Nikon ES-2

Nikon ES-2 Film Digitizing Adapter Set Instruction Manual

Model: ES-2

Introduction

The Nikon ES-2 Film Digitizing Adapter Set provides a method for converting 35mm film (negatives and slides) into digital files using a compatible Nikon DSLR camera. This adapter leverages the high-resolution capabilities of modern digital cameras, such as the Nikon D850 with its 45.7 MP sensor, to efficiently digitize film. When used with a suitable macro lens, the camera's digitizing function automatically processes the film, reversing colors for negatives and storing images as JPEG files. This system offers a faster alternative to traditional film scanners for digitizing large volumes of film.



Image: The Nikon ES-2 Film Digitizing Adapter shown with a strip film holder.

Package Contents

Verify that all items listed below are included in your ES-2 Film Digitizing Adapter Set package:

- ES-2 Negative Digitizer
- FH-4 Strip Film Holder (for 35mm negative strips)
- FH-5 Slide Mount Holder (for 35mm mounted slides)
- 62mm adapter ring A

- 62mm adapter ring B



Image: All components of the ES-2 set, including the digitizer, film holders, and adapter rings.

Setup

1. Attaching the ES-2 to a Compatible Lens

The ES-2 adapter is designed for use with specific macro lenses that have a 62mm filter thread. A common compatible lens is the AF-S Micro NIKKOR 60mm f/2.8G ED. Ensure your lens has the correct filter thread size or use the provided adapter rings (62mm adapter ring A or B) if necessary.

1. Screw the appropriate 62mm adapter ring onto the front filter thread of your macro lens.
2. Attach the ES-2 Negative Digitizer to the adapter ring by aligning the threads and rotating clockwise until secure.
3. Mount the lens with the attached ES-2 to your Nikon DSLR camera.



Image: The ES-2 adapter securely mounted on a macro lens.

2. Preparing Film for Digitization

Select the appropriate film holder based on your film type:

- For 35mm negative strips: Use the **FH-4 Strip Film Holder**. Carefully insert the film strip into the holder, ensuring it lies flat and is free of dust.
- For 35mm mounted slides: Use the **FH-5 Slide Mount Holder**. Insert the mounted slide into the holder.

It is crucial to ensure your film is clean and free of dust or fingerprints before insertion to achieve optimal digital results. Use a blower brush or lint-free cloth if necessary.

Operating Instructions

1. **Positioning the Camera and Light Source:** Mount your camera (with the ES-2 and lens attached) on a stable tripod or copy stand. Position a uniform, bright light source (e.g., an LED light panel or light box) behind the film holder. The light source should illuminate the film evenly.
2. **Inserting the Film Holder:** Slide the prepared film holder (with film inserted) into the slot on the ES-2 Negative Digitizer.
3. **Camera Settings:**
    - Set your camera to Manual (M) mode for full control over exposure.
    - Use a low ISO setting (e.g., ISO 100 or 200) to minimize noise.
    - Adjust aperture for desired depth of field (typically f/8 to f/11 for sharpness).
    - Set shutter speed to achieve correct exposure.
    - Enable the camera's "Negative Digitizer" function (if available, consult your camera's manual for specific instructions, e.g., Nikon D850). This function automatically reverses colors for negatives.
    - Set the white balance manually to match your light source for accurate color reproduction.
4. **Focusing:** Use Live View on your camera's LCD screen to precisely focus on the film grain. Manual focus is recommended for optimal sharpness.
5. **Capturing Images:** Once focused and exposed correctly, capture the image. For negative strips, slide the film holder to the next frame and repeat the process.

6. **Review and Post-Processing:** Review the captured digital images on your camera's screen. Further adjustments to color, contrast, and dust removal can be performed using image editing software.



Image: A Nikon D850 camera equipped with the ES-2 adapter and film holder, demonstrating a typical setup for digitizing film.

Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Nikon ES-2 Film Digitizing Adapter Set, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning the Adapter and Holders:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth to gently wipe the exterior of the ES-2 adapter and film holders. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- **Dust Removal:** Regularly use a blower brush to remove dust from the film holders and the diffuser panel of the ES-2. Dust on these surfaces can appear in your digitized images.
- **Storage:** Store the ES-2 set in a clean, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures, when not in use. Keep it in its original packaging or a protective case to prevent scratches and damage.

Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues while using your ES-2 Film Digitizing Adapter Set, consider the following common problems and solutions:

- **Dust Spots on Images:**
  - Ensure the film, film holder, and ES-2 diffuser are thoroughly cleaned with a blower brush before each use.
  - Check your camera's sensor for dust and clean it if necessary (refer to your camera's manual).
- **Poor Focus/Soft Images:**
  - Verify that your macro lens is correctly focused. Use Live View and magnify the image for precise manual focusing.

- Ensure the camera and film holder are stable and free from vibrations during exposure.
- Confirm the ES-2 is securely attached to the lens and the lens to the camera body.

- **Incorrect Colors/Exposure:**
  - Check your camera's white balance settings. Manually set it to match your light source.
  - Ensure the camera's "Negative Digitizer" function is enabled for negatives.
  - Adjust exposure settings (aperture, shutter speed, ISO) to achieve a balanced histogram.
  - Verify your light source is uniform and bright enough.
- **Adapter Not Fitting Lens:**
  - Confirm your macro lens has a 62mm filter thread. If not, ensure you are using the correct adapter ring (A or B) for your lens's filter thread size.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Product Name	ES-2 Film Digitizing Adapter Set
Brand	Nikon
Model Number	VWD304AW
Compatible Film Types	35mm film strips (negatives), 35mm mounted slides
Required Lens Thread Size	62mm (adapter rings included for compatibility)
Dimensions (Product)	0.39 x 0.39 x 0.39 inches (approximate, for main adapter)
Item Weight	10.6 ounces
UPC	018208271924

Warranty and Support

For information regarding product warranty, technical support, or service, please refer to the official Nikon website or contact Nikon customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims. Online resources and FAQs may also be available on the Nikon support pages.

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