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Vivitar V-4000

Vivitar V-4000 35mm SLR Camera Instruction Manual

Model: V-4000

INTRODUCTION

The Vivitar V-4000 is a manual single-lens reflex (SLR) camera designed for photographers who prefer direct control over their camera settings. This kit includes a 35-70mm zoom lens, providing versatility for various photographic situations. The V-4000 focuses on essential photographic functions, allowing users to develop a fundamental understanding of photography principles.

Key features of the Vivitar V-4000 include:

- Bright viewfinder with split-image focusing and a three-LED display for exposure guidance.
- Hot shoe with X-contact for flash photography, synchronized at 1/125 second or slower.
- Film speed range from ISO 25 to 3200.
- Accurate center-weighted, Through-The-Lens (TTL) metering system.
- Integrated self-timer function.
- Accepts Pentax K mount lenses, offering compatibility with a wide range of optics.

SETUP

1. Battery Installation

The Vivitar V-4000 requires two 1.5-volt alkaline (LR44) or silver oxide (SR44) batteries for operation. These batteries power the camera's light meter and LED display.

1. Locate the battery compartment, typically on the bottom or side of the camera body.
2. Open the compartment cover.
3. Insert the two batteries, ensuring correct polarity (+/-) as indicated inside the compartment.
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

2. Lens Attachment

The camera features a quick-release K-type bayonet mount for attaching and detaching lenses.

1. Align the red dot or indicator on the lens barrel with the corresponding red dot or indicator on the camera's lens mount.
2. Insert the lens into the camera mount.

3. Rotate the lens clockwise (when viewed from the front) until it clicks into place, indicating it is securely locked.
4. To detach the lens, press the lens release button on the camera body and rotate the lens counter-clockwise.



Figure 1: Vivitar V-4000 camera with the 35-70mm lens mounted.

3. Film Loading

The Vivitar V-4000 uses standard 35mm film. Ensure the film speed (ISO) dial on the camera matches the ISO rating of your film.

1. Open the camera back by pulling up the film rewind knob.
2. Place the film cartridge into the film chamber.
3. Pull the film leader across to the take-up spool and insert it into one of the slots.
4. Advance the film slightly using the film advance lever to ensure it catches on the take-up spool's teeth.
5. Close the camera back firmly.
6. Advance the film two frames, pressing the shutter release button each time, to ensure the film is properly loaded and to reach the first unexposed frame. The film rewind knob should rotate as you advance the film, indicating proper loading.
7. Set the ISO dial on the camera to match the film's ISO rating.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Focusing

The 35-70mm lens features manual focus. Use the bright viewfinder with its split-image focusing aid for precise focus.

1. Look through the viewfinder.
2. Rotate the focusing ring on the lens until the image in the split-image circle within the viewfinder appears sharp and aligned.
3. For subjects outside the split-image area, use the microprism collar or the surrounding matte screen to achieve sharp focus.



Figure 2: Front view of the 35-70mm lens, showing focusing and aperture controls.

2. Setting Exposure (Shutter Speed and Aperture)

The V-4000 utilizes a manual, center-weighted TTL metering system. You must manually set both the shutter speed and aperture.

1. **Shutter Speed:** Rotate the shutter speed dial on the top of the camera to select a desired speed (from Bulb to 1/2000 second).
2. **Aperture:** Rotate the aperture ring on the lens to select the desired f-stop (e.g., f/3.5 to f/4.8 on the included lens).
3. **Metering:** Half-press the shutter button to activate the light meter. LEDs in the viewfinder will indicate if the exposure is correct (green), overexposed (red +), or underexposed (red -). Adjust shutter speed or aperture until the green LED illuminates.



Figure 3: Top controls of the Vivitar V-4000, including the shutter speed dial.

3. Taking a Picture

1. Frame your shot through the viewfinder.
2. Focus the lens manually.
3. Set the appropriate shutter speed and aperture based on the light meter reading.
4. Gently press the shutter release button completely to take the picture.
5. Advance the film using the film advance lever to prepare for the next shot.

4. Using the Self-Timer

The self-timer allows for a delayed shutter release, useful for self-portraits or group photos where the photographer wants to be in the shot.

1. Compose and focus your shot.
2. Engage the self-timer lever (location may vary, typically on the front of the camera body).
3. Press the shutter release button. The self-timer mechanism will begin its countdown, and the shutter will fire after approximately 10 seconds.

5. Flash Photography

The V-4000 is equipped with a hot shoe for external flash units. The flash synchronization speed is 1/125 second or slower.

1. Mount a compatible external flash unit onto the camera's hot shoe.
2. Set the camera's shutter speed to 1/125 second or slower.
3. Adjust the flash and camera aperture settings according to the flash unit's instructions or guide number.

4. Take the picture as usual.

6. Rewinding Film

Once all frames on the film roll have been exposed, the film must be rewound back into its cartridge before opening the camera back.

1. Press the film rewind release button, usually located on the bottom of the camera.
2. Fold out the crank on the film rewind knob and turn it clockwise until you feel the tension release, indicating the film is fully rewound into the cartridge.
3. Pull up the film rewind knob to open the camera back.
4. Remove the film cartridge for processing.



Figure 4: Rear view of the Vivitar V-4000 camera.

MAINTENANCE

Proper care and maintenance will ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Vivitar V-4000 camera.

- **Cleaning the Lens:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth and a specialized lens cleaning solution to gently wipe the lens surfaces. Avoid touching the lens glass with your fingers. Use a blower brush to remove dust particles.
- **Cleaning the Camera Body:** Wipe the camera body with a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, but ensure no moisture enters the camera's internal components.
- **Storage:** Store the camera in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. If storing for an extended period, remove the batteries to prevent leakage.
- **Avoid Impact:** Protect the camera from drops and impacts, which can damage internal mechanisms and optical components.

TROUBLESHOOTING

| Problem | Possible Cause | Solution |
|--|--|---|
| Camera does not power on / Meter LEDs do not light up | Dead or incorrectly installed batteries. | Check battery polarity; replace with fresh LR44/SR44 batteries. |
| Film does not advance | Film not properly loaded onto take-up spool; film leader detached. | Open camera back in a darkroom or changing bag, reload film, ensuring leader is securely attached to take-up spool. |
| Images are blurry | Incorrect focus; camera shake; subject movement. | Ensure precise manual focusing; use a faster shutter speed or tripod; ensure subject is still. |
| Images are too dark (underexposed) or too bright (overexposed) | Incorrect shutter speed or aperture settings; incorrect ISO setting. | Adjust shutter speed and aperture based on the in-viewfinder light meter readings (aim for green LED); verify ISO setting matches film. |
| Film rewind knob does not turn when rewinding | Film rewind release button not pressed. | Ensure the film rewind release button on the camera bottom is pressed before attempting to rewind. |

SPECIFICATIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Model Name | V-4000 |
| Brand | Vivitar |
| Lens Included | 35-70mm f/3.5-4.8 Close-Focusing Zoom Lens |
| Lens Mount | Pentax K-Mount |
| Film Type | 35mm Film |
| Shutter Speed Range | Bulb to 1/2000 second (manual control) |
| Film Speed Range (ISO) | 25 to 3200 |
| Metering System | Center-weighted, TTL (Through-The-Lens), Manual Metering |
| Flash Synchronization | 1/125 second or slower (X-contact hot shoe) |
| Batteries | Two 1.5-volt LR44 or SR44 batteries |
| Weight | 560 Grams (camera body only, approximate) |
| Color | Silver |
| Special Features | Self-timer, Optical Viewfinder with Split-Image Focusing |

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Information regarding specific warranty terms or direct customer support contacts for the Vivitar V-4000 camera is not available in the provided product data. Please refer to the original packaging or contact your retailer for details on warranty coverage and support options.

