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› Pentax K-3 SLR Camera - Body Only Instruction Manual

Pentax K-3 body kit

Pentax K-3 SLR Camera - Instruction Manual

Model: K-3 Body Only

INTRODUCTION

The PENTAX K-3 is an advanced enthusiast DSLR designed for unparalleled imaging performance and user-flexibility. It features a 24 effective megapixel APS-C sensor, high-speed continuous shooting, and a unique selectable anti-aliasing filter. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your Pentax K-3 camera.

SETUP

What's in the Box

- SD Card

Battery Installation

The Pentax K-3 requires one Lithium Ion battery (included). Ensure the battery is fully charged before first use. Open the battery compartment cover located at the bottom of the camera. Insert the battery with the correct orientation, aligning it with the polarity indicators. Close the cover securely until it clicks into place.

Memory Card Insertion

The K-3 features dual SD card slots for versatile storage options. Locate the memory card slot cover on the side of the camera. Open the cover and insert the SD card(s) with the label facing the front of the camera until it clicks. Close the cover firmly. Ensure the card is inserted correctly to avoid read/write errors.

Lens Attachment

The Pentax K-3 utilizes the K-mount system, compatible with a wide range of Pentax lenses. To attach a lens, align the red dot on the lens barrel with the red dot on the camera's lens mount. Rotate the lens clockwise until it clicks into place. To detach, press the lens release button on the camera body and rotate the lens counter-clockwise.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



Rear view of the Pentax K-3 SLR Camera, highlighting the LCD screen, optical viewfinder, and various control buttons for navigation and settings adjustment.

Key Features Overview

- **24MP APS-C CMOS sensor, selectable on/off of anti-aliasing filter:** Provides high-resolution imagery with the flexibility to prioritize sharpness or reduce moiré.
- **8.3 frames per second continuous shooting:** Capture fast-moving subjects with ease.
- **27-point AF system with 25 cross sensors and 3 low-light AF sensors:** Ensures precise and rapid autofocus, even in challenging lighting conditions.
- **ISO 80-51,200:** Wide ISO range for excellent performance in various lighting environments.
- **3.2 inch TFT LCD with 1,037,000 dots:** High-resolution display for clear image review and menu navigation.
- **100% viewfinder:** Provides an accurate and comprehensive view of your scene.
- **Sensor-shift image stabilization:** Reduces camera shake for sharper images, compatible with any mounted lens.
- **Fully weather sealed and cold proof design with magnesium body:** Ensures durability and reliable operation in harsh environmental conditions.
- **FLU, Eye-Fi Wireless, and SDX Memory card compatibility. Dual SD card slots:** Offers flexible and advanced data transfer and storage options.
- **Real Time Scene Analysis with 86,000 pixel sensor:** Enhances exposure, white balance, and autofocus accuracy.
- **Pentaprism Optical Viewfinder for 100 percent FOV and .95 magnification:** Delivers a bright and clear view for precise composition.
- **HDMI port:** For connecting to external displays.
- **HDR Image Capture:** Expands dynamic range for detailed images in high-contrast scenes.

Basic Photography Modes

The mode dial on the top of the camera allows you to select various shooting modes, including Program (P), Shutter-Priority (Tv), Aperture-Priority (Av), Manual (M), and various scene modes. Refer to the on-screen guide for detailed descriptions of each mode.

Advanced Settings

The K-3 features a world's first selectable anti-aliasing filter. This function can be toggled on or off via the camera's menu, allowing users to choose between maximum resolution or reduced moiré patterns depending on the shooting scenario. Access the custom function menu to adjust this setting.

Video Recording

Enhance your video recording experience with full HD movie capture in the H.264 format (60i/50i/30p/24p). The camera includes a dedicated switch to quickly transition from still image to video recording. Equipped with a headphone terminal and stereo microphone terminal for external microphone connection, users can also adjust the audio recording level manually and monitor sound levels during recording.

Wireless Connectivity

The Pentax K-3 supports advanced wireless functionality with FLU card SDHC technology. This allows for complete remote camera control and image transfer to compatible devices. Insert a compatible FLU card into one of the dual SD card slots and follow the on-screen instructions for setup.

MAINTENANCE

Cleaning the Camera

Regular cleaning is essential for maintaining your camera's performance. Use a soft, lint-free cloth to wipe the camera body. For the lens and sensor, use specialized cleaning tools such as a blower brush and lens cleaning solution. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials. The weather-sealed body provides protection against dust and moisture, but proper cleaning after exposure to harsh conditions is still recommended.

Battery Care

To prolong battery life, store batteries in a cool, dry place when not in use. Avoid extreme temperatures. If the camera will not be used for an extended period, remove the battery from the camera body. Use only genuine Pentax batteries or approved third-party alternatives.

Storage

When storing the camera, ensure it is clean and dry. Place it in a camera bag or case that provides adequate padding and protection from dust and humidity. Consider using desiccant packs in humid environments to prevent moisture buildup.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Memory Card Errors

If you encounter an error related to the memory card, such as the camera not recognizing the card or issues with writing data, first try reinserting the card. Ensure the card is not locked (check the small switch on the side of the SD card). If the issue persists, try formatting the card within the camera (note: this will erase all data on the card). If the problem continues, the memory card may be faulty and require replacement.

Autofocus Issues

If the camera struggles to achieve focus, ensure there is sufficient light on your subject. Check that the lens is clean and free from smudges. Verify that the autofocus mode selected is appropriate for your shooting conditions (e.g., continuous AF for moving subjects). In very low light, the AF assist lamp can be enabled in the camera settings to aid focusing.

General Performance Issues

For general performance issues or unexpected behavior, try resetting the camera settings to their default values. This can often resolve software-related glitches. Ensure your camera's firmware is up to date by checking the Pentax support website.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Dimensions	5.16 x 3.03 x 3.94 inches
Item Weight	1.76 pounds
Item model number	K-3 body kit
Batteries	1 Lithium Ion batteries required. (included)
Date First Available	October 7, 2013
Compatible Mountings	Pentax KAF2, Pentax KAF3
Aspect Ratio	3:2
Photo Sensor Technology	CMOS
Supported File Format	RAW 14 bits (PEF, DNG), JPEG (Exif 2.3), DCF 2.0
Image Stabilization	Sensor-shift
Expanded ISO Minimum	100
Metering Description	Multi, Center-weighted, Spot
Brand	Pentax
Model Name	K-3
Maximum Webcam Image Resolution	24 MP

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Pentax support website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

Name

Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

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

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question