m 0.5 dptr. B 50  $\phi$
- 20.0847 supplementary lens  $f = 1.0$  m 1.0 dptr. B 50  $\phi$
- 20.0848 supplementary lens  $f = 0.5$  m 2.0 dptr. B 50  $\phi$
- 20.0849 supplementary lens  $f = 0.3$  m 3.0 dptr. B 50  $\phi$
- 20.0850 supplementary lens  $f = 0.2$  m 5.0 dptr. B 50  $\phi$
- 20.1853 REPROPHOT, universal copying unit
- 20.1850 table copying unit [www.butkus.us](http://www.butkus.us)
- 20.1852 lighting equipment for table copying unit

## **Cases and containers**

- 23.0015 ever-ready case (real leather)
- 23.1004 leather case for 32, 50 and 85 mm lenses (individually) and 1 filter or one supplementary lens
- 23.1005 leather case for TELE-TESSAR 135 and 1 filter or 1 supplementary lens
- 23.2007 case for 3 filters or 3 supplementary lenses

## **Serial number**

Each CONTAFLEX 126 has a serial number engraved on the camera base (number preceded by a serial letter). The lens also has a serial number on the focusing ring. We advise you to make a note of these numbers so that you can establish ownership in the event of loss or mistake.

## **Care of the CONTAFLEX 126**

The inside of the camera should be cleaned occasionally with a hair brush. (Note! Do not scratch the shutter blind!) Dust and other particles on the focusing screen and mirror can be removed with a fine hair brush when the lens is removed. Finger-marks on the lens surface and viewfinder eyepiece should be carefully removed with a soft linen cloth.

Not only photographic dealers but also the photographic advisory service of the ZEISS IKON-VOIGTLÄNDER Vertriebsgesellschaft mbH, 7 Stuttgart, Postfach 540, will gladly advise you and supply information on all photographic problems.

ZEISS IKON-VOIGTLÄNDER offer a world-wide guarantee – a valuable service covering all countries and frontiers. A guarantee certificate is provided with each camera. Make sure that your photographic dealer confirms the date of purchase with his signature on the back of the certificate.

Please take good care of this certificate in your own interest as it contains a list of the repair agents throughout the world for ZEISS IKON-VOIGTLÄNDER products.

We reserve the right to make alterations in line with technical progress.

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Author: W. Kaiser

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