Metz MZ 52316S

Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1 Digital Flash for Sony

Model: MZ 52316S

1. Introduction

The Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1 is a powerful and versatile digital flash unit designed for Sony cameras. It features a horizontally swiveling and vertically tilting reflector, ensuring optimal lighting control for various photographic scenarios. This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of your flash unit.

Key Features:

- Vertical (+90°) and horizontal (300°) swivel reflector for flexible lighting.
- Illuminated touchscreen display with automatic swivel function (90°) for intuitive control.
- Motorized zoom for 24-105 mm illumination, with an integrated wide-angle diffuser for 12 mm.
- Supports TTL, Manual, and Servo flash modes, including HSS (High Speed Synchronization).
- Integrated USB socket for firmware updates.
- Durable metal hot shoe connection.

2. Package Contents

Please check that all items are present in the package:

- Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1 Digital Flash Unit
- Belt pouch
- Slave stand

3. Setup

3.1 Battery Installation

The Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1 requires 4 AA batteries for operation. Use high-quality alkaline or rechargeable NiMH batteries for optimal performance.

1. Locate the battery compartment on the flash unit.
2. Open the battery compartment cover.
3. Insert 4 AA batteries, ensuring correct polarity (+/-) as indicated inside the compartment.
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

3.2 Mounting the Flash Unit

The flash unit is designed for use with Sony Alpha cameras via its metal hot shoe.

1. Ensure both the flash unit and your camera are turned off.
2. Slide the flash unit's metal hot shoe into the camera's hot shoe mount until it clicks into place.
3. Secure the flash unit by tightening the locking mechanism (if present) on the flash or camera.



Figure 1: Front view of the Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1 Digital Flash unit, showing the flash head and main body.

4. Operating Instructions

4.1 Powering On/Off

Press and hold the power button to turn the flash unit on or off. The illuminated touchscreen display will activate upon

power-on.

4.2 Touchscreen Display

The 52 AF-1 features an intuitive illuminated touchscreen display that can swivel 90 degrees for convenient viewing, especially during portrait shots. Navigate through menus and settings by tapping the corresponding icons.



Figure 2: Close-up view of the Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1's illuminated touchscreen display, showing various mode options.

4.3 Flash Modes

The flash supports several operating modes:

- **TTL Flash Mode (Digital Only):** Automatically adjusts flash output for correct exposure.
- **Manual Flash Mode:** Allows precise control over flash output with 22 partial lighting levels.
- **Servo Flash Mode:** Triggers the flash wirelessly by detecting another flash burst, with a learning function for pre-flash suppression.
- **HSS (High Speed Synchronization):** Enables flash synchronization at shutter speeds faster than the camera's native sync speed.
- **1st and 2nd Shutter Curtain Synchronization:** Allows creative control over motion blur.

4.4 Reflector and Zoom Functions

The flash head can be swiveled vertically (+90°) and horizontally (300°) to bounce light off ceilings or walls for softer illumination. The motorized zoom automatically adjusts the light angle for lenses ranging from 24-105 mm. An integrated wide-angle diffuser extends coverage to 12 mm, and a flip-out reflector card can be used for catchlights.

4.5 Additional Features

- **Modeling Light:** Provides a continuous light to evaluate shadows and highlights before shooting.
- **Autofocus Flash Metering:** Assists the camera's autofocus in low-light conditions.
- **Flash Readiness Indicator:** Notifies when the flash is ready to fire.
- **LCD Flash Range Display:** Shows the effective flash range based on current settings.
- **Automatic Unit Shut-off:** Conserves battery power when the unit is idle.

5. Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the flash unit. For the touchscreen, use a microfiber cloth specifically designed for electronics. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, remove the batteries to prevent leakage. Store the flash unit in its belt pouch in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Handling:** Avoid dropping the flash unit or subjecting it to strong impacts. Protect the hot shoe and flash tube from dust and moisture.

6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1, please refer to the following common solutions:

- **Flash not firing:** Check battery levels and ensure they are inserted correctly. Verify the flash is securely mounted on the camera's hot shoe. Check camera settings to ensure external flash is enabled.
- **Incorrect exposure:** Ensure the flash mode (TTL, Manual) is appropriate for your shooting conditions. Adjust flash exposure compensation if necessary. Check camera's ISO, aperture, and shutter speed settings.
- **Touchscreen unresponsive:** Power off the unit, remove batteries, wait a few seconds, then reinsert batteries and power on. Ensure the screen is clean and dry.
- **Flash not recognized by camera:** Ensure the flash is fully seated in the hot shoe. Check for any debris on the hot shoe contacts of both the flash and the camera.

If the problem persists, consult the Metz website for further support or contact customer service.

7. Specifications

Feature	Description
Model Number	MZ 52316S
Dimensions (L x W x H)	3.54 x 2.87 x 5.28 inches
Item Weight	1 pound
Batteries Required	4 AA batteries
Compatible Mountings	Sony Alpha
Flash Sync Speed	1/250 or faster
Reflector Swivel	Vertical (+90°), Horizontal (300°)
Zoom Range	24-105 mm (12 mm with wide-angle diffuser)
Display	Illuminated Touchscreen (90° swivel)
Connectivity	USB Interface for firmware updates

8. Firmware Updates

The Metz mecablitz 52 AF-1 features an integrated USB socket, allowing for free software updates. Regularly check the official Metz website for the latest firmware versions to ensure optimal performance and compatibility with new camera models.

9. Warranty and Support

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please refer to the documentation provided with your purchase or visit the official Metz website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

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