

Tamron AF200-400

Tamron AF200-400mm f/5.6 LD Telephoto Zoom Lens User Manual

For Canon-AF Cameras

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the proper use and care of your Tamron AF200-400mm f/5.6 LD telephoto zoom lens. Designed for Canon-AF SLR cameras, this lens allows for capturing distant subjects with clarity, making it suitable for nature, sports, and wildlife photography. It features Low Dispersion (LD) elements to minimize chromatic aberrations and an internal focusing mechanism for consistent lens length during operation.

2. SETUP

2.1 Attaching the Lens

1. Ensure both the camera and lens are powered off.
2. Remove the rear lens cap from the lens and the body cap from the camera.
3. Align the mounting index mark on the lens barrel with the corresponding mark on the camera body.
4. Insert the lens into the camera mount and rotate it clockwise until it clicks securely into place.



Image: Rear view of the Tamron AF200-400mm lens, showing the Canon-AF mount with electronic contacts. This is where the lens connects to the camera body.

2.2 Detaching the Lens

1. Power off the camera.
2. While pressing the lens release button on the camera body, rotate the lens counter-clockwise until it stops.

3. Carefully remove the lens from the camera.
4. Attach the rear lens cap to the lens and the body cap to the camera to protect the internal components.

2.3 Tripod Collar

The lens is equipped with a built-in tripod collar. This feature allows for stable mounting on a tripod or monopod, especially beneficial due to the lens's weight and focal length. The collar can be rotated to change the camera's orientation (landscape to portrait) without removing it from the tripod.



Image: Side view of the Tamron AF200-400mm lens, showcasing its overall length and the integrated tripod collar for balanced support.

3. OPERATING THE LENS

3.1 Zooming

This lens features a push-pull zooming mechanism. To adjust the focal length, slide the front barrel of the lens forward or backward. Pushing the barrel forward increases the focal length (zooms in), while pulling it backward decreases the focal length (zooms out).

3.2 Focusing

The Tamron AF200-400mm f/5.6 LD lens utilizes an internal focusing system. This means the physical length of the lens does not change during focusing, and the front element remains stationary. This design helps to minimize corner distortion and maintain sharpness across the image area. Use your camera's autofocus system for automatic focusing. For manual focus, switch your camera to MF mode and rotate the focusing ring on the lens.



Image: Close-up view of the Tamron AF200-400mm lens barrel, showing the focal length markings (200-400mm) and aperture (1:5.6), along with the filter thread size (Φ77).

3.3 Aperture

This lens has a constant maximum aperture of f/5.6 across its entire zoom range (200-400mm). This allows for consistent exposure settings when zooming.

3.4 Low Dispersion (LD) Elements

The lens incorporates two Low Dispersion (LD) elements in its optical design. These elements are crucial for correcting chromatic aberrations, which are color fringes that can appear around high-contrast subjects. The LD elements contribute to producing sharp, clear images with accurate color reproduction throughout the zoom range.

3.5 Macro Ratio

The lens offers a macro ratio of 1:6.1, allowing for relatively close-up photography of smaller subjects, even at telephoto focal lengths.

4. MAINTENANCE

4.1 Cleaning the Lens

- Use a soft, lint-free cloth or a lens brush to gently remove dust from the lens surfaces.
- For smudges or fingerprints, apply a small amount of lens cleaning fluid to a clean lens cloth and wipe the surface in a circular motion, starting from the center and moving outwards.
- Never use abrasive materials or harsh chemicals, as these can damage the lens coatings.

4.2 Storage

- Always attach the front and rear lens caps when the lens is not in use.
- Store the lens in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- If storing for extended periods, consider using a dehumidifying agent to prevent mold growth.

4.3 Handling Precautions

- Avoid dropping or subjecting the lens to strong impacts.
- Do not expose the lens to water or high humidity.
- When carrying, ensure the lens is securely attached to the camera or stored in a padded bag.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

5.1 Blurry Images

- **Camera Shake:** At longer focal lengths (200-400mm), camera shake is more pronounced. This lens does not feature built-in image stabilization. It is highly recommended to use a tripod or monopod, especially in lower light conditions or with slower shutter speeds, to ensure sharp images.
- **Incorrect Focus:** Ensure the camera's autofocus system is correctly acquiring focus on your subject. If using manual focus, verify that the subject is sharp in the viewfinder or on the LCD.
- **Shutter Speed:** Use a sufficiently fast shutter speed to freeze motion and minimize camera shake. A general rule of thumb is to use a shutter speed equal to or faster than 1/focal length (e.g., 1/400s at 400mm).

5.2 Focusing Difficulties

- **Low Light:** Autofocus systems can struggle in low light. Try focusing on a high-contrast area of your subject or use an external light source if available.
- **Subject Contrast:** Ensure your subject has sufficient contrast for the autofocus system to lock on.
- **Minimum Focus Distance:** Be aware of the lens's minimum focus distance (2.5m / 8.2ft). If you are too close to your subject, the lens will not be able to focus.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Number	AF200-400
Focal Length	200-400mm
Maximum Aperture	f/5.6
Lens Type	Telephoto Zoom
Compatible Mountings	Canon RF (Canon-AF)
Minimum Focus Distance	2.5m (8.2ft)
Macro Ratio	1:6.1
Filter Size	Φ77mm
Item Weight	10.5 ounces (approximately 298 grams)
Package Dimensions	7.8 x 3.1 x 2 inches

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding warranty coverage, service, or technical support for your Tamron lens, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Tamron website. Contacting Tamron customer service directly will provide the most accurate and up-to-date support information.

Official Tamron Website: www.tamron-usa.com

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