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> Canon Speedlite 430EX II Instruction Manual

## Canon 2805B002AA

# Canon Speedlite 430EX II Instruction Manual

Model: 2805B002AA

## 1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Canon Speedlite 430EX II is an external flash unit designed for Canon Digital SLR cameras. It features a fully swiveling bounce head that automatically zooms to cover a range of 24mm-105mm. This Speedlite offers Wireless E-TTL II compatibility, allowing it to function as a slave unit when triggered by compatible Canon master units such as the 580EX, ST-E2, or MR-14EX. Multiple 430EX and 550EX Speedlites can be combined for creative lighting setups. It is compatible with all Canon EOS cameras and PowerShot G series cameras.





Figure 1: Front view of the Canon Speedlite 430EX II, showcasing the flash head and Canon branding.

## 2. KEY FEATURES

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- **Superior Build Quality:** Includes a metal foot for enhanced strength and durability.
- **Faster Recycling Time:** Approximately 20% faster recycling time compared to its predecessor, the 430EX.
- **1-Touch Quick-Lock Mechanism:** Facilitates easy attachment and detachment of the flash from the camera.
- **Full Flash Control:** Allows for comprehensive flash control directly from the camera menu with compatible EOS digital SLRs.
- **Zoom Head:** Covers a full-frame equivalent of 24mm-105mm, ensuring optimal light coverage.
- **Silent Operation:** Designed for virtually silent operation, minimizing disturbance during use.

## 3. SETUP

### 3.1. Battery Installation

The Speedlite 430EX II requires four AAA batteries for operation. To install or replace batteries:

1. Locate the battery compartment cover on the side of the flash unit.
2. Slide the cover open in the direction indicated by the arrow.
3. Insert four AAA batteries, ensuring correct polarity (+/-) as marked inside the compartment.
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely until it clicks into place.





Figure 2: Rear view of the Speedlite 430EX II, showing the control panel and battery compartment location.

### 3.2. Attaching to Camera

To attach the Speedlite to your Canon EOS camera's hot shoe:

1. Ensure both the camera and the Speedlite are turned off.
2. Slide the Speedlite's mounting foot fully into the camera's hot shoe.
3. Engage the 1-Touch Quick-Lock Mechanism by pushing the lock lever forward until it secures the flash in place.
4. To detach, push the lock lever backward and slide the Speedlite out of the hot shoe.



Figure 3: Bottom view of the Speedlite 430EX II, highlighting the hot shoe mount for camera attachment.

## 4. OPERATING THE SPEEDLITE

### 4.1. Power On/Off

To turn the Speedlite on or off, use the ON/OFF switch located on the control panel at the rear of the unit.

## 4.2. Control Panel and Modes

The control panel provides access to various settings and modes:

- **MODE Button:** Cycles through flash modes such as E-TTL II, Manual, and Multi-flash.
- **ZOOM Button:** Adjusts the flash coverage to match the lens focal length. Can be set automatically or manually.
- **PILOT Button:** Fires a test flash to check light output and coverage.
- **Selection Dial/Buttons:** Used to navigate menus and adjust settings.





Figure 4: Angled view of the Speedlite 430EX II, showing the overall design and button layout.

### **4.3. Swiveling and Tilting Head**

The flash head can be swiveled horizontally and tilted vertically to bounce light off ceilings or walls for softer, more natural illumination. To adjust the head, press the release button on the side of the head and then rotate or tilt it to the desired position. The head can swivel 180 degrees to the left and approximately 90 degrees to the right, and tilt upwards up to 90 degrees.



Figure 5: Side view of the Speedlite 430EX II with the flash head swiveled, demonstrating its flexibility for bounce flash.

#### 4.4. Built-in Diffuser

The Speedlite 430EX II includes a built-in wide panel (diffuser) that can be pulled out from the flash head. This diffuser helps to soften the light and spread it over a wider area, which is useful for wide-angle lenses or for reducing harsh

shadows.



Figure 6: Front view of the Speedlite 430EX II with the built-in diffuser extended, ready for use.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Speedlite 430EX II.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the flash. For the flash head, use a lens cleaning cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- **Battery Care:** Remove batteries when the flash is not in use for extended periods to prevent leakage, which can damage the unit. Consider using rechargeable batteries for environmental benefits and to avoid potential leakage issues associated with disposable batteries.
- **Storage:** Store the Speedlite in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Use the provided soft pouch for protection during storage and transport.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Speedlite 430EX II, consider the following common solutions:

- **Flash Not Firing:**
  - Ensure batteries are correctly installed and have sufficient charge.
  - Check if the Speedlite is securely mounted on the camera's hot shoe.
  - Verify that the flash is turned on and the camera's flash settings are appropriate.
- **Incorrect Exposure:**
  - Confirm the camera's exposure mode (e.g., P, Av, Tv, M) is compatible with E-TTL II.
  - Adjust flash exposure compensation if needed.
  - Ensure the flash head is pointed correctly (not blocked or aimed at a highly reflective surface if direct flash is intended).
- **Slow Recycling Time:**
  - Replace batteries with fresh ones or fully charged rechargeable batteries.
  - Reduce flash power output if possible, as higher power settings require longer recycling times.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	2.8 x 4.8 x 4 inches
Item Weight	11.6 ounces
Model Number	2805B002AA
Batteries Required	4 AAA batteries
Battery Life	6 Hours (approximate)
Compatible Mountings	Canon EF
Camera Flash Type	Slave

Feature	Detail
Manufacturer	Canon Cameras US
First Available Date	September 14, 2007

## 8. INCLUDED COMPONENTS

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The Canon Speedlite 430EX II package includes:

- Canon Speedlite 430EX II Flash Unit
- Mini Stand (for off-camera use)
- Soft Pouch (for storage and transport)

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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This product comes with a FULL 14 DAY SATISFACTION GUARANTEE and a 90 DAY PARTS AND LABOR WARRANTY. For further support or inquiries, please refer to the official Canon support channels or contact your retailer.