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Minolta 700Si

MINOLTA DYNAX 700Si AUTOFOCUS SLR CAMERA User Manual

Model: 700Si

Introduction

Welcome to the user manual for your Minolta Dynax 700Si Autofocus SLR Camera. This manual provides essential information for operating and maintaining your camera, ensuring optimal performance and longevity. The Dynax 700Si is a sophisticated 35mm SLR camera designed for advanced amateur and professional photographers, offering a range of automatic and manual controls for versatile shooting.
This camera is known for its advanced autofocus system and customizable functions, allowing users to tailor settings such as exposure and shutter speed to their specific needs. It is often paired with high-quality lenses, such as the Sigma AF 28-70mm f/2.8-4 UC lens, to deliver excellent photographic results.

Camera Components Overview

Familiarize yourself with the key components of your Minolta Dynax 700Si camera.



Figure 1: Front view of the Minolta Dynax 700Si camera with the lens cap attached. This image displays the camera body, the Minolta branding, and the model name "MAXXUM 700Si" visible on the right side. The camera features a black finish and a prominent lens mount area covered by a protective cap.

- **Lens Mount:** For attaching interchangeable lenses.
- **Shutter Release Button:** Activates the shutter to take a picture.
- **Mode Dial:** Selects various shooting modes (e.g., Program, Aperture Priority, Shutter Priority, Manual).
- **Viewfinder:** For composing and focusing your shots.
- **LCD Panel:** Displays camera settings and information.
- **Flash Hot Shoe:** For attaching external flash units.
- **Battery Compartment:** Holds the camera's power source.
- **Film Chamber:** Where the 35mm film roll is loaded.

Setup Guide

1. Installing Batteries

1. Locate the battery compartment cover, usually on the bottom or side of the camera.
2. Open the cover by sliding or rotating it as indicated.
3. Insert the required batteries (e.g., 2CR5 lithium battery) according to the polarity indicators (+/-).
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

2. Attaching the Lens

1. Remove the body cap from the camera and the rear lens cap from the lens.
2. Align the mounting index (usually a red or white dot) on the lens with the corresponding index on the camera body.
3. Insert the lens into the camera mount and rotate it clockwise (or counter-clockwise, depending on the lens) until it clicks into place. Do not force the lens.
4. Remove the front lens cap.

3. Loading Film

1. Open the camera back by sliding the latch (usually on the side).
2. Place a 35mm film cassette into the film chamber on the left side.
3. Pull the film leader across to the take-up spool on the right, ensuring it engages with the sprockets.
4. Close the camera back firmly until it latches.
5. The camera will automatically advance the film to the first frame. Check the frame counter to confirm.

Operating Instructions

1. Powering On/Off

Locate the power switch, typically near the shutter release button. Slide it to the 'ON' position to power on the camera. Slide it to 'OFF' when not in use to conserve battery life.

2. Selecting a Shooting Mode

Rotate the mode dial to select your desired shooting mode:

- **P (Program Auto):** Camera sets both aperture and shutter speed automatically.
- **A (Aperture Priority):** You set the aperture, camera sets shutter speed. Ideal for controlling depth of field.
- **S (Shutter Priority):** You set the shutter speed, camera sets aperture. Ideal for controlling motion blur.
- **M (Manual):** You set both aperture and shutter speed. Provides full creative control.
- **Custom Function Card:** The Minolta Dynax 700Si supports a customized function card, allowing users to reprogram specific functions such as exposure and shutter speed settings for personalized shooting experiences. Refer to the card's specific instructions for details on its use.

3. Focusing

The Dynax 700Si features an advanced autofocus system. To focus:

1. Look through the viewfinder and compose your shot.
2. Press the shutter release button halfway down. The camera will automatically focus on the subject.
3. A focus confirmation indicator (e.g., a green light or beep) will appear in the viewfinder when focus is achieved.
4. For manual focus, switch the lens or camera to MF (Manual Focus) mode and rotate the focusing ring on the lens until the image in the viewfinder is sharp.

4. Taking a Picture

Once focused, press the shutter release button fully down to take the picture. The camera will advance the film to the next frame automatically.

5. Rewinding Film

When the film roll is complete (indicated by the frame counter), the camera will typically rewind the film automatically. If manual rewind is needed, locate the rewind button/lever (refer to camera diagrams) and activate it until the film is fully rewound into the cassette.

Maintenance and Care

- **Cleaning the 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 camera cleaning solution. Avoid harsh chemicals.
- **Cleaning the Lens:** Use a lens brush or air blower to remove dust. For smudges, use a specialized lens cleaning solution and a microfiber lens cloth. Clean gently in a circular motion from the center outwards.
- **Storing the Camera:** When not in use, store the camera in a dry, cool place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Use a camera bag or case for protection. If storing for extended periods, remove the batteries to prevent leakage.
- **Film Handling:** Always handle film in subdued light. Avoid touching the film surface. Store unexposed film in a cool, dry place, and process exposed film as soon as possible.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Camera does not power on.	Dead or incorrectly inserted batteries.	Check battery polarity; replace with fresh batteries.
Shutter does not release.	No film loaded, film not advanced, or lens not attached correctly.	Load film, ensure film is advanced, or re-attach lens securely. Check if camera is in a self-timer mode.
Autofocus not working.	Low light, subject too close/far, or lens/camera set to manual focus.	Ensure adequate lighting, check subject distance, switch to AF mode.
Film not advancing.	Film not properly loaded onto take-up spool.	Open camera back (in darkroom if film exposed), re-load film, ensuring leader engages sprockets.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Name	700Si
Film Format Type	35mm

Feature	Detail
Exposure Control Type	Automatic
Item Weight	1.55 pounds (approx. 0.7 kg)
Package Dimensions	6.2 x 6.1 x 4.6 inches (approx. 15.7 x 15.5 x 11.7 cm)
Manufacturer	Minolta
ASIN	B000NW7472
Item Model Number	4332092487

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