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Pentax Super Takumar 55mm F1.8

PENTAX Super Takumar 55mm F1.8 M42 Screw Mount MF Lens User Manual

Model: Super Takumar 55mm F1.8

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and effective use of your PENTAX Super Takumar 55mm F1.8 M42 Screw Mount Manual Focus Lens. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the lens and retain it for future reference. This lens is designed for use with cameras featuring an M42 screw mount.

SAFETY INFORMATION

- Do not expose the lens to direct sunlight for extended periods, as this can damage internal elements or cause fire.
- Avoid dropping or subjecting the lens to strong impacts.
- Keep the lens away from water, moisture, and extreme temperatures.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or modify the lens, as this will void any potential warranty and may cause damage.
- Store the lens with both front and rear caps attached when not in use to protect the glass elements.

PARTS IDENTIFICATION

Familiarize yourself with the key components of your Super Takumar 55mm F1.8 lens.



Figure 1: Front view of the PENTAX Super Takumar 55mm F1.8 lens.

Front Element: The outermost glass element of the lens.

Filter Thread: Located around the front element, typically 49mm (indicated by $\phi 49$ in some models) for attaching filters.

Focus Ring: The ribbed ring used to manually adjust the focus.

Aperture Ring: The ring used to set the lens aperture (f-stop). Markings include F1.8, F2.8, F4, F5.6, F8, F11, F16.

Mounting Thread (M42): The screw-mount thread at the rear of the lens for attaching to the camera body.

Lens Markings:

- "ASAHI OPT. CO., JAPAN": Manufacturer and country of origin.
- "SMC TAKUMAR": Lens series and coating type.
- "1:1.8/55": Indicates maximum aperture of F1.8 and focal length of 55mm.
- "5630551": Serial number (example, actual number may vary).

SETUP: MOUNTING THE LENS

1. Ensure your camera body is powered off.
2. Remove the rear lens cap from the Super Takumar lens and the body cap from your camera.
3. Align the M42 screw mount thread of the lens with the corresponding thread on your camera body.
4. Gently screw the lens onto the camera body in a clockwise direction until it is securely fastened. Do not overtighten.
5. If using an adapter for a different mount (e.g., mirrorless cameras), attach the adapter to the lens first, then mount the combined unit to the camera.

Note: This is a manual focus lens. Your camera may require specific settings (e.g., "Shoot without lens" or "Aperture priority mode") to function correctly with manual lenses.

OPERATING THE LENS

1. Adjusting Aperture

The aperture ring controls the amount of light entering the lens and the depth of field. Rotate the aperture ring to select your desired f-stop (e.g., F1.8, F2.8, F4, F5.6, F8, F11, F16). A smaller f-number (e.g., F1.8) indicates a wider aperture, allowing more light and creating a shallower depth of field (more background blur). A larger f-number (e.g., F16) indicates a narrower aperture, allowing less light and creating a greater depth of field (more in focus).

2. Manual Focusing

To focus, look through your camera's viewfinder or use Live View on your camera's LCD screen. Rotate the focus ring until your subject appears sharp. Many modern cameras offer focus peaking or magnification aids to assist with manual focusing.

3. Exposure Settings

Since this is a manual lens, you will need to set your camera's exposure manually or use an aperture-priority (Av or A) mode, if available, where the camera automatically selects the shutter speed based on your chosen aperture and ISO.

MAINTENANCE AND CARE

- **Cleaning the Lens:** Use a soft lens brush or a blower to remove dust from the lens surfaces. For smudges or fingerprints, use a clean microfiber lens cloth and a small amount of lens cleaning solution. Apply the solution to the cloth, not directly to the lens.
- **Storage:** Store the lens in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and high humidity. Always attach the front and rear lens caps to protect the glass elements from dust and scratches.
- **Handling:** Avoid touching the glass elements with your fingers. Always hold the lens by its barrel.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Camera does not recognize lens / Cannot take photos.	Manual lens requires specific camera settings.	Enable "Shoot without lens" or similar setting in your camera's menu. Use Aperture Priority (Av/A) or Manual (M) mode.
Images are blurry.	Incorrect focus or camera shake.	Ensure accurate manual focus. Use a faster shutter speed or a tripod to prevent camera shake.
Images are too dark or too bright.	Incorrect exposure settings.	Adjust aperture, shutter speed, and ISO settings for proper exposure. Use your camera's light meter as a guide.
Dust or smudges on images.	Dirty lens elements.	Clean the front and rear lens elements carefully as described in the Maintenance section.

SPECIFICATIONS

Brand: Pentax

Model: Super Takumar 55mm F1.8

Focal Length: 55mm

Maximum Aperture: F1.8

Lens Type: Standard, Manual Focus

Compatible Mountings: M42 Screw Mount

Item Weight: 8 ounces (approximately 227 grams)

Package Dimensions: 10.9 x 5.9 x 3 inches

Date First Available: January 12, 2015

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding warranty coverage and customer support, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or contact your retailer. As this is often a vintage lens, specific warranty terms may vary or no longer apply. For technical assistance, consult online photography forums or resources dedicated to vintage Pentax lenses.