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Pentax K-50

Pentax K-50 Digital SLR Camera User Manual

Model: K-50

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and effective use of your Pentax K-50 Digital SLR Camera. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the camera to ensure proper operation and to maximize its performance. Keep this manual in a safe place for future reference.

SETUP

1. Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove all items from the packaging. Verify that all components are present. If any items are missing or damaged, contact your retailer.

- Pentax K-50 Camera Body
- Rechargeable Lithium-ion Battery
- Battery Charger
- Strap (may vary by kit)
- Body Cap

2. Charging the Battery

Before first use, fully charge the supplied lithium-ion battery.

1. Insert the battery into the charger.
2. Connect the charger to a power outlet. The charging indicator will illuminate.
3. Once charging is complete, the indicator will change or turn off. Disconnect the charger and remove the battery.

Note: The K-50 also supports AA batteries with an optional AA battery holder.

3. Inserting the Battery and Memory Card

Open the battery/memory card compartment cover located at the bottom of the camera.

- **Battery:** Insert the charged battery with the correct orientation until it locks into place.
- **Memory Card:** Insert an SD, SDHC, or SDXC memory card into the slot with the label facing the correct direction until

it clicks.

The Pentax K-50 is compatible with Eye-Fi wireless SD cards for easy image transfer.

4. Attaching a Lens

Your K-50 camera body is compatible with Pentax KAF2 and KAF3 mount lenses.

1. Remove the body cap from the camera and the rear cap from the lens.
2. Align the red index mark on the lens with the red index mark on the camera body.
3. Insert the lens into the camera mount and turn it clockwise until it clicks into place.



Front view of the Pentax K-50 camera body, showing the lens mount and the SR (Shake Reduction) logo.

5. Initial Settings

Upon first power-on, you will be prompted to set the date, time, and language. Follow the on-screen instructions.

OPERATING THE CAMERA

1. Camera Controls Overview

Familiarize yourself with the main controls on the camera body.



Rear view of the Pentax K-50 camera, highlighting the LCD screen, viewfinder, and various control buttons such as AF/AE-L, ISO, WB, and Menu.

- **Mode Dial:** Selects shooting modes (e.g., Auto, P, Av, Tv, M, Sv, TAv, Scene).
- **Shutter Button:** Press halfway to focus, fully to take a picture.
- **Front/Rear e-dials:** Adjust settings like aperture, shutter speed, and ISO depending on the mode.
- **LCD Monitor:** Displays menus, settings, and live view.
- **Viewfinder:** Optical pentaprism viewfinder with 100% field of view.
- **Directional Pad (4-way controller):** Navigate menus and access quick settings (e.g., ISO, White Balance).
- **INFO Button:** Displays or hides shooting information on the LCD.
- **MENU Button:** Accesses the camera's main menu.

2. Basic Shooting

1. **Power On:** Turn the power switch to ON.
2. **Select a Mode:** Rotate the mode dial to your desired shooting mode. For beginners, **AUTO** or **P (Program)** mode is recommended.
3. **Compose Your Shot:** Look through the viewfinder or use the LCD monitor for Live View.
4. **Focus:** Press the shutter button halfway down. The camera will autofocus on your subject.
5. **Capture:** Press the shutter button fully to take the picture.

3. Advanced Shooting Features

- **Autofocus System:** The K-50 features an 11-point SAFOX IXi+ autofocus system. You can select single-point, multi-point, or tracking AF modes.
- **Image Stabilization (SR):** The in-body Shake Reduction (SR) mechanism automatically compensates for camera shake, allowing for sharper images, especially in low light or with longer lenses. This feature works with any mounted

lens.

- **ISO Sensitivity:** Adjust ISO from 100 up to 51200 to control sensitivity to light. Higher ISO values allow shooting in darker conditions but may introduce more noise.
- **Continuous Shooting:** Capture fast-moving subjects at up to 6 frames per second (FPS).
- **Exposure Control:** Utilize Aperture Priority (Av), Shutter Priority (Tv), Sensitivity Priority (Sv), Shutter & Aperture Priority (TAv), and Manual (M) modes for creative control.
- **Flash:** The built-in flash has Auto, On, and Off modes.

4. Video Recording

The K-50 can record Full HD 1080p video at 30 frames per second (60 FPS for 720p) using H.264 compression.

1. Set the mode dial to the Movie setting.
2. Press the Live View (LV) button to activate video preview on the LCD.
3. Press the red record button to start/stop recording.

5. Image Playback and Transfer

- **Playback:** Press the Playback button (triangle icon) to view captured images and videos.
- **Zoom:** Use the zoom buttons to enlarge or reduce images during playback.
- **Transfer to Computer:** Connect the camera to your computer using a USB cable. The camera will appear as a removable drive, allowing you to copy files.
- **Eye-Fi Cards:** If using an Eye-Fi card, images can be automatically transferred to a smartphone or computer via Wi-Fi. Refer to your Eye-Fi card's instructions for setup.

MAINTENANCE

1. Cleaning the Camera

- **Camera Body:** Wipe with a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, use a cloth lightly dampened with water or a mild cleaning solution, then wipe dry.
- **Lens:** Use a lens brush or blower to remove dust. For smudges, use a lens cleaning solution and a microfiber cloth. Avoid touching the lens surface directly.
- **LCD Monitor:** Use a soft, dry cloth. For fingerprints, use a specialized LCD cleaning wipe.

2. Sensor Cleaning

The K-50 features an in-body Dust Reduction (DR) technology to help keep the image sensor clean. If dust spots appear on your images, you can activate the DR function via the camera menu. For persistent dust, professional sensor cleaning may be required.

3. Battery Care

- Store batteries in a cool, dry place when not in use.
- Avoid fully discharging the battery frequently.
- If not using the camera for an extended period, remove the battery.

4. Storage

Store the camera in a dry, well-ventilated area, away from direct sunlight, high temperatures, and humidity. Use a desiccant if storing in humid environments.

The Pentax K-50 features weather-sealing. While this provides enhanced protection against dust and moisture, it is not waterproof. Avoid submerging the camera in water. Ensure all port covers are securely closed when operating in adverse conditions.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Pentax K-50, refer to the following common problems and solutions.

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Camera does not power on.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Battery is not charged or incorrectly inserted. Charge the battery and reinsert it correctly.• Battery is depleted. Replace with a charged battery.
Images are blurry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lens is not focused. Ensure autofocus is engaged or focus manually.• Camera shake. Hold the camera steady or use a tripod. Ensure Shake Reduction (SR) is enabled.• Shutter speed is too slow for the conditions. Increase shutter speed or ISO.
No image captured (black screen).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lens cap is on. Remove the lens cap.• Exposure settings are incorrect (e.g., very low ISO, fast shutter speed in dark conditions). Adjust settings.• <i>Known issue:</i> In some K-50 units, an aperture control block failure can lead to consistently underexposed or black images. If troubleshooting steps do not resolve this, professional service may be required.
Memory card error.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memory card is full. Delete unnecessary files or insert a new card.• Memory card is corrupted. Format the card (this will erase all data).• Memory card is not inserted correctly. Reinsert the card.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	K-50
Photo Sensor Resolution	16 MP
Photo Sensor Size	APS-C
Sensor Type	CMOS
Image Stabilization	Sensor-shift (In-body Shake Reduction)
ISO Sensitivity	Expanded ISO Minimum 100, Expanded ISO Maximum 51600
Maximum Shutter Speed	1/6000 Seconds
Minimum Shutter Speed	30 seconds
Video Resolution	FHD 1080p (30fps), 720p (60fps)
Screen Size	3 Inches

Feature	Detail
Display Type	LCD (Fixed)
Viewfinder	Optical (Pentaprism, 100% coverage)
Autofocus Points	11 (SAFOX IXi+)
Continuous Shooting	6 FPS
Compatible Mountings	Pentax KAF2, Pentax KAF3
Flash Memory Type	SD/SDHC/SDXC
Connectivity Technology	USB
Power Source	Rechargeable Li-ion Battery (AA battery compatible with optional holder)

WARRANTY INFORMATION

The Pentax K-50 Digital SLR Camera comes with a **1-year manufacturer's warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. For full terms and conditions, refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Pentax website.

SUPPORT AND CONTACT

For further assistance, technical support, or service inquiries, please visit the official Pentax support website or contact their customer service department.

- **Online Support:** Refer to the official Pentax website for FAQs, software downloads, and additional resources.
- **Customer Service:** Contact information for customer service can typically be found on the manufacturer's website or in the product packaging.