

## Nikon JAA323AA

# Nikon AF NIKKOR 300mm f/4 ED IF Telephoto Lens User Manual

Model: JAA323AA

## INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the safe and effective use of your Nikon AF NIKKOR 300mm f/4 ED IF Telephoto Lens. Designed for professional and enthusiast photographers, this lens offers exceptional optical performance, featuring Extra-low Dispersion (ED) glass for superior sharpness and color correction, and Internal Focusing (IF) for fast, quiet autofocus without changing the lens length. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the lens to ensure optimal performance and longevity.

## SETUP

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### Attaching the Lens

1. Ensure both the camera and lens are powered off.
2. Remove the rear lens cap and the camera body cap.
3. Align the mounting mark on the lens (usually a white dot) with the corresponding mounting mark on your Nikon F-mount camera body.
4. Insert the lens into the camera's lens mount and rotate it clockwise until it clicks into place. Do not force the lens.

### Detaching the Lens

1. Ensure the camera is powered off.
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 body.
4. Attach the rear lens cap to the lens and the body cap to the camera to protect the sensor and lens elements.

### Attaching the Lens Hood

The lens hood helps to prevent flare and protect the front element. Align the lens hood with the front of the lens and

twist until it locks securely. For storage, the hood can often be reversed and mounted on the lens.

## OPERATING THE LENS

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### Autofocus (AF) Operation

This lens features an internal focusing (IF) system for fast and precise autofocus. To use autofocus, ensure your camera body has an autofocus motor, as this is an older AF lens without a built-in motor. Set the camera's focus mode to AF. The lens will automatically focus when the shutter button is half-pressed.

### Manual Focus (MF) Operation

To manually focus, set your camera's focus mode to MF. Rotate the large rubberized focus ring on the lens to adjust focus. The focus distance scale, marked in meters (m) and feet, is visible on the lens barrel. The depth of field scale is also present, indicated by aperture values (e.g., 32, 22, 16, 11, 8).

### Aperture Control

The lens has a maximum aperture of f/4.0. Aperture control is typically managed through the camera body. For optimal sharpness, especially at wider apertures, it is often recommended to stop down the lens slightly (e.g., to f/5.6 or f/8).

### Focus Limiter Switch

The lens features a focus limiter switch to enhance autofocus speed by restricting the focus range. This switch has two settings: "FULL" for the full focus range, and "30m" (or similar marking) for limiting focus to subjects beyond 30 meters. Use the limited range when photographing distant subjects to prevent the lens from hunting for focus on closer objects.



Image: The Nikon AF NIKKOR 300mm f/4 ED IF Telephoto Lens. Visible are the focus limiter switch with "30m" and "FULL" settings, the focus distance scale, and the aperture ring with markings like "32 22 16 11 8". The lens features a robust black finish and a large front element.

## Using the Tripod Collar

Due to its size and weight (approximately 3.5 pounds), this telephoto lens is best supported by a tripod or monopod using its integrated tripod collar. Loosen the knob on the tripod collar to rotate the camera and lens assembly for horizontal or vertical shooting without detaching the lens from the tripod. Tighten the knob securely once the desired orientation is achieved.

## MAINTENANCE

### Cleaning the Lens

- Use a blower brush to remove dust and loose particles from the lens surfaces.
- For smudges or fingerprints, apply a small amount of lens cleaning solution to a clean microfiber cloth and gently wipe the lens in a circular motion from the center outwards.
- Never use abrasive materials or harsh chemicals.
- Keep the lens caps on when not in use.

### Storage

Store the lens in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. If storing for extended periods, consider using a dehumidified cabinet to prevent mold and fungus growth, especially in humid climates.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Autofocus not working or slow	Camera not set to AF mode. Camera body lacks an AF motor (for older AF lenses). Focus limiter switch set incorrectly. Insufficient light or low contrast subject.	Set camera to AF mode. Use a camera body with an integrated AF motor (e.g., Nikon D7000, D7100, D7200, D7500, D300, D500, D700, D800, D810, D850, D1, D2, D3, D4, D5 series). Set focus limiter to "FULL" or appropriate range. Use manual focus or provide more light/focus on a higher contrast area.
Images appear soft or blurry	Camera shake. Incorrect focus. Lens elements are dirty. Shooting at maximum aperture (f/4.0) where sharpness might be slightly less than stopped down.	Use a faster shutter speed or a tripod/monopod. Re-focus carefully. Clean lens elements as per maintenance section. Try stopping down the aperture to f/5.6 or f/8 for increased sharpness.
Lens squealing during autofocus	Internal mechanism issue, possibly due to age or wear.	This indicates a mechanical issue. Professional servicing by a qualified Nikon service center is recommended.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	Nikon
Model	AF NIKKOR 300mm f/4 ED IF
Focal Length	300mm

Feature	Detail
Maximum Aperture	f/4.0
Lens Type	Telephoto
Compatible Mountings	Nikon F
Optical Design	ED (Extra-low Dispersion) glass, IF (Internal Focusing)
Item Weight	3.5 pounds (approximately 1.59 kg)
Package Dimensions	10.2 x 7.56 x 7.56 inches (approximately 25.9 x 19.2 x 19.2 cm)
Date First Available	October 2, 2001

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or visit the official Nikon website. Nikon offers various support resources, including FAQs, driver downloads, and service center locations. Always ensure you are contacting an authorized service provider for repairs.

You can find more information and support on the official Nikon website: [Nikon USA](#)