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› Nikon SB-300 AF Speedlight Flash User Manual

Nikon 4810

Nikon SB-300 AF Speedlight Flash User Manual

Model: SB-300 (Nikon 4810)

Brand: Nikon

1. INTRODUCTION

The Nikon SB-300 AF Speedlight is designed to provide enhanced lighting control for Nikon D-SLRs and hot-shoe equipped Coolpix cameras. This compact and lightweight flash unit offers versatile lighting options, including bounce flash and fill-flash, to improve the quality of your photographs in various lighting conditions. Its intelligent Through-The-Lens (i-TTL) flash coverage technology ensures optimal exposure and white balance by analyzing the scene before firing the main flash.



Figure 1: Nikon SB-300 AF Speedlight Flash, showing its compact design and flash head.

2. KEY FEATURES

- Soft and balanced flash for excellent color, skin tones, and lighting throughout the composition.
- Capable of fill-flash to reduce unwanted shadows in bright situations.
- Features a 120-degree tilt capability for bounce flash, allowing for softer, less direct lighting.
- Utilizes Nikon's i-TTL (intelligent Through-The-Lens) flash coverage technology for precise flash output tailored to each shot.

3. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

The Nikon SB-300 AF Speedlight package includes the following items:

- Nikon SB-300 AF Speedlight Flash Unit
- SS-DC1 Polyester Soft Case

4. SETUP

4.1 Battery Installation

1. Ensure the flash unit is powered off.
2. Locate the battery compartment cover on the flash unit.
3. Open the cover and insert two AAA batteries, ensuring correct polarity (+/-) as indicated inside the compartment.
4. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

4.2 Attaching to Camera

1. Ensure both the camera and the flash unit are powered off.
2. Remove the hot shoe cover from your camera and the protective cap from the flash unit's mounting foot.
3. Slide the flash unit's mounting foot into the camera's hot shoe until it clicks into place.
4. Secure the flash unit by rotating the locking ring or lever on the flash unit's foot, if present, to prevent accidental detachment.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Powering On/Off

To power on the SB-300, slide the power switch to the "ON" position. To power off, slide the switch to "OFF". The "READY" lamp will illuminate when the flash is charged and ready to fire.

5.2 i-TTL Flash Operation

The SB-300 utilizes Nikon's i-TTL (intelligent Through-The-Lens) flash system. When attached to a compatible Nikon D-SLR or Coolpix camera, the flash automatically communicates with the camera to determine the optimal flash output for the scene. This involves a pre-flash that measures subject distance, shadow areas, and reflectance to ensure accurate exposure and white balance.

5.3 Bounce Flash Technique

For softer, more natural-looking light, the SB-300's flash head can be tilted up to 120 degrees. This allows you to bounce the flash off a ceiling or a nearby wall. Bouncing the flash diffuses the light, reducing harsh shadows and creating a more even illumination. Experiment with different angles to achieve desired lighting effects.

5.4 Fill-Flash Technique

In bright, outdoor conditions, direct sunlight can create harsh shadows on your subject. The SB-300 can be used as a fill-flash to lighten these shadows and balance the exposure between the subject and the background. Simply use the flash in its forward-facing position, and the i-TTL system will automatically provide the appropriate amount of fill light.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth to clean the flash unit. For stubborn dirt, slightly dampen the cloth with water. Avoid using organic solvents or strong cleaning agents.
- **Storage:** When not in use for extended periods, remove the batteries to prevent leakage. Store the flash unit in its provided soft case in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Handling:** Avoid dropping or subjecting the flash unit to strong impacts, as this can damage internal components.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Flash does not fire.	Batteries are dead or incorrectly inserted. Flash is not securely mounted. Flash is not powered on.	Check and replace batteries. Ensure flash is properly seated in the hot shoe. Turn the flash power switch to "ON".
Flash is too dim or too bright.	Incorrect camera settings. Subject is too far/close.	Ensure camera is in an i-TTL compatible mode. Adjust camera's ISO or aperture. Ensure subject is within flash range.
"READY" lamp does not light up.	Batteries are low or dead. Flash is not fully charged.	Replace batteries. Wait for the flash to fully recycle (may take longer with low batteries).

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	2.44 x 2.24 x 2.56 inches
Item Weight	3.36 ounces
Item Model Number	4810
Batteries Required	2 AAA batteries
Compatible Mountings	Nikon 1, Nikon D-SLR, hot-shoe equipped Coolpix
Camera Flash Type	Hotshoe
Flash Sync Speed	1/200 or 1/250 (camera dependent)
Date First Available	August 6, 2013
Manufacturer	Nikon

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information and further support, please refer to the official user manual provided by Nikon. You can access the full user manual in PDF format via the link below:

[Download Official User Manual \(PDF\)](#)

For product service or technical assistance, please contact Nikon customer support directly. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

