Panasonic DMC-FZ50K

Panasonic DMC-FZ50 Digital Camera Instruction Manual

Model: DMC-FZ50K

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1. Introduction

This manual provides instructions for the safe and effective use of your Panasonic DMC-FZ50 Digital Camera. The DMC-FZ50 is a 10.1-megapixel digital camera featuring a 12x optical zoom Leica DC lens and Panasonic's Mega O.I.S. (Optical Image Stabilizer) system. It is designed to capture high-quality still images and wide-aspect VGA motion pictures.

Included Components

Before use, ensure all components are present in the packaging:

- SD Card
- Battery
- Instruction Manual

2. Setup

2.1 Charging the Battery

Insert the supplied Lithium-Ion battery pack into the battery charger. Connect the charger to a power outlet. The charging indicator light will illuminate during charging and turn off when charging is complete. A full charge typically takes approximately 2 hours. Ensure the battery is fully charged before initial use.



Figure 2.1: Battery charging process. Insert the battery into the charger and connect to power until the indicator light turns off.

2.2 Inserting the Battery and SD Card

1. Open the battery/card compartment cover located on the bottom of the camera.
2. Insert the charged battery pack into the compartment, ensuring the correct orientation as indicated inside the compartment. Push until it clicks into place.

3. Insert the SD memory card (with the label facing the front of the camera) into the card slot until it clicks.
4. Close the compartment cover securely.



Figure 2.2: Inserting the battery and SD card. Ensure correct orientation and secure closure of the compartment.

2.3 Attaching the Shoulder Strap

Thread the shoulder strap through the strap eyelets on both sides of the camera. Secure the strap firmly to prevent accidental drops.

2.4 Initial Settings (Date/Time)

Upon first power-on, the camera will prompt you to set the date and time. Use the control buttons to navigate and adjust the settings. Accurate date and time settings are crucial for proper file management.

3. Operating the Camera

3.1 Powering On/Off

Press the **POWER** button to turn the camera on or off. The lens will extend when powered on.

3.2 Basic Photography (Auto Mode)

1. Set the mode dial to **AUTO** (green camera icon).
2. Frame your subject using the LCD monitor or electronic viewfinder (EVF). The 2.0-inch free-angle LCD can be rotated for various shooting angles.
3. Gently press the shutter button halfway down to focus. The camera will emit a beep and the focus frame will turn green when focus is achieved.
4. Press the shutter button fully to capture the image.



Figure 3.1: Front view of the camera. The lens extends upon power-on.



Figure 3.2: Rear view with articulating LCD. Use the LCD or EVF for framing shots.

3.3 Zoom Operation

The DMC-FZ50 features a manual zoom ring on the lens barrel. Rotate the zoom ring to adjust the focal length from wide-angle (35mm equivalent) to telephoto (420mm equivalent). The camera also supports Extended Optical Zoom for higher magnification at lower resolutions.

3.4 Focus Control

The camera offers both autofocus (AF) and manual focus (MF). To use manual focus, rotate the focus ring on the lens barrel. The AF mode can be selected from 9-point, 3-point high speed, 1-point high speed, 1-point normal speed, and spot. The AF assist lamp aids focusing in low-light conditions.

3.5 Shooting Modes

Rotate the mode dial to select various shooting modes:

- **Program AE (P)**: Camera sets aperture and shutter speed, you control other settings.
- **Aperture Priority AE (A)**: You set aperture, camera sets shutter speed.

- **Shutter Priority AE (S)**: You set shutter speed, camera sets aperture.
- **Manual Exposure (M)**: You set both aperture and shutter speed.
- **Scene Modes (SCN)**: Pre-set modes for specific situations (e.g., Portrait, Landscape, Sports).
- **Movie Mode**: Records video.
- **Custom (C1/C2)**: Allows saving and recalling frequently used settings.

3.6 Image Stabilization (Mega O.I.S. and I.I.C.)

The camera incorporates Mega O.I.S. to compensate for camera shake and Intelligent ISO Control (I.I.C.) to reduce blur from subject movement. When I.I.C. is enabled, the camera automatically adjusts ISO and shutter speed based on subject movement and lighting conditions.

3.7 Recording Videos

To record videos, set the mode dial to the movie camera icon. The DMC-FZ50 can record standard VGA (640x480) and wide-aspect VGA (848x480) at 30 frames per second. Optical zoom is available during video recording.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 3.1: Guide to recording video with the Panasonic DMC-FZ50. This video demonstrates how to switch to movie mode and begin recording.

3.8 Reviewing Images and Videos

Press the **PLAY** button to enter playback mode. Use the joystick or directional buttons to navigate through your captured images and videos. Press the shutter button halfway or the PLAY button again to return to shooting mode.

4. Maintenance

4.1 Cleaning the Camera Body

Wipe the camera body with a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, slightly dampen the cloth with water and then wipe dry. Avoid using organic solvents such as thinner or benzene.

4.2 Cleaning the Lens and LCD Screen

Use a lens blower brush to remove dust from the lens surface. For smudges, use a soft lens cleaning cloth specifically designed for optical surfaces. Do not use abrasive materials or excessive force. Clean the LCD screen similarly.

4.3 Battery Care

Store the battery in a cool, dry place when not in use. Avoid exposing the battery to extreme temperatures. If the camera will not be used for an extended period, remove the battery.

5. Troubleshooting

5.1 Camera Does Not Power On

- Ensure the battery is fully charged and correctly inserted.
- Check if the battery terminals are clean.
- Try using a different, fully charged battery if available.

5.2 Images Are Blurred

- Ensure Mega O.I.S. is enabled (check camera settings).

- In low light, use a tripod or increase ISO sensitivity (this may introduce noise).
- For moving subjects, ensure Intelligent ISO Control is active or use a faster shutter speed.
- Check if the lens is clean.

5.3 Cannot Record Images/Videos

- Check if the SD card has sufficient free space.
- Ensure the SD card is correctly inserted and not locked (write-protected).
- If the card is new, format it in the camera (note: formatting erases all data).

5.4 Battery Drains Quickly

- Frequent use of the LCD monitor, flash, or continuous shooting can reduce battery life.
- Ensure the battery is fully charged. Battery performance may degrade over time.
- Operating in cold environments can reduce battery efficiency.

6. Specifications

Model Name	DMC-FZ50K
Photo Sensor Resolution	10.1 Megapixels
Lens	Leica DC Vario-Elmarit, 12x Optical Zoom (35-420mm equivalent)
Optical Zoom	12x
Image Stabilization	Optical (Mega O.I.S.)
Sensor Type	1/1.8-inch CCD
ISO Sensitivity	Auto, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600 (Expanded)
Shutter Speed	60 seconds - 1/2000 seconds
Display	2.0-inch Articulating LCD (207K dots)
Viewfinder	Electronic Viewfinder (EVF, 235K pixels)
File Formats	JPEG, RAW (Still Images); MP4 (Video)
Video Resolution	848x480 (Wide VGA), 640x480 (VGA) at 30 fps
Storage Media	SD/SDHC Memory Card
Connectivity	USB
Battery	Lithium-Ion Battery Pack
Weight (Approx.)	735g (1.62 lbs) with battery and SD card

7. Warranty and Support

Panasonic products are manufactured to high quality standards and are warranted against defects in materials and workmanship. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Panasonic support website for your region.

For technical assistance, troubleshooting not covered in this manual, or service inquiries, please contact Panasonic customer

support. Contact information can typically be found on the Panasonic website or in the documentation provided with your camera.

- **Online Support:** Visit the official Panasonic support website.
- **Telephone Support:** Refer to your regional Panasonic website for contact numbers.

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