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› Nikon Nikkormat FT2 SLR Film Camera User Manual

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Model: Nikkormat FT2 | Brand: Nikon

INTRODUCTION

The Nikon Nikkormat FT2 is a robust and reliable 35mm SLR film camera, known for its mechanical shutter and built-in through-the-lens (TTL) light meter. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your Nikkormat FT2 camera body. Please note that this manual pertains to the camera body only; lenses and other accessories are not included and may require their own specific instructions.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

- Nikon Nikkormat FT2 Camera Body

No other accessories, such as lenses, straps, or cases, are included with the camera body.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW



Figure 1: Front view of the Nikkormat FT2 camera body, highlighting the F-mount lens bayonet and the Nikkormat logo above the prism.



Figure 2: Rear view of the Nikkormat FT2, displaying the viewfinder eyepiece, film advance lever, and the "Nikon JAPAN" engraving.



Figure 3: Top view of the Nikkormat FT2, featuring the shutter speed dial, film counter, film advance lever, shutter release button, and the hot shoe for flash synchronization.



Figure 4: Bottom view of the Nikkormat FT2, illustrating the battery compartment cover and the standard tripod mounting socket.



Figure 5: Angled side view of the Nikkormat FT2, displaying the film rewind crank and a strap lug.



Figure 6: Another angled side view of the Nikkormat FT2, showing the self-timer lever and depth-of-field preview button near the lens mount.



Figure 7: Internal view of the Nikkormat FT2 film compartment with the back open, revealing the film pressure plate, film rails, and take-up spool.

SETUP

1. Battery Installation

The Nikkormat FT2 requires one 1.5V silver oxide battery (SR44 or equivalent) to power its light meter. The camera's mechanical shutter functions without a battery, but the light meter will not operate.

1. Locate the battery compartment cover on the bottom of the camera (refer to Figure 4).
2. Use a coin to unscrew the battery compartment cover counter-clockwise.
3. Insert the new battery with the positive (+) side facing outwards (towards the cover).
4. Replace the cover and screw it clockwise until secure. Do not overtighten.

2. Film Loading

The Nikkormat FT2 uses standard 35mm film cartridges.

1. Open the camera back by pulling up the film rewind crank (refer to Figure 5). The back will spring open (refer to Figure 7).
2. Insert the film cartridge into the film chamber on the left side of the camera. Push the rewind crank back down to secure the cartridge.
3. Pull the film leader across the film gate and insert the tip into one of the slots on the take-up spool on the right side.
4. Advance the film slightly using the film advance lever until the sprocket teeth engage with the film perforations. Ensure the film lies flat against the film rails.
5. Close the camera back firmly until it clicks shut.
6. Advance the film two frames (by winding the film advance lever and pressing the shutter release) to move past the exposed leader. The film counter should now show '1'.
7. Set the film speed (ASA/ISO) on the camera's ASA dial, usually located around the shutter speed dial or lens mount,

to match your film.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Setting Shutter Speed

The shutter speed dial is located on the top of the camera (refer to Figure 3). Rotate the dial to select the desired shutter speed. Speeds range from 1 second to 1/1000th of a second, plus 'B' for Bulb (shutter remains open as long as the button is pressed) and 'T' for Time (shutter opens on first press, closes on second press).

2. Setting Aperture (with compatible lens)

Aperture is controlled via the aperture ring on the lens. Ensure your lens is properly mounted and coupled with the camera's meter. Rotate the aperture ring to select the desired f-stop.

3. Focusing

The Nikkormat FT2 features a split-image rangefinder and microprism collar in the viewfinder for precise manual focusing. Rotate the focusing ring on your lens until the image in the viewfinder appears sharp and the split-image aligns.

4. Using the Exposure Meter

The built-in TTL (Through-The-Lens) light meter helps determine correct exposure. Look through the viewfinder; a needle will indicate overexposure, underexposure, or correct exposure. Adjust the shutter speed and/or aperture until the needle is centered for optimal exposure.

5. Taking a Picture

1. Advance the film using the film advance lever until it stops.
2. Compose your shot through the viewfinder.
3. Focus the lens.
4. Adjust shutter speed and aperture based on the light meter reading.
5. Gently press the shutter release button located on the top of the camera (refer to Figure 3) to take the picture.

6. Rewinding Film

Once all frames on the film roll have been exposed:

1. Press the film rewind release button on the bottom of the camera (refer to Figure 4).
2. Fold out the crank on the film rewind knob (refer to Figure 5) and turn it clockwise until you feel the tension release, indicating the film is fully rewound into its cartridge.
3. Open the camera back and remove the film cartridge.

MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth to wipe the camera body. For the viewfinder and mirror, use a blower brush to remove dust. Avoid touching the mirror or shutter curtains directly.
- **Storage:** Store the camera in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. If storing for extended periods, remove the battery to prevent leakage.
- **Film Compartment:** Periodically inspect the film compartment (refer to Figure 7) for dust or debris that could scratch film. Use a blower to clean.
- **Lens Mount:** Keep the lens mount clean and free of dust. Always use a body cap when a lens is not attached.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Light meter not working	Dead or incorrectly installed battery.	Check battery installation; replace battery if necessary.
Shutter not firing	Film not advanced; camera is not cocked.	Advance the film advance lever fully.
Film advance lever stuck	Film is at the end of the roll; film is jammed.	If at end of roll, rewind film. If jammed, open back in darkroom or consult a professional.
Unevenly exposed negatives	Shutter curtains sticking.	Requires professional service.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Nikkormat FT2
Brand	Nikon
Film Format Type	SLR 35mm
Shutter Type	Focal Plane Shutter
Exposure Control Type	Manual
Included Components	Camera Body Only
Item Weight	1.85 pounds (approx. 0.84 kg)
Package Dimensions	6.8 x 4.4 x 3.3 inches (approx. 17.3 x 11.2 x 8.4 cm)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding warranty coverage, repair services, or technical support for your Nikon Nikkormat FT2 camera, please refer to the original purchase documentation or contact Nikon customer service directly. As this is a vintage camera model, specific warranty terms may vary depending on the seller and condition at the time of purchase. You can often find additional resources, such as online forums and community groups dedicated to vintage Nikon cameras, which can provide valuable insights and assistance for maintenance and operation.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

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Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

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