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› Nikon AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-300mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR Zoom Lens User Manual

Nikon 2196

Nikon AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-300mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR Zoom Lens User Manual

Model: 2196

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of your Nikon AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-300mm f/3.5-5.6G ED Vibration Reduction Zoom Lens. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the lens to ensure proper operation and to maximize its performance. Keep this manual accessible for future reference.



Image: The Nikon AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-300mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR Zoom Lens, showcasing its compact design and control rings.

PRODUCT COMPONENTS

Verify that all items listed below are included in your package:

- **AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-300mm f/3.5-5.6G ED Vibration Reduction Zoom Lens:** The primary lens unit.
- **LC-77 Snap-on Front Lens Cap:** Protects the front element of the lens.



Image: The LC-77 Snap-on Front Lens Cap, featuring the Nikon logo.

- **LF-4 Rear Lens Cap:** Protects the rear element and lens mount.



Image: The LF-4 Rear Lens Cap, designed to protect the lens mount.

- **HB-58 Bayonet Lens Hood:** Reduces flare and provides physical protection.



Image: The HB-58 Bayonet Lens Hood, designed to attach to the front of the lens.

- **CL-1120 Soft Case:** For storing and transporting the lens.

SETUP

Attaching the Lens to Your Camera

1. Ensure both the camera and lens are powered off.
2. Remove the body cap from the camera and the rear lens cap (LF-4) from the lens.
3. Align the mounting mark on the lens with the mounting mark on the camera body.
4. Rotate the lens counter-clockwise until it clicks into place, indicating it is securely locked.

Attaching the Lens Hood (HB-58)

The HB-58 lens hood helps reduce flare and ghosting caused by extraneous light entering the lens, and also provides some protection to the front element.

1. Align the mounting mark on the lens hood with the lens hood alignment mark on the lens.
2. Rotate the hood clockwise until it clicks into place. Ensure it is firmly attached.
3. To remove, rotate the hood counter-clockwise while pressing the release button on the hood.

The lens hood can be reversed and mounted on the lens for storage, though this will prevent access to the zoom ring.

OPERATING THE LENS

Focus Mode Switch (A/M)

This lens features an A/M (Autofocus with manual override) switch on the side of the lens barrel.

- **A (Autofocus):** For automatic focusing. Manual adjustments can be made by rotating the focus ring while the shutter-release button is pressed halfway.
- **M (Manual Focus):** For manual focusing only. Rotate the focus ring to adjust focus.

Vibration Reduction (VR) Switch

The Vibration Reduction (VR) system minimizes blur caused by camera shake, allowing for sharper images, especially in low light or at longer focal lengths.

- **ON:** Activates Vibration Reduction. Recommended for most shooting situations.
- **OFF:** Deactivates Vibration Reduction. Turn off VR when using a tripod or when shooting at very fast shutter speeds.

VR Mode Selector (Normal/Active)

This lens offers two VR modes:

- **NORMAL:** Suitable for general photography, including handheld shooting of still subjects.
- **ACTIVE:** Ideal for reducing vibration when shooting from unstable platforms, such as a moving vehicle or boat.

Zooming

Rotate the zoom ring on the lens barrel to change the focal length. The lens covers a versatile range from 18mm (wide-angle) to 300mm (super-telephoto).

Minimum Focus Distance

The minimum focus distance for this lens is approximately 1.48 feet (0.45 meters) at the 300mm zoom setting. This allows for close-up photography.

MAINTENANCE

Cleaning the Lens

- **Dust and Debris:** Use a blower brush to remove dust from the lens surface. For stubborn particles, use a lens cleaning brush.
- **Smudges and Fingerprints:** Apply a small amount of lens cleaning solution to a clean microfiber cloth and gently wipe the lens surface in a circular motion. Avoid applying solution directly to the lens.
- Never use organic solvents such as paint thinner or benzene to clean the lens.

Storage

- When not in use, attach both front and rear lens caps.
- Store the lens in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- If storing for an extended period, consider using a desiccant to prevent mold and mildew.

Common Issues and Solutions

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Images are blurry or out of focus.	Check the focus mode switch (A/M) on the lens and ensure it is set to 'A' for autofocus or 'M' for manual focus if you intend to focus manually. Ensure the VR switch is set to 'ON' if shooting handheld in low light or at long focal lengths. Verify that the camera's autofocus system is functioning correctly. Ensure you are not exceeding the minimum focus distance of 1.48 feet (0.45 meters) at 300mm.
Vibration Reduction (VR) does not seem to be working.	Ensure the VR switch on the lens is set to 'ON'. VR may not be effective at extremely fast shutter speeds or when the camera is mounted on a very stable tripod. If using a tripod, it is generally recommended to turn VR 'OFF'.
Lens does not zoom smoothly.	Check for any obstructions or debris around the zoom ring. Ensure the lens is clean and free from dirt. Avoid applying excessive force when zooming.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	2196
Focal Length	18-300mm
Maximum Aperture	f/3.5-5.6
Lens Construction	19 elements in 14 groups (including 3 aspherical lens elements and 3 ED lens elements)
Minimum Focus Distance	1.48 feet (0.45 meters) at 300mm
Filter Thread Size	77mm
Dimensions (Diameter x Length)	Approximately 4.72 x 3.27 x 3.27 inches
Weight	Approximately 1.83 pounds
Compatible Mountings	Nikon F (DX)
Vibration Reduction (VR)	Yes, VR II (Normal/Active modes)
Autofocus Motor	Silent Wave Motor (SWM)

Warranty Information

For detailed warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Nikon website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

Customer Support

If you encounter any issues not covered in this manual or require further assistance, please contact Nikon customer support. You can find contact information on the official Nikon website or through the provided documentation. An official User Manual (PDF) is also available for download:[Download User Manual PDF](#)

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