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Nikon Df

Nikon Df (Model 1528) Digital SLR Camera User Manual

Comprehensive guide for setup, operation, and maintenance.

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE NIKON DF

The Nikon Df is a 16.2 MP CMOS FX-Format Digital SLR Camera designed exclusively for still photography, blending classic design with advanced digital technology. It features a full-frame image sensor and EXPEED 3 image processing for optimal balance of resolution, image quality, and shooting speed. The camera is equipped with dedicated mechanical dials for shutter speed, ISO sensitivity, exposure compensation, exposure mode, and release mode, offering intuitive control.

Key features include:

- 16.2 MP full-frame CMOS sensor.
- 5.5 frames per second continuous shooting.
- 39-point autofocus system with 9 cross-type sensors.
- Wide ISO range (100–12,800, expandable down to 50 and up to 204,800).
- 3.2-inch LCD with 921,000 dots.
- 0.7x optical viewfinder with 100 percent coverage.
- Raw and Raw + JPEG shooting capabilities.
- Compatibility with all current AF-S, AF-D, and AF NIKKOR lenses, including AI and non-AI lenses via a metering coupling lever.
- Magnesium alloy body for durability.



Front view of the Nikon Df Digital SLR Camera, featuring its classic design and the attached AF-S NIKKOR 50mm f/1.8G Special Edition Lens.

2. SETUP AND INITIAL USE

2.1 Unpacking and Contents

Before using your Nikon Df camera, ensure all components are present:

- Df FX-format Digital SLR Camera Body (Silver)
- AF-S NIKKOR 50mm f/1.8G Special Edition Lens
- AN-DC9 Strap
- EN-EL14a Rechargeable Li-ion Battery
- MH-24 Battery Charger
- UC-E6 USB Cable
- BF-1B Body Cap
- BS-1 Accessory Shoe Cover
- DK-26 Eyepiece Cap
- DK-17 Eyepiece
- NikonView NX2 CD ROM
- LC-58 Snap-on Front Lens Cap
- LF-4 Rear Lens Cap
- HB-47 Bayonet Lens Hood
- CL-1013 Lens Pouch

2.2 Charging the Battery

Insert the EN-EL14a Rechargeable Li-ion Battery into the MH-24 Quick Charger. Plug the charger into a power outlet. The charging indicator will blink during charging and turn steady when complete. Ensure the battery is fully charged before first use.

2.3 Attaching the Lens

Align the mounting mark on the lens with the mounting mark on the camera body. Rotate the lens counter-clockwise until it clicks into place. To remove, press the lens release button and rotate clockwise.



The AF-S NIKKOR 50mm f/1.8G Special Edition Lens, included with the Nikon Df kit. This lens features a manual focusing ring with classic knurling for precise adjustments.

2.4 Inserting a Memory Card

Open the memory card slot cover. Insert an SD/SDHC/SDXC card into the slot with the contacts facing down until it clicks. Close the cover securely.

3. OPERATING THE CAMERA

3.1 Power On/Off

Rotate the power switch around the shutter release button to turn the camera on or off.

3.2 Setting Shooting Modes

The Nikon Df features dedicated mechanical dials for key settings. The exposure mode dial (P, S, A, M) is located on the top left of the camera. Rotate it to select your desired shooting mode:

- **P (Programmed Auto):** Camera sets both shutter speed and aperture for optimal exposure.
- **S (Shutter-Priority Auto):** You set the shutter speed, and the camera selects the aperture.
- **A (Aperture-Priority Auto):** You set the aperture, and the camera selects the shutter speed.

- **M (Manual):** You control both shutter speed and aperture.



Angled front view of the Nikon Df, highlighting the mechanical dials for shutter speed, ISO, and exposure compensation on the top plate.

3.3 Adjusting ISO Sensitivity

The ISO sensitivity dial is located on the top left, beneath the exposure mode dial. Lift and rotate it to select your desired ISO value (100-12,800, expandable).

3.4 Setting Shutter Speed

The shutter speed dial is on the top right of the camera. Rotate it to select your desired shutter speed. In 'S' or 'M' mode, this directly controls the shutter speed.

3.5 Exposure Compensation

The exposure compensation dial is located on the top right, next to the shutter speed dial. Use it to adjust exposure by +/- 3 EV in 1/3 steps.

3.6 Autofocus System

The Df features a 39-point autofocus system with 9 cross-type sensors. Use the AF-mode button and command dials to select AF-area mode and AF-mode (e.g., Single-servo AF, Continuous-servo AF).



Rear view of the Nikon Df, showing the LCD screen, navigation buttons, and the optical viewfinder.

3.7 White Balance

The Df offers various white balance settings, including auto. Access these through the menu system or dedicated buttons for precise color rendition.

3.8 Self-Timer

The self-timer function allows for a delay before the shutter fires, useful for self-portraits or group shots. Set the delay (e.g., 10 seconds) via the camera's menu.

4. SPECIAL FEATURES AND COMPATIBILITY

4.1 Wi-Fi Connectivity

The Nikon Df is Wi-Fi compatible via the optional WU-1a Wireless Mobile Adapter (sold separately). This adapter allows for instant photo sharing to a compatible smartphone or tablet, and can also be used for remote camera control and live view.

4.2 Lens Compatibility

The Df boasts extensive lens compatibility, working with all current AF-S, AF-D, and AF NIKKOR lenses. Additionally, a metering coupling lever makes it possible to use both AI (Aperture Index) and non-AI lenses, allowing photographers to utilize a vast array of vintage NIKKOR optics.

4.3 Still Photography Focus

Please note that the Nikon Df is designed exclusively for still photography and does not feature video

recording capabilities. For users interested in video, other Nikon DSLR models offer full HD video formats and special effects.

Official product video: Nikon Df Digital SLR. This video provides an overview of the Nikon Df camera, showcasing its design and features.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning the Camera

- Use a blower brush to remove dust from the lens and camera body.
- For stubborn smudges, use a soft, clean cloth lightly dampened with lens cleaner.
- Avoid touching the sensor directly. If sensor cleaning is required, consult a professional service center.

5.2 Storage

When not in use, store the camera in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and moisture. Remove the battery if storing for extended periods.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

6.1 Camera Not Powering On

- Ensure the battery is fully charged and correctly inserted.
- Check if the battery contacts are clean.

6.2 Images Are Blurry

- Verify that the lens is properly attached and clean.
- Check autofocus settings and ensure the camera is focusing on the intended subject.
- Ensure shutter speed is appropriate for the shooting conditions to prevent camera shake.

6.3 Memory Card Error

- Reinsert the memory card.
- Try a different, compatible memory card.
- Ensure the card is not locked (write-protected).

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Name	Nikon Df
Model Number	1528
Photo Sensor Resolution	16.2 MP
Photo Sensor Size	Full Frame (35mm)
Sensor Type	CMOS

Feature	Specification
Compatible Mountings	Nikon F (FX)
Continuous Shooting Speed	5.5 frames per second
Autofocus Points	39
ISO Range	100 - 12800 (Expanded: 50 - 204800)
Maximum Shutter Speed	1/4000 Seconds
Minimum Shutter Speed	30 seconds
Screen Size	3.2 Inches
Display Type	LCD (Fixed)
Supported File Format	JPEG (EXIF 2.3), RAW (NEF), TIFF
Flash Memory Type	SD/SDHC/SDXC card
Battery Type	EN-EL14/EN-EL14a lithium-ion battery
Battery Average Life	1400 Photos
Item Weight	1.7 Pounds
Color	Silver

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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