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CENTON

K200 / K400

- GB** Single Lens Reflex Camera Instruction Booklet
- F** Manuel d'utilisation
- E** Folleto de instrucciones
- I** Libretto d'istruzioni
- D** Anweisungshandbuch

Thank you for purchasing this Centon camera. Before you start using your new camera, please read this instruction booklet carefully to familiarise yourself with its operation. It is recommended that you begin practicing without any film loaded whilst reading the manual.

Nous vous remercions pour l'achat de l'appareil-photo Centon. Avant d'utiliser veuillez bien lire attentivement le manuel d'utilisation pour vous familiariser avec son fonctionnement. Si vous voulez essayer l'appareil-photo, nous vous recommandons de le faire avant de charger le film.

Gracias por haber comprado esta cámara Centon. Antes de utilizar su cámara recomendamos lea atentamente el folleto de instrucciones a fin de familiarizarse con su funcionamiento. Asimismo le recomendamos que si desea practicar con su cámara, al leer el folleto, lo haga sin cargar la película.

Grazie per avere acquistato la macchina fotografica Centon. Prima di utilizzare la vostra nuova macchina fotografica, leggere attentamente questo libretto d'istruzioni per conoscere meglio il suo funzionamento. È consigliato fare delle prove prima di caricare il rullino, leggendo il libretto d'istruzioni senza.

Wir danken ihnen für den Kauf dieser Centon-Kamera. Bevor Sie ihre neue Kamera jedoch benutzen, sollten Sie dieses Anweisungshandbuch sorgfältig durchlesen, um sich mit dem Betrieb derselben bekannt zu machen. Wir empfehlen, dass Sie den Betrieb zunächst ohne Film üben, während Sie dieses Handbuch lesen.

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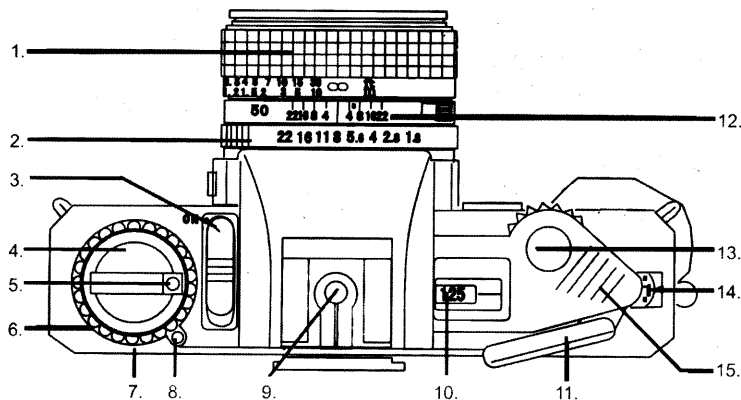
www.butkus.us

English

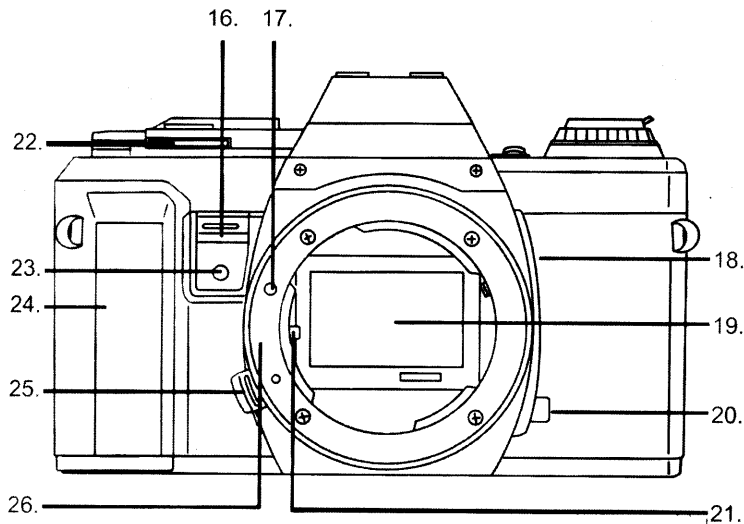
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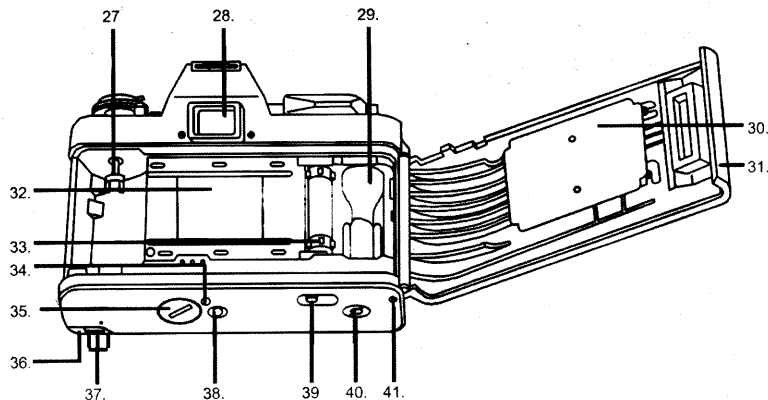
NOMENCLATURE



1. Focusing ring
2. Aperture ring
3. Main switch
4. Rewind knob
5. Rewind crank
6. Film-speed ring
7. Film-speed window
8. Film-speed ring release
9. Hot shoe
10. Shutter-speed window / AUTO Mode window (AUTO Mode K400 only)
11. Film advance lever
12. Depth of field scale
13. Shutter release button
14. Frame counter
15. Finger rest



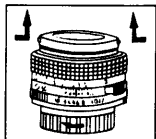
- 16. Self timer (and AE Lock K400 only)
- 17. Lens mounting index mark
- 18. Cable release socket
- 19. Mirror
- 20. Depth of field preview lever (K400 only)
- 21. Diaphragm control lever
- 22. Shutter speed selector
- 23. Self timer LED
- 24. Front grip
- 25. Lens release button
- 26. Bayonet lens mount



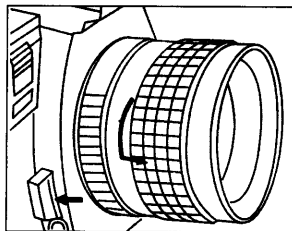
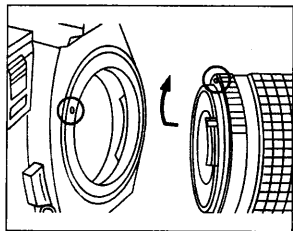
- 27. Film-cartridge chamber
- 28. Eyepiece
- 29. Take-up spool
- 30. Pressure plate
- 31. Back cover
- 32. Shutter curtain
- 33. Sprocket
- 34. Winder contact (K400 only)
- 35. Battery chamber cover
- 36. Motor-drive guide socket (K400 only)
- 37. Motor-drive contacts (K400 only)
- 38. Tripod socket
- 39. Rewind release button
- 40. Winder/motor-drive coupler (K400 only)
- 41. Motor-drive guide socket (K400 only)

ATTACHING AND REMOVING THE LENS

Remove body cap and lens cap as shown.



Attaching the lens



Align the red mounting index on the lens barrel with the red index mark on the camera lens mount. Insert the lens into the mount and then rotate the lens clockwise until it is locked into position with a click.

Removing the lens

Depress the lens release button, rotate the lens counter clockwise as far as possible and lift the lens out of the mount.

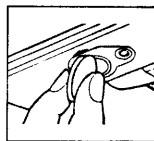
- Never leave a lens with its rear end down unless the rear lens cap is fitted otherwise the control pins can be damaged.
- Do not touch any parts inside the camera, especially the mirror when attaching or removing lens.

BATTERIES AND POWER

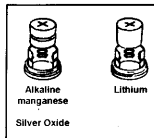


Use one of the following types of batteries:

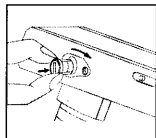
- Two 1.55v silver-oxide (SR-44 / 10L14 or equivalent)
- Two 1.5v alkaline-manganese (LR44 or equivalent)
- One 3v lithium (CR-1/3N or DL1/3N)



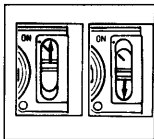
1. Using a coin or a similar object, unscrew the battery-chamber cover counter clockwise and remove.



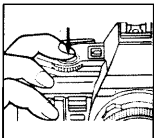
2. Wipe the terminals with a clean, dry cloth. Hold the batteries by their edges and insert with plus (+) side up into the sleeve on the inside of the cover.
- Do not use 1.35v mercury batteries (MR44 or equivalent) as their voltage is too low.
 - To avoid battery leakage or bursting, do not mix and / or use batteries of different types, brands or ages.
 - Keep batteries away from children.



3. Replace the battery chamber cover and screw it in clockwise as far as it will go.



Slide the main switch to "ON" to operate the camera. Move the main switch to "OFF" to prevent accidental exposures and battery drain after picture taking. (If the switch is left on however, battery drain only occurs when the shutter release button is touched).



Touching the shutter release button activates the meter on the camera. The shutter is released when the button is pressed all the way down. The LED in the viewfinder will remain lit for approximately 15 seconds after the shutter button is released.

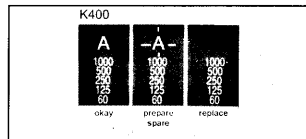
BATTERY CHECK

The camera automatically checks the battery power when the shutter release button is touched or gently depressed.

When the batteries are completely exhausted:

K200 - neither the LED's or the shutter will operate.

K400 - the LED's ("A" or "M") in the viewfinder will blink to warn that fresh batteries will soon be needed



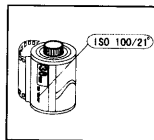
When the batteries are completely exhausted or not correctly installed, neither the LED's nor the shutter will operate.

COLD-WEATHER OPERATION



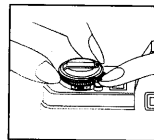
Since batteries tend to lose power as the temperature drops, always use fresh batteries when photographing in cold weather and keep a spare set on hand, preferably in a warm pocket close to your body. Battery capacity will be restored when temperature returns to normal. For prolonged use of the camera in cold weather at approximately 0°C (32°F) or lower, it is recommended to use silver-oxide batteries. If a lithium battery is used below 0°C (32°F), the camera may not operate.

FILM AND FILM SPEED

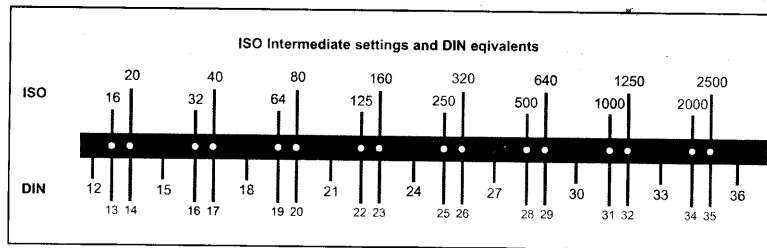


This camera uses standard 35mm cartridge film. Each film has its own ISO film-speed which indicates the sensitivity of the film to light. For correct exposure, the camera's film speed ring must be set to the correct film speed.

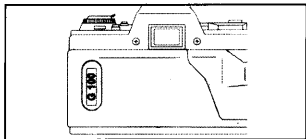
Setting the film speed



While depressing the film-speed ring release, rotate the ring until the desired ISO number is aligned with the index mark and clicks into place when the release is freed.

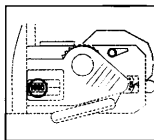


Film speed window

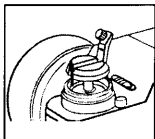


Indicates the film speed in use.

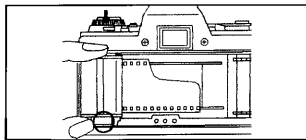
FILM LOADING



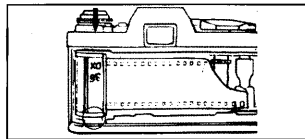
Shield the film from bright light while loading and unloading.



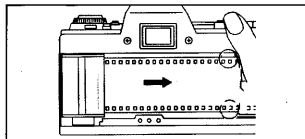
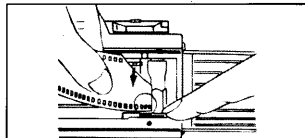
1. Unfold the rewind crank and pull up the rewind knob until the back cover springs open. Film loading will be easier if the shutter speed selector is set to 1/1000 second.



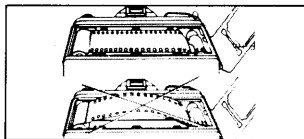
2. Insert a 35mm film cartridge into the chamber with its projecting spool facing downwards and then push the rewind knob all the way back in.



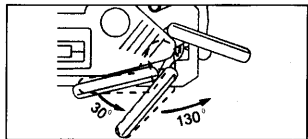
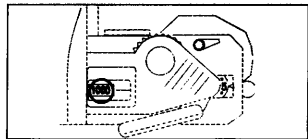
3. Insert the end of the film into a slot on the left side of the take-up spool.



4. Slowly operate the film advance lever and press the shutter release button until the sprocket teeth are engaged with holes on both edges of the film. If the film advance lever goes half way or the main switch is off, the shutter release button will not work.



5. Ensure that the film is taut and then close the camera back cover. Now advance the film to frame "1". (The rewind crank should rotate anti-clockwise when the Film Advance Lever is used).



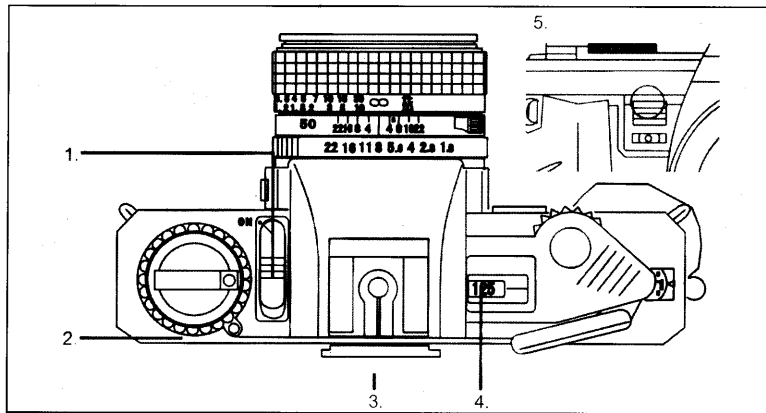
Note: The film advance lever has a 130° stroke after a 30° unengaged stroke to make the advance more comfortable.

Do not touch any parts inside the camera.

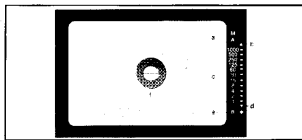
PRESHOOTING CHECKS

Check the following to ensure that your camera is ready for picture taking;

1. Is the Main Switch set to ON?
2. Is the film loaded and the film speed set correctly?
3. Are the batteries ok? Do the LED's glow inside the viewfinder when the shutter release button is slightly depressed.
4. Is the mode (K400) / shutter speed set?
5. Is the self timer switched off?



VIEWFINDER DISPLAY (K400 only)



a. Mode LED

M = Manual mode

A = Auto mode

b. Over range LED

Blinks at 4Hz

c. Shutter speed scale/LED's

Glowing LED indicates:

1. "A" (AUTO) mode - shutter speed is set automatically by the camera. If two LED's glow, the camera sets a step less speed in between the two).
2. "M" (Manual) mode, the metered speed blinking LED (at 4Hz) indicates the shutter speed for the user to set in manual mode.

d. 1 to 4 second under-range LED

Alights if the metered speed is between 1 and 4 seconds

Blinks (at 4Hz) if outside the range

e. Bulb setting indicator

See BULB EXPOSURE (B) PHOTOGRAPHY

f. Focusing screen

Split-image spot, micro prism band with acute matte field

METERING

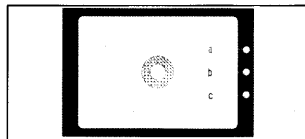
This camera uses TTL metering to help obtain get the correct exposure. Slide the power switch to "ON" and depress the shutter release button half way to activate the metering and the LED's inside the viewfinder. The LED's will remain on for approximately 16 seconds after you remove your finger from the shutter release button.

SELECTING THE SHUTTER SPEED AND APERTURE

Rotate the aperture ring and the shutter speed

dial to your desired values and aim them at the index on the lens or camera body. Ensure that they click into position.

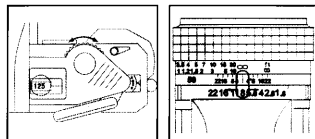
MANUAL EXPOSURE MODE (K200 only)



a: Red LED - Indicates over exposure

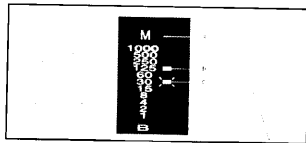
b: Green LED - Indicates correct exposure

c: Yellow LED - Indicates under exposure



MANUAL EXPOSURE MODE (K400 only)

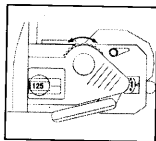
Adjust the mode/shutter speed selector to any desired click stop from "1" (1 second) to "1000" (1/1000th second).



- Manual mode
- Manually set speed (LED flashing at 4Hz)
- Metered speed (LED glowing)

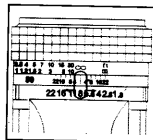
The manually set shutter speed is indicated in the view-finder by a 4Hz blinking LED, while a glowing LED indicates the actual metered speed. To obtain the correct exposure metered by the camera, simply adjust the aperture or shutter speed until the blinking LED and glowing LED coincide with each other.

There are two ways to do this;



Set the shutter speed selector to the desired click-stop and then rotate the aperture ring until no LED alights other than the LED blinking next to the selected speed..

and / or



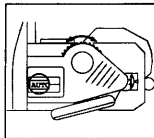
set the aperture as desired and then rotate the shutter speed selector so that the blinking LED coincides with the glowing LED. If two LED's are glowing, adjust the aperture ring slightly until only one glows. Do not set the shutter speed between click-stops.

See SELECTING THE CORRECT APERTURE and SELECTING THE CORRECT SHUTTER SPEED.

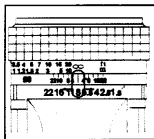
Lighten Picture				NORMAL		Darken Picture		
-2	-1.5	-1	-0.5	Ev 13	+0.5	+1	+1.5	+2
500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30	500 250 125 60 30
f stops 16	(13)	11	(9.5)	8	(6.7)	5.6	(4.8)	4

AUTO MODE (K400 only)

In aperture priority auto mode all you need to do is to set the desired aperture and the camera will automatically select the shutter speed needed for the correct exposure.



Set mode/shutter-speed selector to "AUTO".



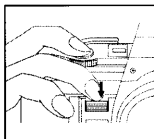
spotlight or shaft of sunlight.



To obtain the correct exposure in high contrast lighting situations where your subject occupies only a small portion in subjects the centre, use the AE lock as follows.



Alter the direction of the camera so the subject fills most of the frame (for small subjects you may need to move or zoom closer).



Now press the AE lock button all the way down to lock the exposure.



While still holding the AE lock down re-compose your picture as desired and press the shutter release button all the way down.

NOTE





- The AE lock cannot be used in manual mode or with the self-timer.
- Change the aperture or any other settings before pressing the AE lock.
- When using a zoom lens, an exposure error may result if the lens is zoomed after the AE lock is pressed.
- The AE lock is unusable in flash photography.

SELECTING THE CORRECT APERTURE

For good pictures where no particular effect is desired, simply set the aperture as indicated in the table shown. These settings will provide as much depth of field as possible while producing a shutter speed fast enough to prevent camera shake.

There may be times, however, when you want to obtain a particular effect, such as rendering a certain range in sharp focus, emphasising a subject against an out-of-focus background or selecting a specific shutter speed. In these cases, you must select the appropriate aperture to give the desired depth of field or the desired shutter speed.

Guidelines for typical picture-taking situations at 1/125 second

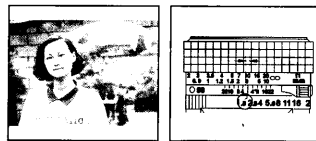
ISO/DIN	Sunny 	Hazy Sun 	Overcast 	Indoors 
25/15°	f/8	f/4	f/2	f/1.4
64/19°	f/8	f/4	f/2.8	f/1.4
100/21°	f/11	f/5.6	f/4	f/1.4
160/23°	f/11	f/8	f/5.6	f/2
200/24°	f/11	f/8	f/5.6	f/2
400/27°	f/16	f/11	f/8	f/2.8
1000/31°	f/22	f/16	f/11	f/4

DEPTH OF FIELD

When a lens is focused on a given subject, there is a certain range behind and in front of the subject that appears sharp. This range is called "depth-of-field".

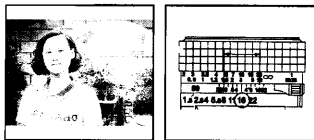
The depth of field varies according to the aperture set.

Example A



Large apertures (e.g., f/2) yield a shallow depth of field rendering much of the background out of focus (see example A).

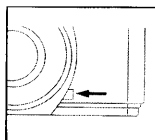
Example B



A small aperture (e.g., $f/16$) gives a greater depth of field with much of background in focus (see example B). The depth of field can be checked on the lens depth-of field scale as shown.

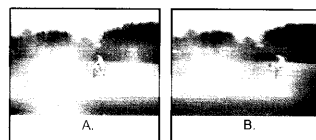
Depth of field also varies with subject distance: when the lens is focused on a close subject, the depth of field is shallow, when focused on a distant subject, the depth of field is greater.

DEPTH OF FIELD PREVIEW LEVER (K400 only)



If the light levels are sufficient, the depth of field preview lever can be used to visualise the amount of field depth through the viewfinder. After composing and focusing on the subject, depressing the depth-of-field preview button with your left thumb causes the aperture of the lens to contract to the F-number set and the any blurred area behind and in front of the main subject in the view-finder will become clear. The clarity of the range behind and in front of the subject is the depth of field range. To adjust the depth-of-field range, set the F-number again and repeat the depth-of-field preview operation until the depth of field range is attained.

SELECTING THE CORRECT SHUTTER SPEED



Sometimes the effect required determines that the shutter speed more important. Fast shutter speeds such as $1/500$ or $1/1000$ second can "freeze" the subject in motion (see example A). Slow shutter speeds such as $1/2$ or 1 second can be used to emphasize the subject flow or motion (see example B). To set a desired shutter speed when using Auto mode (K400) rotate the lens aperture ring until the LED next to the desired shutter speed aligns.

FOCUSING



In focus



Out of focus

Focusing with the split-image spot:

Rotate the focusing ring until the upper and lower subject images in the spot are exactly aligned and merge into one.

Focusing with the micro prism band:

Rotate the focusing ring until the subject image in the band does not shimmer or appear to be broken up.

Focusing with the acute matte field:

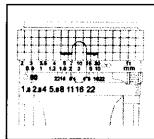
Rotate the focusing ring until the whole image in the screen becomes clear.

You will find that focusing is easiest if:

- The split-image spot is used for subjects having vertical lines.

- The micro prism band is used for lenses from medium wide-angle through to medium telephoto. It is especially useful with subjects that do not have vertical lines
- The matte field is used for longer aperture-lenses or for macro work.

OTHER FOCUSING METHODS

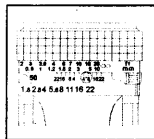


Distance scale

Under certain situations it is easier to focus by estimating the distance to your subject and then aligning the corresponding figure on the distance scale with the index mark, such as:

- When taking a long exposure or flash pictures when it is too dark to focus through the lens.
- If you wait to prefocus on your subject, as in quickly shot candid photos.

INFRARED INDEX



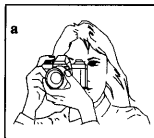
When using infra red film, first focus on your subject as usual. Now attach a red filter and rotate the focusing ring to align the point of focus on the distance scale with the infrared focus index mark on the depth of field scale (note: not all lenses have an index mark).

Set exposure according to the film manufacturers recommendations.

HOLDING THE CAMERA AND RELEASING SHUTTER

Set the desired shutter speed and aperture, then focus and compose your picture. Hold the camera steady. While looking through the viewfinder, rotate the focusing ring and release the shutter.

Holding the camera steadily as shown lets you operate most controls easily while viewing through the camera's viewfinder.



LEFT HAND

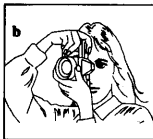
Support the camera with your palm and use your thumb and forefinger to adjust the focus and aperture ring as required.

RIGHT HAND

Thumb: film advance lever.

Index finger: mode, shutter-speed selector or shutter release button.

Middle finger: AE lock



To obtain sharp blur-free photos hold the camera as still as possible and press the shutter release button gently.

If you grasp the camera firmly with your right hand on its front grip, you can tilt it back and forth for horizontal (a) and vertical (b) pictures without removing your hand from the controls. By cradling the camera in the left hand, you can easily focus, set the aperture and then shoot.

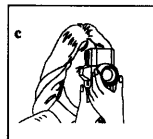
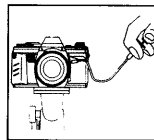


Illustration c shows an alternative form of holding the camera vertically.

MOUNTING CAMERA ONTO A TRIPOD



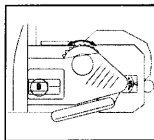
For maximum sharpness when making exposures too long to permit hand holding of the camera (1/30 sec. or slower), it is recommended that the camera is mounted onto a tripod.

Screw a cable release (extra) into the cable release socket to release the shutter.

Do not use excessive force when attaching the camera to the tripod.

The mounting screw should be 5.4mm (1/4") or shorter.

BULB EXPOSURE (B) PHOTOGRAPHY

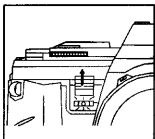


When the mode/shutter speed selector is set to "B", the shutter will open when the shutter release is depressed and will remain open until the you release the button. This makes exposure longer than one second possible.

A tripod or other firm support should always be used to avoid "camera shake". Use a standard cable release (preferably a lockable type for long exposures). The eyepiece cap should be used to prevent incoming stray light from affecting the exposure. (To keep it handy, the eyepiece cap can be threaded onto the camera strap).

- With fresh batteries at a moderate temperature, the maximum long exposure is approximately 10 hours. At lower temperatures the exposure time may be shorter.

SELF-TIMER



The self-timer can be used to delay shutter release for 10 seconds.

1. Mount the camera onto a sturdy support (such as a tripod). Compose your picture and focus.
2. Set the shutter speed selector at any setting other than "B" and make sure that the film is advanced to the next frame.
3. Lift the self-timer switch up.
4. To start the self-timer, depress the shutter

release button. A visual signal will indicate how much time is left before the self-timer release the shutter.

Self-timer LED blinks as follows:

First 8 sec: twice per sec.

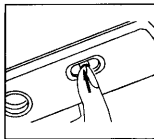
Next sec: eight times per sec.

Last sec: continuously

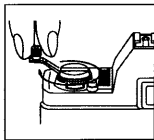
NOTE

- The self-timer can be cancelled before the shutter releases, either by pushing the self timer switch back down or by slide the main switch to "OFF".
- After taking the picture, switch off the self-timer or the next picture will also be taken after a 10-sec. delay.
- The self-timer does not operate on the "B" setting.

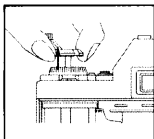
REWINDING AND UNLOADING FILM



1. Press the rewind release button



2. Unfold the rewind crank and rotate it in the direction of the arrow until the film is fully rewound.



3. Pull the rewind crank upwards to open the back cover and then remove the film

cartridge.

- Never open the camera back cover until the film is completely rewound back into the cartridge.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY



Connection

A cordless clip-on flash unit can be attached and electronically connected by simply sliding the unit into the camera's hot shoe.

Synchronization

When an electronic flash is used, the shutter speed must be to "60" ($1/60^{\text{th}}$ second) or slower to ensure complete exposure of the film frame. Slower speeds can also be used for backlit effects. Do not use speeds faster than $1/60$ second (i.e.; $1/125^{\text{th}}$ second and upward).

Note: For more detailed instructions, refer to the instruction manual for the flash unit in use.

SPECIFICATIONS

Type: Quartz electronically controlled 35mm single-lens reflex camera.

Frame size: 24X36mm

Lens mount: Pentax K Bayonet-type.

Range finder: Acute matte focusing screen with central split-image spot surrounded by micro prism band.

Viewfinder: Area coverage: 94% of 24X36mm standard film frame.

Magnification: 0.9X with 50mm standard lens focused at infinity.

Power: -1 dioptr.

Display:

K200 - Three L.E.D's. (Red for over exposure, Green for correct exposure and Amber for under exposure).

K400 - M MANUAL Mode, A for AUTO mode, Shutter speed scale with LED indication, over/under LED indicators and flash ready signal.

Metering: TTL centre-weighted averaging.

AE Lock (K400 only): Switch operated.

Light-sensitive element: Silicon photocell

Film-speed range: ISO 12-3200 set by film-

speed dial locking at 1/3 EV increments.

Shutter: Quartz electronically controlled horizontal-traverse cloth curtain.

Shutter speeds: 1, 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/15, 1/30, 1/60, 1/125, 1/250, 1/500, 1/1000 sec. and "B" (bulb) set manually. Accepts cable release.

Self-timer: Electronic, for 10 sec. delay, with operation indicated by flashing self-timer LED (flashing accelerates and alights continuously just before shutter release). Self timer can be cancelled at any time.

Flash: Hot shoe for X sync. 1/60 or slower with electronic flash.

Film advance: Lever with 130° stroke after 30° unengaged movement.

Frame counter: Automatically resetting and showing number of exposed frames.

Film rewinding: After the film is unloaded, the rewind release button ejects when the film advance lever is turned.

Mirror: Instant-return slide-up type.

Back cover: Springs open when rewind knob is raised.

Power: Two 1.5v alkaline-manganese (LR44), two 1.55 silver-oxide (SR44 /10L14)

or one 3v lithium (DL1/3N) (unusable below 0°C).

Main switch: Indicates for ON and OFF.

Metering switch (battery testing): Soft-touch shutter release button.

Dimensions: 137 x 90 x 51.5mm

Weight:

K200 - 469g without lens and batteries.

K400 - 478g without lens and batteries

Specifications subject to change without prior notice.

CARE AND STORAGE

- Protect the camera from impact, shock and immersion in water.
- The camera may not operate properly in extreme cold temperatures. Care should be taken to avoid condensation of vapour in the camera interior when it is subject to severe and abrupt changes of temperature.
- Keep the camera free from dust. The exterior of the camera should be periodically cleaned with a soft clean cloth. Never use any organic solvents.
- Always keep the lens clean. If the lens gets soiled, remove dust with a blower brush and then clean the optics lightly with a soft clean cloth. If smudges remain on the lens, wipe the lens surface gently with lens tissue moistened with a 1 to 3 drops of lens fluid cleaner. Do not use any fluid other than lens cleaner.
- Never touch the mirror or focusing screen. Pictures will not be affected if the mirror or

focusing screen get soiled.

- The mounting ring of the lens should be wiped lightly with a clean cloth. Do not use any organic solvents.
- To avoid battery leakage, the batteries should be removed if the camera is not going to be used for long periods of time.
- Keep the camera away from high heat and high humidity. Store in a cool dry place.
- Do not leave the camera in a car where it may be subjected to high temperatures.