Nikon N80

Nikon N80 35mm SLR Film Camera User Manual

Model: N80 (Model Number: 1776)

Brand: Nikon

Introduction

The Nikon N80 is a sophisticated 35mm Single-Lens Reflex (SLR) film camera designed for advanced amateur photographers. It integrates a robust autofocus system, versatile exposure control, and compatibility with a wide range of Nikon F-mount lenses, offering flexibility for various photographic styles and conditions. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, maintaining, and troubleshooting your N80 camera.

1. Setup

1.1 Battery Installation

The Nikon N80 requires two CR123A lithium batteries for operation. Ensure the camera is powered off before installing or replacing batteries.

1. Locate the battery chamber cover on the bottom of the camera body.
2. Open the cover by sliding or rotating it according to the indicator.
3. Insert two fresh CR123A batteries, observing the correct polarity (+/-) as indicated inside the chamber.
4. Close the battery chamber cover securely.

1.2 Lens Attachment

The N80 is compatible with Nikon F-mount lenses, including AF-D, AF-G, and AF-S types for autofocus functionality. Always handle lenses by their barrel and avoid touching the glass elements.



Figure 1: Front view of the Nikon N80 camera body, showing the F-mount for lens attachment and the built-in pop-up flash in the raised position.

1. Remove the body cap from the camera and the rear cap from the lens.
2. Align the mounting index (white dot) on the lens with the mounting index on the camera body.
3. Insert the lens into the camera's lens mount and rotate it clockwise until it clicks into place.
4. To remove the lens, press the lens release button on the camera body and rotate the lens counter-clockwise.

1.3 Film Loading

The N80 uses standard 35mm film cartridges. Ensure you are in a shaded area or indoors when loading film to prevent accidental exposure.

1. Open the camera back by sliding the latch on the side of the camera downwards.
2. Place the film cartridge into the film chamber on the left side, ensuring the film leader points towards the take-up spool on the right.
3. Pull the film leader across to the red index mark on the take-up spool.
4. Ensure the film perforations engage with the teeth on the take-up spool.
5. Close the camera back firmly until it latches. The camera will automatically advance the film to the first frame (frame 1).

2. Operating the Camera

2.1 Power On/Off

The power switch is located around the shutter release button. Rotate it to the 'ON' position to power on the camera and 'OFF' to power it down.



Figure 2: Top view of the Nikon N80, highlighting the main controls including the power switch, shutter release, and LCD panel.

2.2 Exposure Modes

The N80 offers various exposure modes, including Programmed Auto (P), Shutter-Priority Auto (S), Aperture-Priority Auto (A), and Manual (M). Select your desired mode using the mode dial on the top of the camera.

- **Programmed Auto (P)**: The camera automatically sets both shutter speed and aperture for optimal exposure.
- **Shutter-Priority Auto (S)**: You set the shutter speed, and the camera selects the appropriate aperture.
- **Aperture-Priority Auto (A)**: You set the aperture, and the camera selects the appropriate shutter speed.
- **Manual (M)**: You control both shutter speed and aperture. Use the camera's built-in meter as a guide.

2.3 Focusing

The N80 features a 5-point autofocus system with Phase Detection technology. You can switch between autofocus (AF) and manual focus (M) using the switch on the lens or camera body.

- **Autofocus (AF)**: Press the shutter release button halfway to activate autofocus. The camera will focus on the

subject within the selected AF area.

- **Manual Focus (M)**: Rotate the focusing ring on the lens until the subject appears sharp in the viewfinder.

2.4 ISO Setting

For 35mm film cameras, the ISO sensitivity is primarily determined by the film loaded. The N80 can read DX codes on film cartridges to automatically set the ISO. You can also manually override the ISO setting if desired, typically ranging from ISO 100 to 51200, though actual film sensitivity will be limited by the film stock.

2.5 Built-in Flash

The N80 includes a built-in pop-up flash with various modes: Auto, Fill-Flash (On), Flash Off, and Slow Sync. The flash has a guide number of 12/39 (ISO 100, m/ft.) and a flash sync speed of 1/200 or 1/250 second.

- To raise the flash, press the flash release button, usually located on the side of the flash housing.
- Select the desired flash mode using the camera's controls.

2.6 Self-Timer

The self-timer function allows for a delayed shutter release, useful for self-portraits or to avoid camera shake. Activate the self-timer via the camera's menu or dedicated button, typically offering a 10-second delay.

2.7 Film Rewinding

Once all frames on the film roll have been exposed, the camera will automatically begin rewinding the film back into its cartridge. Some models may require manual initiation of the rewind process via a button or menu option. Wait for the rewind process to complete before opening the camera back.



Figure 3: Bottom view of the Nikon N80, illustrating the battery compartment and tripod mounting thread.

3. Maintenance

3.1 Cleaning the Camera

Regular cleaning helps maintain your camera's performance and longevity.

- **Camera Body**: Use a soft, lint-free cloth to wipe the camera body. For stubborn dirt, slightly dampen the cloth with water or a mild cleaning solution, avoiding electronic contacts.
- **Lens Elements**: Use a lens brush or blower to remove dust. For smudges, use a specialized lens cleaning solution and a microfiber cloth, cleaning in a circular motion from the center outwards.
- **Viewfinder**: Use a soft brush or air blower to remove dust. Avoid touching the viewfinder glass directly with fingers.

3.2 Storage

When not in use, store your N80 in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Use lens caps and a body cap to protect the lens and camera sensor/mirror box from dust and damage. If storing for extended periods, remove the batteries to prevent leakage.

4. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Nikon N80.

- **Camera Does Not Power On**: Check if the batteries are correctly inserted with the correct polarity. Replace with fresh batteries if necessary. Ensure the power switch is in the 'ON' position.
- **Film Does Not Advance/Load Properly**: Ensure the film leader is correctly engaged with the take-up spool. Close the camera back firmly. If the issue persists, try a different roll of film.
- **Autofocus Not Working**: Check if the lens is securely attached and the AF/M switch on both the lens and camera is set to AF. Ensure there is sufficient light and contrast for the autofocus system to operate.
- **Error Message Displayed**: If an error message appears on the LCD panel, consult the full Nikon N80 service manual for specific error codes. Often, removing and reinserting batteries can reset minor errors. For persistent or critical errors, professional service may be required.
- **Images Are Too Dark/Bright**: Verify your exposure settings (aperture, shutter speed, ISO). Ensure the metering mode is appropriate for the scene. Check flash settings if using the built-in flash.

5. Specifications

Key technical specifications for the Nikon N80 35mm SLR Film Camera.

Feature	Specification
Brand	Nikon
Model Name	N80 35mm SLR
Model Number	1776
Compatible Mountings	Nikon F
Aspect Ratio	3:2
Expanded ISO Range	100 - 51200 (film dependent)
Metering Methods	3D Matrix, Center-Weighted, Spot Metering

Exposure Control	Automatic, Manual
Auto Focus Technology	Phase Detection
Autofocus Points	5
Minimum Shutter Speed	0.00025 seconds (1/4000s)
Built-In Flash	Yes
Flash Modes	Auto, On, Off, Slow Synch
Flash Sync Speed	1/200 or 1/250 second
Self-Timer	Yes
Viewfinder	Optical (0.9x magnification)
Battery Type	CR123A Lithium (x2)
Item Weight	885 Grams
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant

6. Warranty and Support

6.1 Warranty Information

Warranty coverage for your Nikon N80 camera may vary depending on the region and the point of purchase. For specific warranty details, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or contact your retailer. If purchased used, any warranty may be limited or provided by the seller, such as a 14-day satisfaction guarantee and a 90-day parts and labor warranty from specific resellers.

6.2 Customer Support

For further assistance, technical support, or service inquiries, please visit the official Nikon support website or contact their customer service department.
Nikon Official Website: https://www.nikon.com/
Nikon Support Page: https://www.nikonusa.com/en/service-and-support/index.page