

Pentax 36141

Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141 Instruction Manual

MODEL: 36141

1. INTRODUCTION

The Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141 is a precision instrument designed for accurate light measurement in photography. This manual provides detailed instructions for its setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting, ensuring optimal performance and longevity of your device. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the meter.

2. SETUP

2.1 Battery Installation

The Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141 requires a specific type of battery for operation. To install or replace the battery, locate the battery compartment cover on the bottom of the meter. Use a coin or a flat-head screwdriver to carefully unscrew the cover. Insert the new battery, ensuring correct polarity as indicated inside the compartment. Replace the cover and tighten securely.



This image displays a view of the bottom of the Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141, revealing the battery compartment cover (secured by a screw) and a tripod mounting thread. A small coin is shown next to the battery cover, indicating the tool needed for opening.

2.2 Attaching the Neck Strap

Attach the provided neck strap to the designated loop on the meter for secure handling and to prevent accidental drops during use.



This image provides a top-down view of the Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141, clearly showing the 'PENTAX DIGITAL SPOTMETER' branding and the main lens assembly. A wrist strap is also visible attached to the end of the meter.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Powering On and Basic Reading

To power on the meter, press the single button located on the side of the device. Aim the meter's eyepiece at the specific area of your subject you wish to measure. The meter has a 1-degree spot measurement

capability, allowing for precise readings of small areas. Press the button again to take a reading. The digital display will show an Exposure Value (EV).



A side view of the Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141, showing the eyepiece through which the user aims the meter. The ergonomic grip and the overall sleek design of the device are visible.

3.2 Understanding Exposure Values (EV)

The EV reading indicates the brightness of the measured area. This value can then be transferred to your camera settings (aperture, shutter speed, ISO) to achieve the desired exposure. Consult your camera's manual for converting EV to specific *f-stops* and shutter speeds.



This image displays a close-up of the Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141, highlighting the exposure value (EV) and ASA/ISO setting dials. The numbers and markings for various exposure settings are clearly visible on the rotating rings.

3.3 Using the ASA/ISO Dial

The meter features an ASA/ISO dial. Rotate this dial to match the ISO sensitivity of the film or digital sensor you are using. This ensures the EV readings are accurate for your chosen sensitivity.

3.4 Advanced Exposure Control (Zone System / IRE Scale)

For advanced users, the Pentax Digital Spot Meter is highly valued for techniques like the **Zone System**. By taking multiple spot readings across different tones (highlights, mid-tones, shadows) of a scene, you can precisely control the final contrast and detail in your image.

Additionally, the meter can be used with the **IRE scale** concept, particularly useful for digital photography to prevent blown-out highlights. To do this, take a reading from the brightest part of your subject. Then, align this measured value with the '10' mark on an IRE scale (if available on your camera or external chart). This method helps ensure that even the brightest areas retain detail and do not clip.

4. MAINTENANCE

4.1 Cleaning

Keep the meter clean by wiping it with a soft, dry cloth. For the lens and eyepiece, use a lens cleaning cloth and a specialized lens cleaning solution. Avoid abrasive materials or harsh chemicals.

4.2 Storage

Store the meter in a dry, dust-free environment, away from extreme temperatures and direct sunlight. If storing for an extended period, remove the battery to prevent leakage.

4.3 Battery Replacement

Replace the battery when the display becomes dim or the meter fails to power on. Refer to the 'Battery Installation' section for detailed instructions.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Meter Does Not Power On:** Check battery installation and polarity. Ensure the battery is fresh. If the issue persists, replace the battery with a new one.
- **Inaccurate Readings:** Verify the ASA/ISO dial setting matches your camera's ISO. Ensure the lens and eyepiece are clean. Avoid taking readings in extremely low light conditions that exceed the meter's sensitivity range.
- **Display Issues:** If the digital display is faint or flickering, the battery may be low and requires replacement.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are provided for the Pentax Digital Spot Meter 36141:

- **Package Dimensions:** 6.54 x 4.57 x 2.28 inches
- **Item Weight:** 12.6 ounces
- **Item Model Number:** 36141
- **Manufacturer:** PENTAX IMAGING COMPANY
- **Date First Available:** June 17, 2003

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information or technical support, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or contact Pentax customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.

