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Nikon 20053

Nikon AF-S FX NIKKOR 500mm f/4E FL ED VR Lens Instruction Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the Nikon AF-S FX NIKKOR 500mm f/4E FL ED VR fixed lens. Designed for Nikon DSLR cameras, this super telephoto lens offers advanced optical performance, improved autofocus tracking, and Vibration Reduction (VR) image stabilization. Its lightweight construction, achieved through magnesium alloy and fluorite elements, makes it suitable for demanding outdoor, sports, action, and nature photography.

Key features include:

- Compatibility with Nikon's full-frame (FX) SLRs.
- Vibration Reduction (VR) image stabilization, providing up to approximately 4.0 stops of compensation.
- SPORT VR mode, optimized for fast-moving subjects and panning.
- Silent Wave Motor (SWM) for fast and quiet autofocus.
- Nonstick fluorine coat on the front element for easy cleaning of water, dirt, and smudges.
- Electromagnetic diaphragm for precise exposure control during high-speed continuous shooting.



Figure 1: The Nikon AF-S FX NIKKOR 500mm f/4E FL ED VR lens, showcasing its robust design.

2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all the following items are included in your package:

- AF-S FX NIKKOR 500mm f/4E FL ED Vibration Reduction Fixed Lens
- Slip-On Front Lens Cap
- LF-4 Rear Lens Cap
- HK-34 Lens Hood
- Slip-In Filter Holder
- NC 40.5mm Neutral Color Filter
- LN-2 Strap
- CT-505 Lens Case
- Monopod Collar

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

3.1 Attaching the Lens

1. Ensure both the camera and lens are powered off.
2. Remove the rear lens cap (LF-4) from the lens and the body cap from your camera.
3. Align the mounting mark on the lens with the mounting mark on the camera body.
4. Rotate the lens counter-clockwise until it clicks into place, indicating it is securely locked.

3.2 Attaching the Lens Hood (HK-34)

The HK-34 lens hood helps to reduce flare and protect the front element of the lens from impact. Align the red dot on the lens hood with the red dot on the lens, then twist the hood clockwise until it locks securely.



Figure 2: The HK-34 lens hood, designed to minimize flare and protect the lens.

3.3 Using the Slip-in Filter Holder

The lens includes a slip-in filter holder and a 40.5mm Neutral Color (NC) filter. To install, slide the filter

into the holder, then insert the holder into the designated slot on the lens barrel. Ensure it is fully seated.



Figure 3: The slip-in filter holder with a filter, ready for insertion into the lens.

3.4 Using the Monopod Collar

The monopod collar allows for stable mounting of the lens on a monopod or tripod, providing better balance due to the lens's weight and length. The ball bearings in the collar ring ensure smooth transitions between horizontal and vertical shooting orientations. Loosen the locking knob to rotate the lens within the collar, and tighten it to secure the position.

4. OPERATING THE LENS

4.1 Focus Modes

The lens features a Silent Wave Motor (SWM) for fast, accurate, and quiet autofocus operation. Use the focus mode switch on the lens barrel to select between autofocus (A/M, M/A) and manual focus (M).

- **A/M (Autofocus with Manual override):** Allows immediate manual focus adjustment by rotating the focus ring while in autofocus mode.
- **M/A (Autofocus with Manual override):** Similar to A/M, but requires more rotation of the focus ring before manual override engages, reducing accidental manual adjustments.
- **M (Manual Focus):** Focus is adjusted solely by rotating the focus ring.

4.2 Vibration Reduction (VR) System

Nikon's VR image stabilization system effectively counteracts camera shake and vibration, allowing for sharper images, especially in low light or when shooting handheld. The system provides up to approximately 4.0 stops of compensation (based on CIPA Standard).

The VR switch on the lens barrel allows selection of different VR modes:

- **OFF:** Vibration Reduction is disabled.
- **NORMAL:** Recommended for general photography, compensating for a wide range of camera shake.
- **SPORT:** Optimized for photographing fast and erratically moving subjects, such as in sports photography. This mode provides a more stable viewfinder image and is effective during panning. It also minimizes impact on continuous shooting frame rates.

A dedicated Tripod Mode is also integrated, which automatically activates when the lens detects it is mounted on a tripod or monopod, eliminating subtle ground vibrations.



Figure 4: Side view of the lens, highlighting the focus mode and VR switches.

4.3 Electromagnetic Diaphragm

The lens incorporates an electromagnetic diaphragm mechanism. This system ensures precise and consistent exposure control, especially during high-speed continuous shooting, by operating in sync with the camera's shutter. This provides stable exposure even when using compatible teleconverters.

5. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

5.1 Fluorine Coat

The front meniscus element of the lens is treated with Nikon's nonstick fluorine coat. This coating repels water, dirt, and smudges, making the lens easier to clean. To clean, gently wipe with a soft, clean cloth.

5.2 General Cleaning

- Use a blower brush to remove dust from the lens surface.
- For smudges or fingerprints, use a lens cleaning cloth and a small amount of lens cleaning fluid. Apply the fluid to the cloth, not directly to the lens.
- Avoid using organic solvents like paint thinner or benzene to clean the lens.
- Clean the lens contacts on the mount periodically with a clean, dry cloth to ensure proper communication with the camera.

5.3 Storage

When not in use, store the lens with both front and rear caps attached in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight. The included CT-505 lens case provides excellent protection for storage and transport.



Figure 5: The CT-505 hard-shell lens case, designed for secure storage and transport.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your lens, consider the following general troubleshooting steps:

- **Lens not recognized by camera:** Ensure the lens is securely mounted and the contacts on both the lens and camera body are clean.
- **Autofocus not working:** Check that the lens is set to an autofocus mode (A/M or M/A) and not manual focus (M). Ensure the camera's focus mode is also set to autofocus.
- **Blurry images:** Verify that Vibration Reduction (VR) is enabled if shooting handheld. Check your camera's shutter speed and ISO settings. Ensure the lens and camera are clean.
- **Exposure inconsistencies:** Confirm that the electromagnetic diaphragm is functioning correctly. If using a teleconverter, ensure it is compatible and properly attached.

If problems persist after attempting these steps, please contact Nikon customer support.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Number	20053
Focal Length	500 mm
Lens Type	Telephoto
Compatible Mountings	Nikon F
Product Dimensions	151.18 x 54.33 x 54.33 inches
Item Weight	6.6 pounds
Manufacturer	Nikon

Feature	Specification
Date First Available	July 1, 2015

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

This Nikon product is covered by a limited warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Nikon website for detailed terms and conditions, including warranty period and service procedures. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

9. SUPPORT

For technical assistance, service, or further inquiries regarding your Nikon AF-S FX NIKKOR 500mm f/4E FL ED VR lens, please contact Nikon customer support. Contact information can typically be found on the official Nikon website or in the documentation provided with your product.