AGFA OPTIMA

GUARANTEE

The lens fitted to your camera is a product of the Agfa Camera Werk and has been computed and manufactured in conformity with the most up to date scientific methods.

The Agfa Color-Apotar S has been computed specially for the Agfa Optima camera and its chief advantages lie in its great depth of field, extremely high resolving power, excellent definition and outstanding reproduction of detail.

The total of these characteristics makes this the ideal lens for miniature photography with black and white or colour film.

In addition, every lens is thoroughly tested before leaving our factory by the most up-to-date methods and is guaranteed by us for its quality and performance.

AGFA AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT
Camera Werk Munich

You are now the proud owner of a technically perfect camera—the fully automatic Agfa Optima which does not require any complicated manual operations and so leaves you free to concentrate on the subject. What a joy that is! The modern age of photography for modern people.

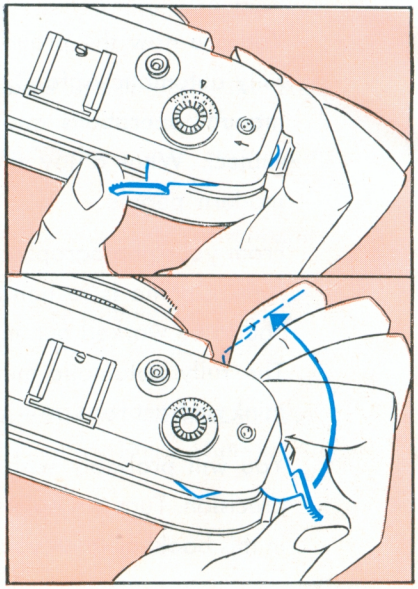
From your photographic dealer you will have learned how simple the Agfa Optima is to handle. Shutter speeds and apertures which once had to be worked out, measured or set are now at your beck and call. The fully automatic mechanism is your invisible slave to calculate, think and act for you—just a touch of the "magic lever" suffices.

You will probably wish to get familiarized with this masterpiece of precision. Turn the pages and read through the advice and hints given in this booklet—then you will soon grasp the essentials.

Your photographic dealer may have loaded the first film for you, but if you wish to do this yourself the next time you will find the necessary instructions in the "Technical Section", page 8.

Instant readiness . . .

. . . is one feature of your camera, thanks to the rapid transport lever. Swing the lever forward **as far as it will go** and then release. If the lever is blocked, that particular frame of film has not been exposed.

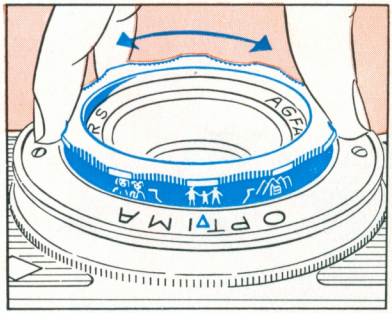


How far away is your subject

The special lens of your Agfa Optima is suitable for all distances and has only three focusing marks. You just set one of the three symbols against the white mark, according to the subject.

	Close-ups	5 ft.–7 ft. 6 in. (1.5–2.25 m.)
	Groups	7 ft. 6 in.–15 ft. (2.25–4.5 m.)
	Distant views, landscapes	15 ft.–infinity (4.5 m.–infinity)

The bright-line frame in the viewfinder shows the exact picture area.



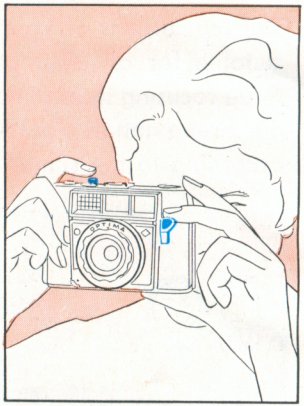
For photographs at shorter distances than 5 ft. (1.5 m.) it is advisable to use the Optima close-up attachment (Order No. 6715).

Press the V Lever

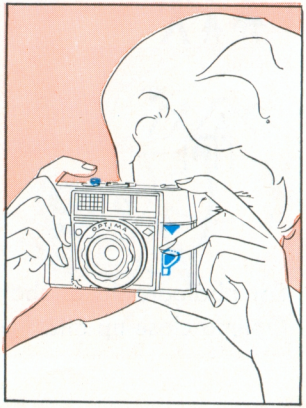
This is the "magic" lever of the Agfa Optima which sets the shutter speed and aperture completely automatically! We will just call it the "V" lever for short.

By depressing the V lever the shortest possible shutter speed and the corresponding aperture are set automatically – according to the light reflected by the subject.

Line up your subject—
hold the camera steady
—middle finger of left
hand on the V lever ▶



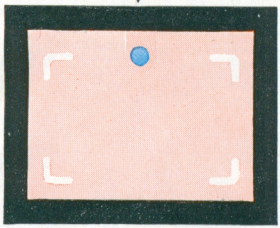
Just before taking
the photograph:
Press V lever right down
and hold there ▶



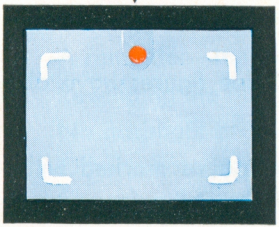
and release

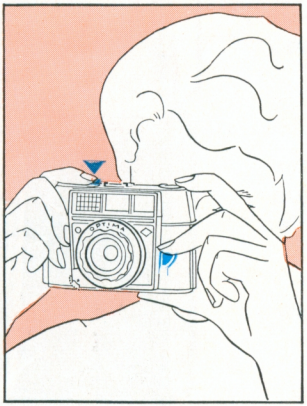
Your viewfinder signal

Green signal:
"All clear"
for your photograph



Red signal:
Stop—
do not photograph,
not enough light





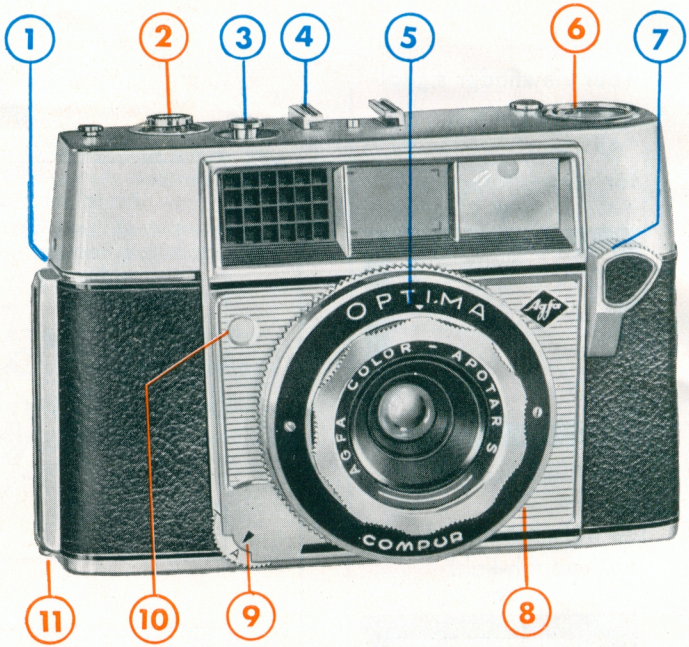
when green—
press down
shutter release
carefully

when swinging
the camera,
release V lever
and press again
when in new
position

How many photographs are still left to take?
The film counter at the lower edge of the camera back indicates the number of exposures still left on the film. The counter scale moves on automatically each time the film is transported.

1 Rapid film transport lever
2 Scale for setting film speed
3 Shutter release threaded to take cable release
4 Accessory shoe for flashgun
5 Focusing mark for three-point setting
6 Recessed rewind knob and film-type indicator
7 V lever
8 Diaphragm ring and indicator window (for flash only)
9 Milled setting disk
A = automatic
= flashlight
10 Flash contact
11 Catch for camera back

Attention! For automatic exposures the milled disk 9 must be in a **positive click stop** position with "A" opposite the triangular mark.



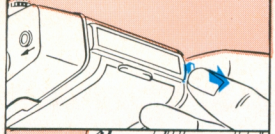
- The points marked with **blue** figures have already been explained.
- For details regarding the points marked with **red** figures refer to the following pages.

TECHNICAL SECTION

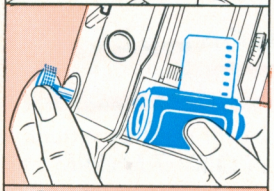
OF INTEREST TO ALL WHO WISH TO KNOW THEIR AGFA OPTIMA INTIMATELY

The nex few pages and the adjacent illustration will acquaint you with the remaining details of the Agfa Optima.

Answers to your questions can be obtained from the following pages of the Technical Section:



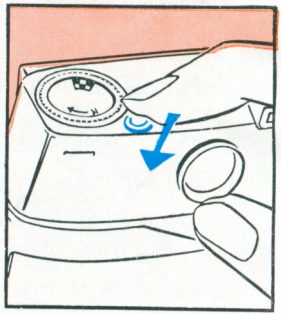
To open camera back: Slide catch in direction of arrow.

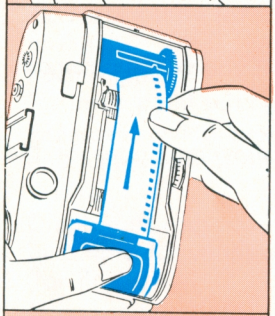


Push locking button in direction of arrow. Draw out rewind knob firmly with left hand as far as possible and insert new film cassette. Push back rewind knob.

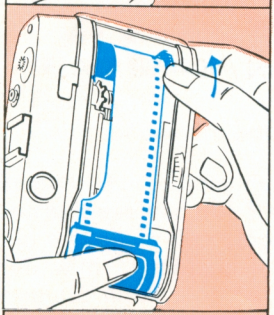
HOW TO LOAD THE FILM

(Only in subdued daylight; on sunny days in body shadow)

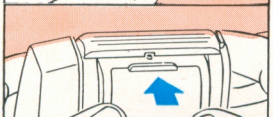




Draw out film until about $^3/_8$ in. full width of film projects from the cassette. Turn the spool by its milled ring until the broad slit and film perforation lug are uppermost.

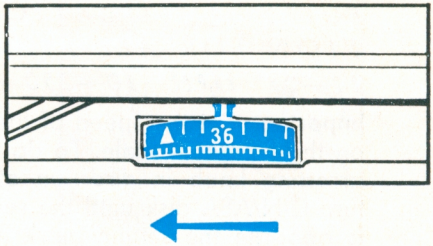


Insert the film in the slit so that the lug engages in the second film perforation. Now turn the winding spool in the direction of the arrow until the film is fairly taut and the teeth of the winding spool engage in the film perforations.



Close the back of the camera by pressing until it snaps home.

FILM TRANSPORT FOR THE FIRST EXPOSURE



Turn the disk of the film counter at the lower edge of the camera back in the direction of the arrow until the tip of the green triangle just before the number 36 or 20 (depending on the length of the film) is in line with the fixed mark. Then operate the rapid transport lever as already described, press the V lever and release the shutter. Repeat this process twice more and your camera is then ready for the first exposure. The film counter indicates the number of exposures still left on the film.

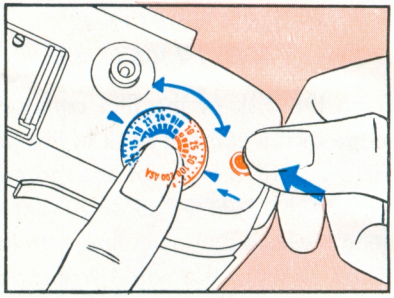
ANOTHER WORD ABOUT THE RAPID TRANSPORT LEVER

Note! If inadvertently the rapid transport lever is not swivelled round as far as it will go, the operation should be repeated. In such cases the lever is often blocked half way round the second time. Do not then try to force it through but allow it to spring back to the starting position.

DOUBLE EXPOSURES IMPOSSIBLE

An ingenious double exposure prevention mechanism ensures that you do not take two photographs on one negative. In addition the film cannot be transported until an exposure has been made.

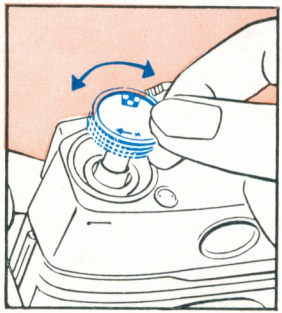
FULLY AUTOMATIC OPERATION FOR ALL FILMS FROM 11—25° DIN (10—250 ASA)



Important: Set the speed of the film loaded on the DIN/ASA scale. To do this push the arresting knob in direction of arrow and turn DIN/ASA disk until the required speed is opposite the setting mark (e. g. 50 ASA in the illustration).

A REMINDER

The film type indicator reminds you what sort of film you have in the camera. Allow the rewind button to spring out (see page 8) and draw it out as far as it will go. Grasp the button between thumb and forefinger and turn it by its milled edge protruding at the bottom until the desired setting appears in the window.



Black and white checks = Black and white film

CN = Colour negative film

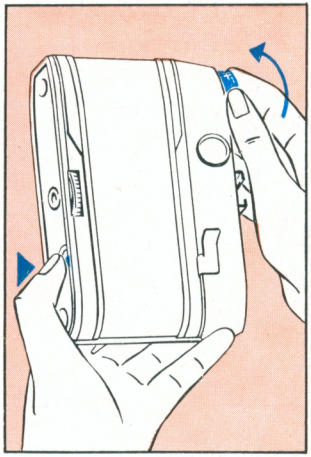
CT DAY = Colour reversal film, daylight type

CK A = Colour reversal film, artificial light type (incandescent lamps with 3400° Kelvin)

CF F = Colour reversal film, artificial flashlight type (3800° Kelvin)

The remaining designations apply to other than English speaking countries.

REWINDING THE FILM AFTER EXPOSURE



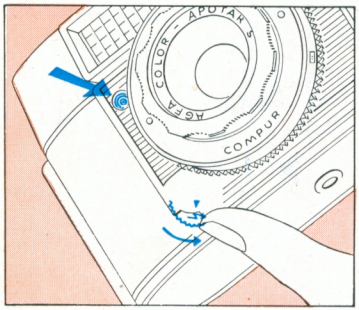
After 36 (or 20) exposures, the rapid transport lever will not move. The film must now be **rewound** into its cassette.

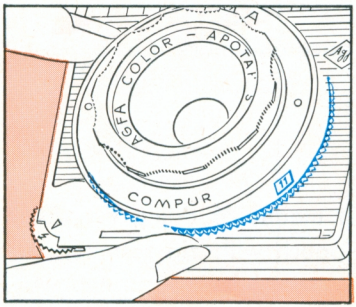
Allow the rewind knob to spring out (see section on loading the film) and draw it out only a fraction to its first stop. Then press in the locking button in the base of the camera and turn the rewind knob in the direction shown by the arrow. Rewinding is complete when the rewind knob turns freely after releasing the locking button. You can now open the back of the camera. Pull out the rewind knob as far as it will go and remove the cassette. Put the cassette in its light-tight packing at once and mark it as exposed.

PROTECT YOUR CAMERA

The practical Agfa ever-ready case offers the best means of doing this. Even lighter and smaller is the smart looking dustproof pouch with zip fastener and carrying sling. Your photographic dealer will be glad to advise you in any way.

NO FLASHLIGHT PROBLEMS





For flash work the fully automatic mechanism is disconnected. Turn the milled setting disk anticlockwise until the lightning symbol appears against the triangular mark and the flash contact becomes visible—the V lever is then blocked and must not be pressed when taking flash photographs! There is now a choice of apertures from f. 3.9 to 22 which have to be set by hand and are visible in a small window on the shutter.

The following table shows the apertures needed for a number of flash bulbs at present marketed. A constant shutter speed of $^1/_{30}$ sec. is used. **Electronic flashguns** can also be used with the camera, in which case the guide number for the particular flashgun is used to calculate the aperture.

Aperture Table for Flash Photography

With lightning symbol set, shutter speed will automatically be $^1/_{30}$ sec.

Symbol	Distance feet	Clear bulbs Black and white film / Negative colour film (CN 17) 17° DIN = 40 ASA		Blue bulbs Daylight colour reversal film (CT 18) 18° DIN = 50 ASA	
		XM 1 PF 1	XM 5 PF 5	XM 1 B PF 1/97	XM 5 B PF 5/97
	5	f. 11	f. 16	f. 11	f. 16
	7	f. 8	f. 11	f. 8	f. 11
	11,5	f. 5.6	f. 8	f. 5.6	f. 8
	15	f. 3.9	f. 5.6	f. 3.9	f. 5.6

Where sharp definition is required in photographs taken against the light or in deep shadow, the automatic mechanism of the camera can still be used with the setting on the DIN/ASA scale reduced. It is advisable to set a film speed of about 3° DIN or its ASA equivalent less than that marked on the film package. If, for example, the film in the camera has a speed of 17° DIN = 40 ASA, the setting should be reduced to 14° DIN = 20 ASA.

There is a variety of filters for **black and white film** available for use with the Agfa Optima in screw mounts of 35.5 mm. diam. As soon as a filter is used on the camera you will have to reduce the setting on the film speed scale accordingly.

A filter having a factor of 2 will require a reduction in the speed setting of 3° DIN or its ASA equivalent. If you have a film of 17° DIN = 40 ASA this means that you will have to reduce the figure to 14° DIN = 20 ASA. When removing the filter from the camera do not forget to reset the original DIN/ASA figure for the film in question.

Filters available for the Agfa Optima

	Filter Factor
for black and white photography	
Agfa light yellow filter	1.5–2
Agfa medium yellow filter	1.8–2.3
Agfa green-yellow filter	2–2.5
Agfa orange-red filter	4
Agfa UV filter	no factor
for special photographs with colour reversal film	
Agfa Color Filter R 1.5	no factor

AGFA FILMS FOR YOUR AGFA CAMERA

And finally a few hints to help you in choosing the right film.

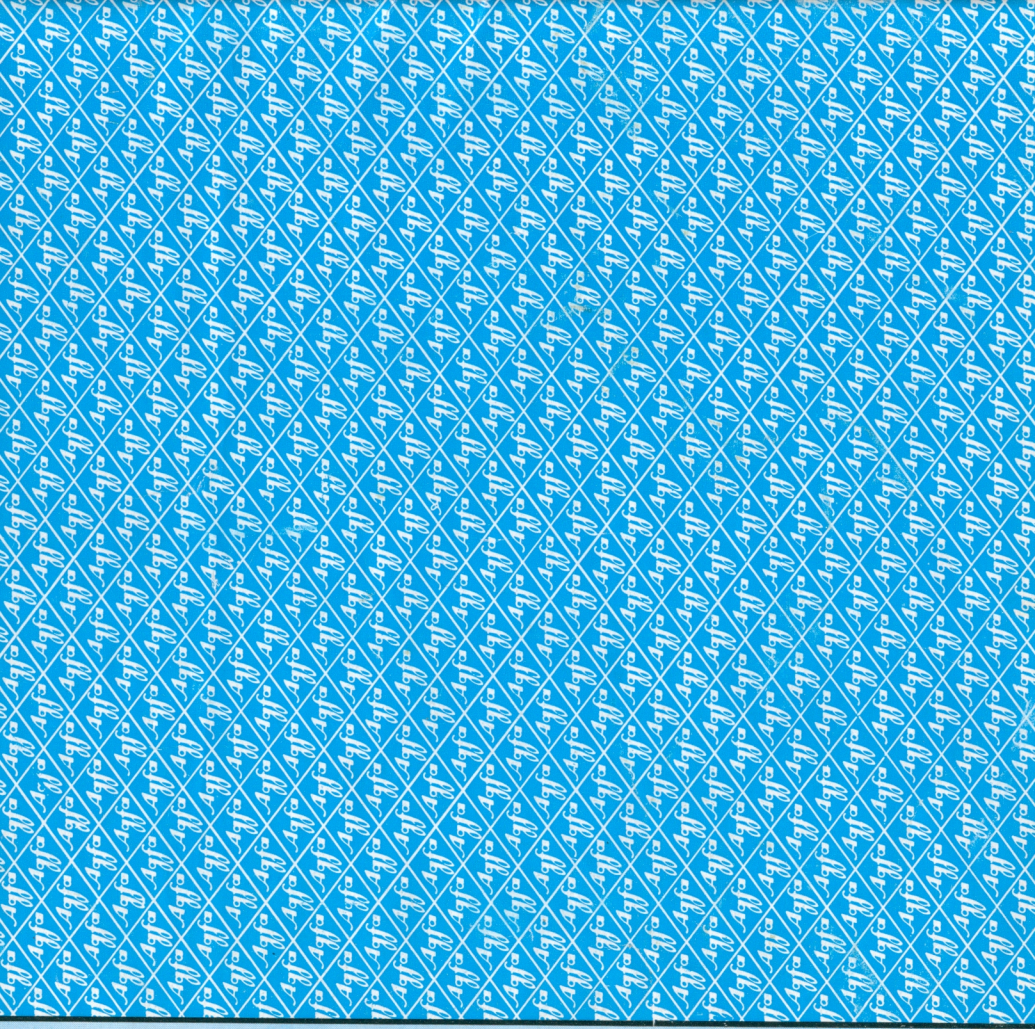
First give Isopan F 17° DIN / 40 ASA a trial. It is a fine-grain film of consistent quality and good contour sharpness.

For poor lighting conditions Isopan ISS, 21° DIN / 100 ASA is just right.

With Agfacolor films you can explore the realm of colour. For more than twenty years they have been favourites because of their natural reproduction of both pastel and brilliant colours. Their high speed has also made the living snapshot in colour a practical reality.

For sharp, brilliant colour transparencies: Agfacolor Reversal Film CT 18

For wonderful album colour prints: Agfacolor Negative Film CN 17 and the fine-grain CN 14 Film.



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CAMERA-WERK MUENCHEN

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