

PRODUCT INFORMATION

No. 804-0007

Nikon **FE** The auto-compact



Nikon

Nikon's automatic and compact





system camera



New from Nikon: the only automatic and compact system camera with Nikon quality. The Nikon FE.

Compose your picture, focus, shoot, and you have a perfect exposure—accurately, automatically.

Mount the MD-11 Motor Drive Unit, press the trigger button, and you have one perfect exposure after another after another—swiftly, automatically.

Use the SB-10 Speedlight Unit, shoot, and you have a perfect flash exposure—brightly, automatically.

As if these weren't enough, the compact FE has full-sized controls, such as the film advance lever, for the kind of smooth, sure operation that you've come to associate with a Nikon.

Its own interchangeable focusing screens.

And many other photography-enriching features, including ready access to the Nikon System of photography with its hundreds of accessories and attachments, and more than 55 Nikkor lens models of from 6mm to 2000mm in focal length.

The Nikon FE.

Yes, it's a compact.

Yes, it's an automatic.

Yes, it's a system camera.

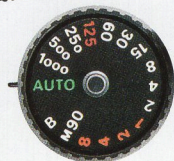
And, yes, it's a Nikon.

The FE Way
to Fine
Photography

AUTOMATIC EXPOSURE

Professional, amateur or absolute beginner, the Nikon FE puts fine photography within the easy reach of just about everyone. Simply set desired lens aperture, focus, compose the picture, shoot. And the FE's electronic brain will instantly, unerringly, compute and provide the matching shutter speed to deliver a perfectly exposed

picture . . . even as the subject moves, or as the light changes. Automatically. Steplessly, too, throughout the shutter speed range of 8 to 1/1000 sec. No need to center or match needles, no need to pick out the correct exposure indication—no need, in fact, to determine exposure. With the FE doing the metering for you, there is simply no room for error—only for creativity.



TTL metering with SPD's

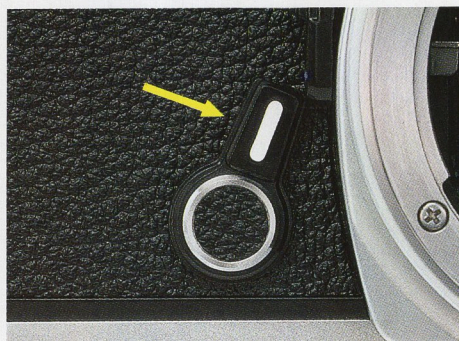
Like all single-lens reflex (SLR) Nikon cameras, the FE uses Nikon's performance-proven through-the-lens (TTL) center-weighted exposure metering system for accurate, balanced exposures. Backed by a pair of silicon photodiodes (SPD's), which have been ideally filtered to match the spectral sensitivity of the human eye, as light sensors, the metering system assures quick, precise response even to rapidly changing lighting

conditions. Its unfailing accuracy and reliability are enhanced by the adoption of a monolithic IC and Nikon's own FRE, or functional resistance element, which remain impervious to temperature and humidity changes even with extended use. You can shoot a moving subject with the light changing, and achieve correct exposure each and every time.

Exposure compensation for creative control

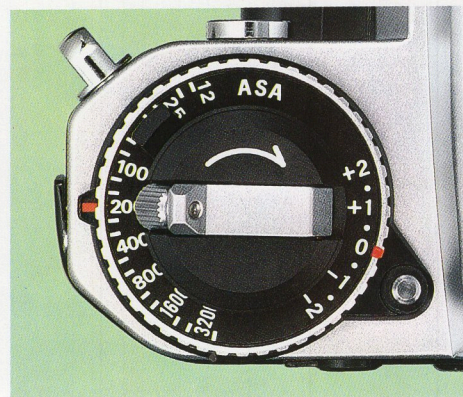
The FE offers two methods—a unique “memory lock” and an exposure compensation ring.

Memory lock: Originally proven on the EL, this device enables you to obtain correct exposure in difficult back-lit situations. By centering the main subject in the focusing screen, then pushing the lever in towards the lens, you can “lock” the exposure data, recompose the picture, shoot and be assured of perfect back-light exposure compensation.



Exposure compensation ring:

This enables you to have exposure compensation of from -2 EV to +2 EV. It is especially useful when you're shooting with a motor drive, since there is no need to reset ASA for each exposure to obtain the desired degree of compensation.



Manual override:

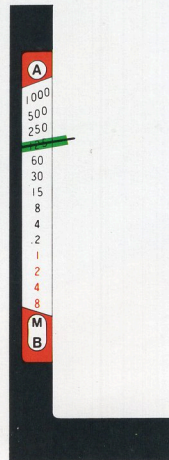
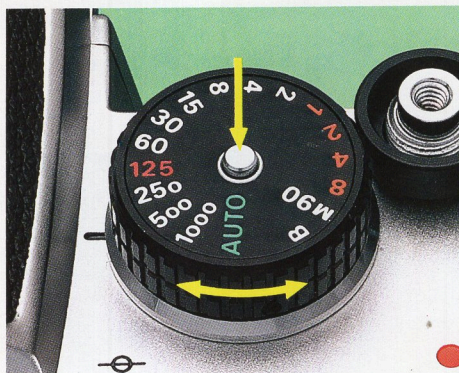
And for the times when you want to take over completely, there is the FE's manual override facility. To obtain correct exposure, you simply adjust shutter speed and/or lens aperture until the green and black needles inside the viewfinder coincide. The green needle indicates the shutter speed you set by rotating the

shutter speed dial; the black needle indicates the shutter speed for correct exposure, and its position in the shutter speed scale is determined by the lens aperture in use. On manual, you have a choice of 14 speeds from 8 to 1/1000 sec. Deliberate underexposure or overexposure is possible.



Dennis Avon

And this applies to the entire metering range which extends from EV 1 to EV 18 (f/1.4, 1 sec. to f/16, 1/1000 sec. with 50mm f/1.4 lens at ASA 100). Automatically.



The FE Way
to Fine
Photography

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AUTOMATIC FILM ADVANCE

Attach the MD-11 Motor Drive Unit to the Nikon FE, and you're ready to take on the challenges of action or any other type of photography, frame after frame after frame. Automatically. There is no need to adjust any part of the camera or that of the motor drive. Simply set the film advance lever flush with the camera body, turn the MD-11 switch

on and fire away. With the FE on automatic, you have twin automation working for you. Keep your eye on your subject, press the motor drive's trigger button and you will obtain correct exposure for every frame. No more missed shots because the camera wasn't ready. The MD-11, which has been proven with the Nikon FM, is made of



Attaching, or removing, is as easy as rotating the thumb wheel provided in the motor drive.



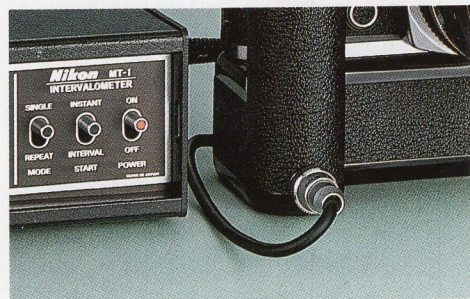
NANCE

strong, sturdy metal and handsomely finished in black to match the camera body's chrome or black finish. Like the FE, it is so compact and lightweight that the camera body/motor drive assembly weighs no more than the average 35mm SLR camera.

Mode selector gives you a choice of single-frame (S) or continuous (C) shooting. At "C," framing speed is 3.5 frames per second for shutter speeds of 1/125 sec. or faster; at slower speeds, the framing rate automatically adjusts to the shutter speed actuated by the FE's electronic shutter.



A remote-control terminal facilitates connection with such Nikon remote-control accessories as the MW-1 Radio Remote Control Set and ML-1 Modulite Set. This truly enhances the FE's capability as a system SLR camera.



The batteries

housed in the MD-11's built-in battery clip deliver more than enough power to drive up to 100 rolls of 36-exposure film.

An LED indicator flashes intermittently to let you know the motor drive is functioning properly; this lamp stays lit to indicate the end of the film roll.



The FE Way
to Fine
Photography

AUTOMATIC FLASH OF

Mount the Nikon SB-10 Speedlight Unit on the FE's hot-shoe contact, with the camera on automatic—and the correct shutter speed for flash synchronization will be set for you at 1/90 sec., automatically. With the FE's electronic brain taking care of the shutter speed, all you have to do is set the ASA speed of the film in use and choose one of the

two aperture settings, marked orange and blue, provided on top of the SB-10. The unit's built-in computerized flash control will then adjust the light output, relative to the subject-to-camera distance . . . again, automatically.

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Hot-shoe contact



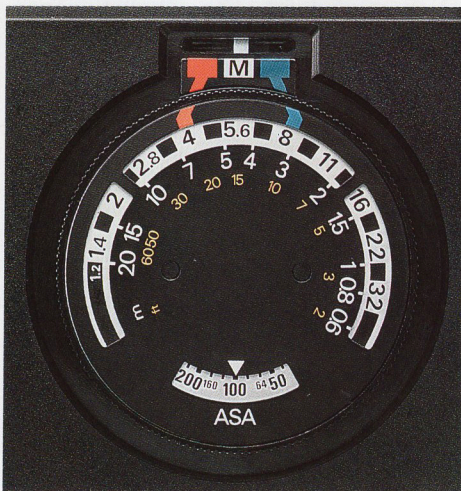
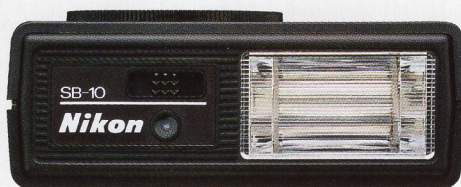
ERATION

The SB-10 itself has been specially designed for use with the FE. It has a guide number in meters of 25 for ASA 100, and 41 in feet for ASA 25; the angle of illumination is wide enough for a 35mm lens. The speedlight's special ready-light contact activates the FE's hot-shoe ready-light contact to switch on the red LED flash readiness indicator



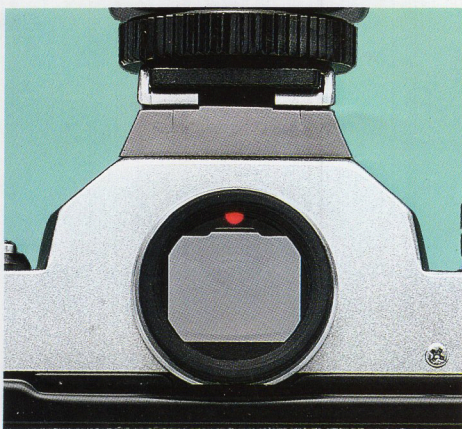
which you can clearly see while looking through the viewfinder. A special silicon-controlled series circuit has been incorporated for energy-saving operation and shorter recycling time. Manual shutter speed setting is also possible with the FE/SB-10 combination. In this case, flash sync is a fast 1/125 sec., which is ideal for

Auto/manual selector & Light sensor



Exposure calculator dial

synchro-sunlight shooting, or slower. The LED ready-light indicator will flash intermittently to warn you, in case you have inadvertently set the shutter speed above 1/125 sec., that the speed selected is beyond the synchronization range of the SB-10. For added versatility, the SB-10 is provided with an "M" position which you can use to set the unit to full power. In this case, you set lens aperture in accordance with the actual subject-to-camera distance.

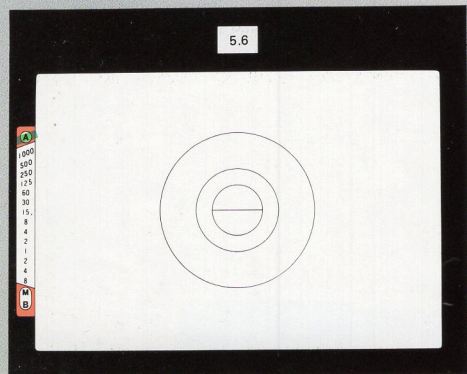


LED ready-light

The Nikon FE's Other Feature Features

Bright, full-information viewfinder

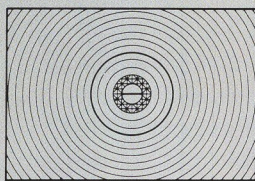
With the FE, you're never in the dark. The bright, silvered pentaprism, combined with the special treatment applied on the screen by Nikon's engineers, makes the most of TTL viewing at full aperture. Information includes the shutter speed in use, as well as the aperture set in the case of AI-type Nikkor lenses. Even a ready-light is built-in, for use with the SB-10 Speedlight Unit. All this keeps you in continuous, total control.



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Interchangeable focusing screens for greater viewing flexibility

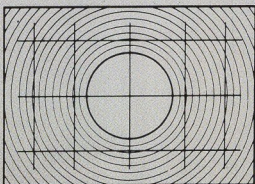
A true system camera in the Nikon tradition, the FE has interchangeable focusing screens, each one designed for brighter viewing and easier focusing. All three types—K, B and E—are exclusive to the FE, with Type K being the camera's standard screen.



Type K:

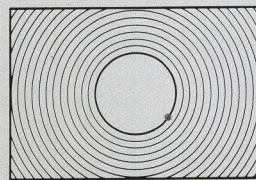
Similar to the performance-proven K screen which is standard for all F2 Nikons, this comprises a 3mm-diameter, horizontally aligned, central split-image rangefinder spot and an annular microprism grid surrounded by a fine matte Fresnel outfield. The 12mm-diameter etched circle very conveniently denotes the area of center-weighted exposure measurement. You can choose any of the three portions of the screen most suited to the requirements of either your subject or the lens in use. For instance, the split-image rangefinder spot is especially useful for precise, pinpoint focusing. You only have to make sure that the two halves of the image portion framed by the spot coincide perfectly to form a single, unbroken image. The microprism grid is best for focusing rapidly on subject outlines, such as in sports or fast-action photography, since image break-up is quickly noticeable even when the subject is only fractionally out of focus.

You merely turn the focusing ring of the lens until the portion of the image seen through the microprism pattern appears crisp. The third focusing "aid," the fine outfield, comes in handy when you're shooting with telephoto lenses or performing close-up work.



Type B:

Comprising a fine matte Fresnel field with a central 12mm-diameter fine-ground matte focusing spot, this screen is ideal for viewing and focusing with ultra-wide or super-telephoto lenses. The spot corresponds to the area of center-weighted TTL exposure measurement.



Type E:

This comprises a fine matte Fresnel field with a central 12mm-diameter fine-ground matte focusing spot and etched grid. The vertical and horizontal lines forming the grid aid in subject composition, with the central spot itself denoting the area of center-weighted metering. Rated excellent with all lenses, this screen is especially recommended for exacting reproduction work, such as copying, as well as for architectural photography with PC-Nikkor lenses.

A specially designed tweezer comes with both the B and E focusing screens to facilitate screen interchange. The screen "bed" itself is the snap-type for effortless opening but secure closure.



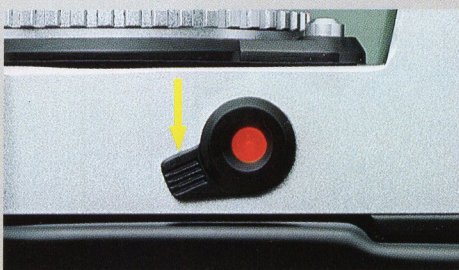
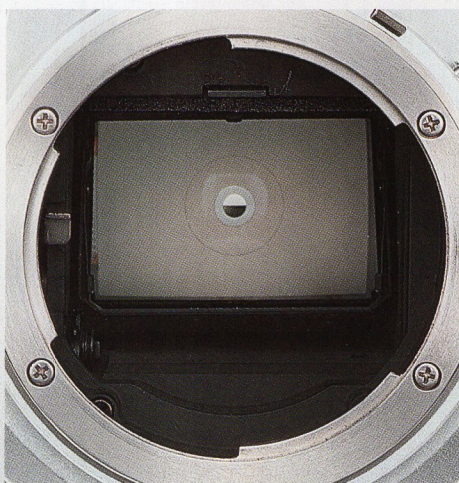
Rugged, performance-proven Nikon bayonet mount



The FE is fitted with the world's finest lens mount, which has remained unchanged since its introduction, to enable the use of the vast majority of Nikkor lenses in circulation, including those which offer the **AI**, or automatic maximum aperture indexing facility. A short counterclockwise twist locks any Nikkor lens with the **AI** feature into place, ready for full-aperture TTL exposure measurement. As for other Nikkor lenses, the camera's meter coupling lever is locked up out of the way before mounting. In all cases, strong and positive body/lens connection is retained through the lens-locking mechanism.

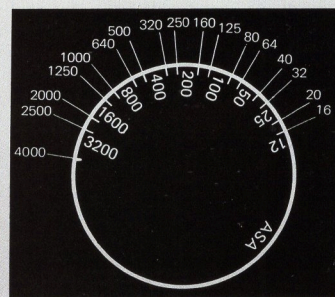
Extra-large reflex mirror with shock-reducing air-damper

The FE's reflex mirror employs Nikon's unique retraction system in which the mirror's hinge mechanism moves back, then up, as the mirror flips out of the optical path when a picture is taken. This system has made it possible for the FE to employ a mirror that is extra-large for the camera body's compact size—hence, there is no image cutoff even when you use a super-telephoto lens as long as 800mm or such close-up accessories as bellows or extension tubes. Noise and shock caused by the mirror's movement are minimized by the use of an air-damper in the mirror box. The mirror's back itself is flocked to prevent flare-forming reflections.



Wide ASA film speed range

The FE's ASA range of 12 to 4000 is the widest among all compact 35mm SLR cameras, with the ASA film speed selector itself conveniently positioned coaxial with the exposure compensation ring for more coordinated operation.



LED-type battery power checker

To find out if the camera has sufficient power, you simply turn the power check lever counterclockwise. The coaxial LED lamp will light up to indicate that power is sufficient. If the lamp fails to light up, owing to lack of power, you can still use the FE at a shutter speed of 1/90 sec. by setting the camera's shutter speed dial to "M90," or you can shoot on "B."

Short-stroke, extra-smooth film advance lever

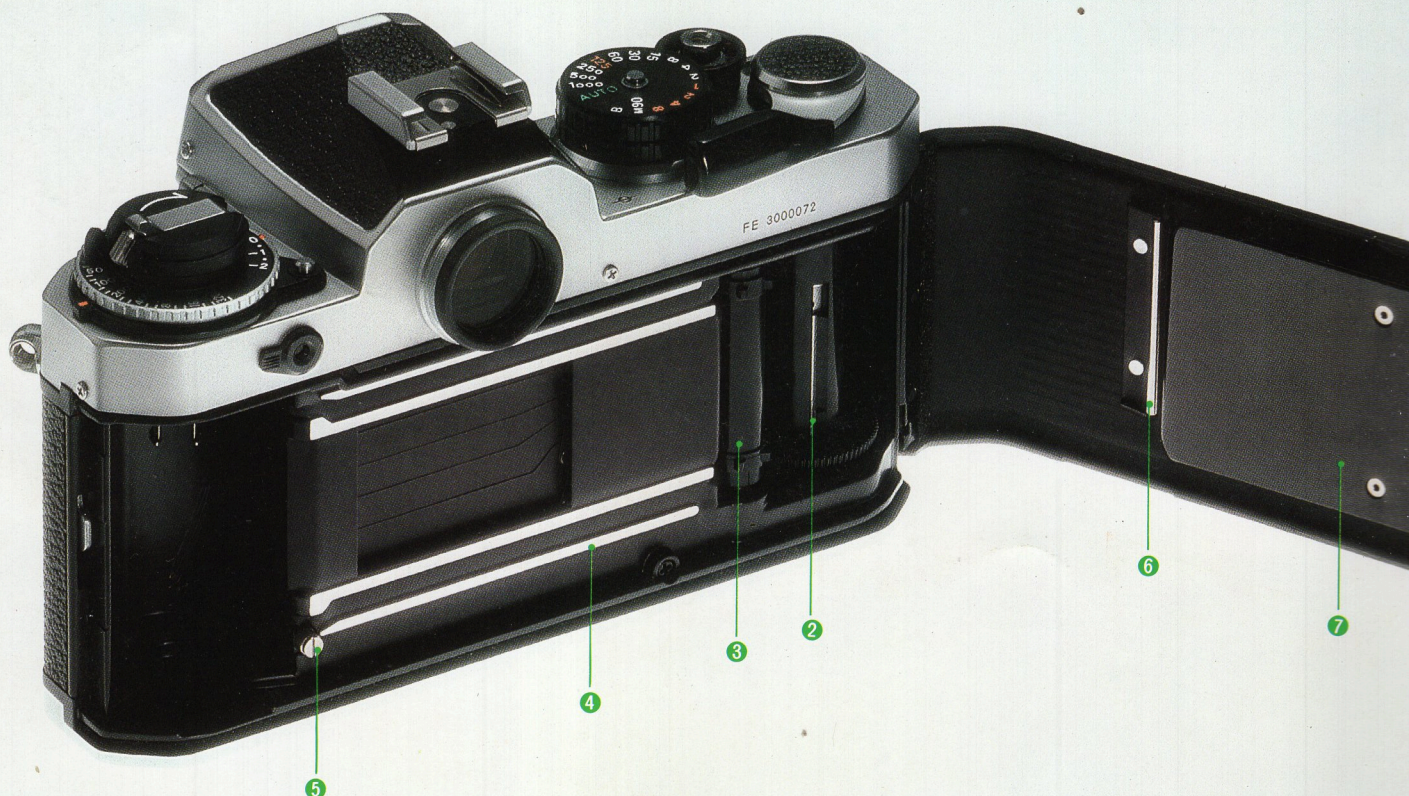
Manual film advance is via the single-stroke film advance lever which has a short winding angle of 135°, and a stand-off angle of 30°. For the FE's compact size, the lever is extra-long for fumble-free, easy operation. A completed stroke simultaneously cocks the shutter mechanism, advances the frame counter by precisely one frame and frees the camera's shutter release, readying you for the next shot. Exceptionally smooth winding is assured by the adoption of strategically positioned ball bearings and a double-shaft winding mechanism. The film advance lever doubles as a meter on/off switch. At the stand-off angle, the meter is switched on; when the lever is pressed back into place, the meter is automatically switched off.



Precise, reliable film transport

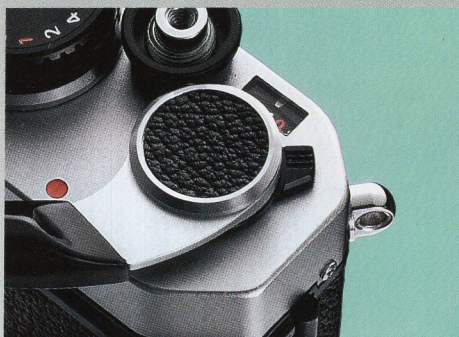
The FE uses the same seven-point film-transport system proven on the FM for absolute film flatness and positive film travel, both of which are essential to picture sharpness. This system is designed not only to take on the demands of constant manual film advance but also to withstand the punishment of motorized shooting of up to 3.5 frames per second. The film cassette stabilizer ① prevents the film cassette from wobbling once it is positioned in the cassette bed. The film leader is then easily fed into any of the three slots of the film takeup spool ②, while the sprocket gears ③ engage the film perforations. As the film is advanced, it travels on a pair of precisely ground rails ④ that keep it perfectly aligned. Smooth running is assured by the roller-type film guide pin ⑤ and the film roller ⑥. Finally, the large film pressure plate ⑦ keeps the film perfectly flat in the whole area across the film gate.

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Functionally positioned multiple-exposure lever

This lever is conveniently positioned on the top right-hand side of the film advance lever for one-hand multiple-exposure shooting. The adjacent frame counter makes for easy confirmation of multiple-exposure operation, which is also possible with a motor drive.



Precise, extra-quiet shutter mechanism

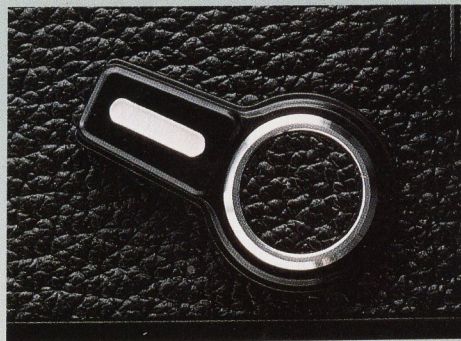
The FE has an all-metal shutter that is specially designed for pinpoint accuracy at any shutter speed from 8 to 1/1000 sec., plus "B." Unlike other vertical-travel shutters, the FE's shutter moves up instead of down, and this effectively cushions the action, assuring quiet and smooth operation.

Cancellable self-timer

This lever can be used to trigger the exposure after a delay of approximately 10 sec. The setting can be cancelled at any time by returning the lever to its original position.



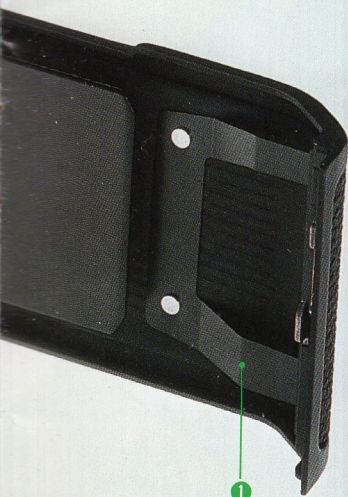
Andy Barker



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Eyepiece with rubberized rim

The eyepiece rim is rubberized to enable spectacle wearers to look through the FE's viewfinder without fear of scratching eyeglass lenses.



A System Camera in the Nikon Tradition

There is still nothing quite like the Nikon System in all of photography, and the Nikon FE is part of this proud tradition. A true system camera, the FE takes on the vast majority of accessories and attachments that make the Nikon System the most comprehensive ever created for 35mm SLR photography. Available are all kinds of equipment—from gadget bags to professional-standard copy stands. All can help transform the FE from a simple picture-taking piece of equipment into a veritable professional tool.

Filters

There are all kinds available for black-and-white or color film, each one designed to be perfectly compatible with Nikkor lenses. Made of the finest optical glass, precision-ground and polished to absolute flatness, Nikon filters mount easily on Nikkor lenses. Both front and back surfaces are coated to prevent surface reflection. In addition, almost all Nikkor lenses ranging from 20mm to 200mm in total length accept the same 52mm screw-in type filters.



Cases

Your Nikon FE deserves the protection and carrying convenience of a Nikon eveready case. Choose any of three: CF-7, for camera with standard lens or another of equal size; CF-8, for camera with 43-86mm Nikkor zoom; CF-9 for camera body and standard lens and motor drive attached. Nikon also offers a variety of finely crafted compartment cases to hold complete outfits.

Motor drive accessories

These include remote-control equipment. Employing a modulated-light output signal for interference-free operation, the ML-1 Modulite Remote Control Set, for instance, will take pictures for you at a distance of up to approximately 60 meters. There is also the MW-1 Radio Control Set which can provide the photographer with a wireless, remote-control triggering capability. One other useful motor drive accessory is the MT-1 Intervalometer which allows you to take time-lapse single-frame exposures or multiple-frame sequences at set, regular intervals.





Electronic flash equipment

In addition to the SB-10, there are other SB-series electronic flash units which you can use with the FE. These include the professional-type SB-5, as well as the ultra-compact SB-9 and SB-8E which both have a built-in computerized flash control that automatically adjusts the light output in accordance with the subject-to-camera distance. There are also Nikon Ringlights available that make for shadowless illumination in close-up and macro photography.



Close-up equipment

You can get in close, really close... with the wide range of close-up accessories in the Nikon System. For a slight to medium increase in close focusing with a normal lens, there are close-up attachment lenses and extension rings that are as inexpensive as they are easy to use. For life-size or larger-than-life reproductions, Nikon bellows equipment. And if you're doing exacting copy

reproduction work, try one of two available Repro-Copy Outfits—each highly suited to precision copying of documents and other opaque originals. In addition to these, of course, there are the justifiably popular Micro-Nikkor lenses.



Viewfinder accessories

There are many ways of looking at things, and the Nikon System takes this into consideration, too. Thus, in addition to the FE's interchangeable focusing screens, there is the DR-3 which, for instance, gives you a right-angle view, as well as the DG-2 which lets you see the image magnified. Other viewfinder accessories include a rubber eyecup for more comfortable viewing and various eyepiece correction lenses.

Nikkor Lenses Complete the FE Story.

One of the great joys of owning a Nikon FE is knowing that it is the only automatic and compact camera in the world that will accept just about all Nikkor lens models, including those dating back to more than ten years ago and those still on the drawing board. This is assured by the adoption of the same Nikon bayonet mount in both the camera body and the lenses themselves—a rugged, performance-proven mount that has remained unchanged since the first 35mm SLR Nikon camera made its appearance.

The Nikkor lens lineup consists of more than 55 interchangeable models, the most extensive in all photography, covering a focal length range of from 6mm to 2000mm. These lenses, which include everything from fisheyes to zooms, telephotos to wideangles, normal lenses to special lenses, have been in the forefront of innovation since their first appearance more than twenty years ago.

Through numerous innovations in optical design, Nikon engineers have created advance lens types which have invariably contributed to the progress of 35mm SLR photography. These innovations include Nikon Integrated Coating (NIC) which reduces reflection and minimizes flare to improve image contrast and color rendition. There is also Nikon's special extra-low dispersion (ED) glass which makes full and optimum correction of chromatic aberration possible even with super-telephoto lenses. Plus Nikon's unique "internal focusing" (IF) system which has brought compactness and light weight into telephoto lens design without sacrificing performance. Innovative optical design is complemented by fine mechanical design. Each Nikkor lens' aperture and footage scales, for instance, are readable at a glance. The aperture scale and focusing ring are spaced just right, so you can feel your way surely without taking your eye off the viewfinder. Once you grip the knurled focusing ring, you know you're in control. It should be

mentioned, too, that a great number of Nikkor lens models, including medium telephotos and wideangles, have become increasingly compact and lightweight.

Mount a Nikkor on the FE, and you will sense the fine balance that tells you they're made for each other . . . as, indeed, they are.

Nikkor Lens List

Fisheye

6mm f/2.8
8mm f/2.8
16mm f/3.5

Wideangle

13mm f/5.6
15mm f/5.6
18mm f/4
20mm f/4
24mm f/2
24mm f/2.8
28mm f/2
28mm f/2.8
28mm f/3.5
35mm f/1.4
35mm f/2
35mm f/2.8

Normal

50mm f/1.4
50mm f/2
55mm f/1.2

Telephoto

85mm f/2
105mm f/2.5
135mm f/2
135mm f/2.8
135mm f/3.5
180mm f/2.8
200mm f/4
300mm f/2.8 IF-ED
300mm f/4.5
300mm f/4.5 ED
400mm f/3.5 IF-ED
400mm f/5.6 ED
600mm f/5.6 IF-ED

Super-Telephoto (Focusing unit required)

400mm f/4.5*
600mm f/5.6*
600mm f/5.6 ED*
800mm f/8*
800mm f/8 ED*
1200mm f/11*
1200mm f/11 ED*

Reflex

500mm f/8*
1000mm f/11*
2000mm f/11*

Zoom

28-45mm f/4.5
35-70mm f/3.5
43-86mm f/3.5
80-200mm f/4.5
50-300mm f/4.5
50-300mm f/4.5 ED
180-600mm f/8 ED*
200-600mm f/9.5*
360-1200mm f/11 ED*

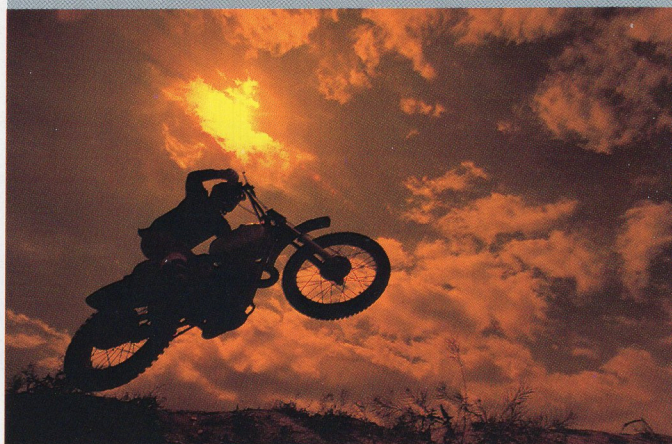
Special

28mm f/4 PC*
35mm f/2.8 PC*
58mm f/1.2 Noct
55mm f/3.5 Micro
105mm f/4 Micro
200mm f/5.6 Medical*

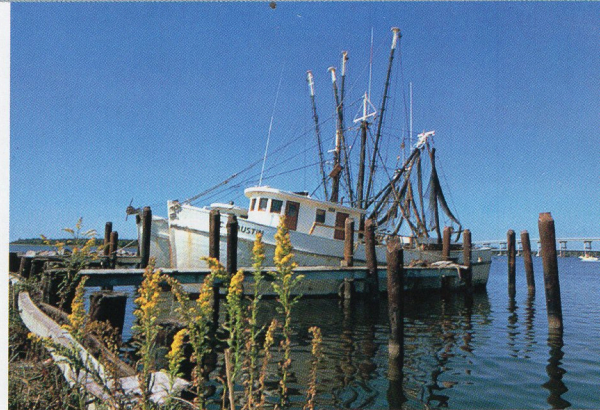
NOTE: When used with the Nikon FE, the new AI Nikkor lenses offer the Automatic Maximum Aperture Indexing (AI) and Aperture-Direct-Readout (ADR) facility. Nikkor lenses without this facility can still be used with the FE, a combination that requires stop-down metering. Nearly all Nikkor lenses, except for some very old models, can be modified to offer the AI and ADR facility. Please check with your camera dealer for detailed information regarding AI lens modification.

* The design of these lenses does not permit full-aperture metering; AI not applicable.

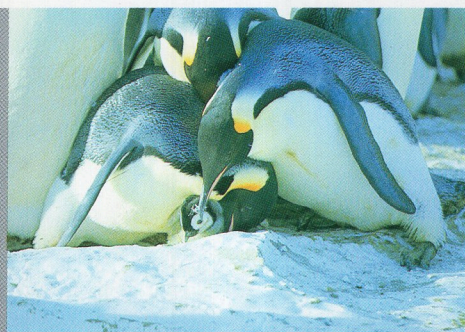




James B. Wood



Kenneth Neely



Bruno J. Zehnder



Andy Barker

Nomenclature

Viewfinder housing

ASA setting lock

Exposure compensation setting index

Film rewind knob

Film rewind crank

Lock for camera back opening

ASA setting index

ASA film speed scale

Exposure compensation ring

Ready-light contact for SB-10 Speedlight Unit

ISO-type hot-shoe

Memo holder

Ready-light indicator

Eyepiece with rubberized rim

Serial number

Multi-slotted film takeup spool

Film sprockets

Shutter curtains

Film guide rails

Film guide pin

Battery power LED lamp

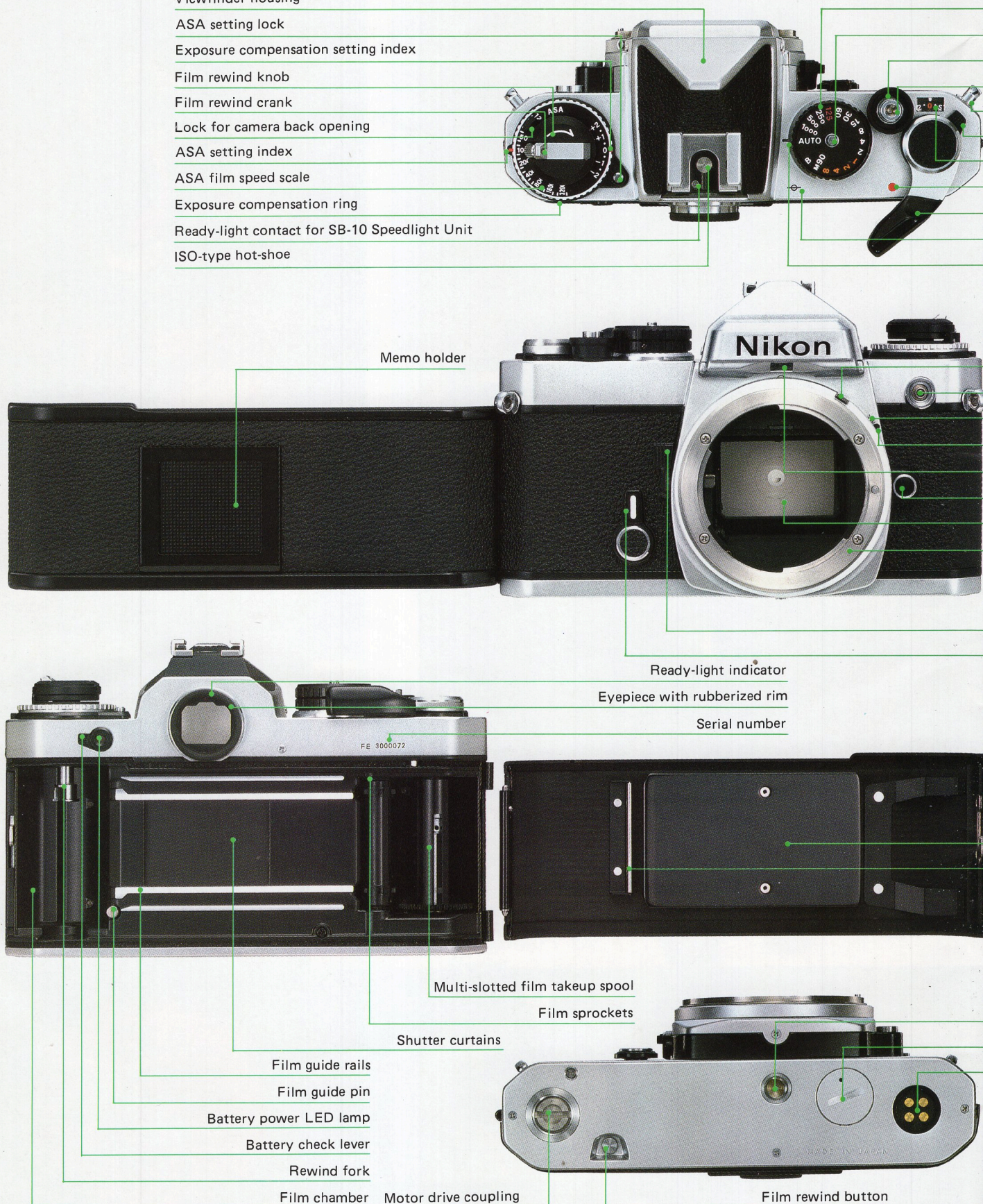
Battery check lever

Rewind fork

Film chamber

Motor drive coupling

Film rewind button



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Specifications and designs shown herein are subject to change without notice.



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