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> Nikon COOLPIX P950 Superzoom Digital Camera Instruction Manual

Nikon P950

Nikon COOLPIX P950 Superzoom Digital Camera

Instruction Manual

INTRODUCTION

The Nikon COOLPIX P950 is a powerful superzoom digital camera designed to capture distant subjects with exceptional clarity and detail. Featuring an 83x optical zoom, 16 MP sensor, 4K UHD video capabilities, and advanced image stabilization, it is ideal for wildlife, sports, and astrophotography. This manual provides essential information for setting up, operating, and maintaining your camera to ensure optimal performance.

Key Features:

- 16.0 Megapixels of resolution for high-quality stills.
- 83x optical zoom (24-2000mm equivalent) and 166x Dynamic Fine Zoom for incredible reach.
- Dual Detect Optical VR image stabilization for sharp images and steady videos.
- 4K UHD (2160p) video recording at 30p.
- RAW (NRW) format support for advanced post-processing.
- Built-in Wi-Fi and Bluetooth for seamless sharing and remote control.
- Large, vari-angle 3.2-inch LCD screen and high-resolution electronic viewfinder.

1. SETUP

1.1 Unboxing and Initial Inspection

Upon opening the box, ensure all components are present and undamaged. The COOLPIX P950 package typically includes:

- Camera Body & Lens
- EN-EL20a Rechargeable Li-ion Battery
- EH-73P Charging AC Adapter
- UC-E21 USB Cable
- AN-DC3 Strap

1.2 Attaching the Camera Strap

Securely attach the AN-DC3 strap to the camera's strap lugs. This prevents accidental drops and provides comfortable carrying.



Figure 1.1: Front view of the Nikon COOLPIX P950 with the strap attached.

1.3 Inserting the Battery and SD Card

Open the battery/card compartment cover located on the bottom of the camera. Insert the EN-EL20a battery, ensuring it clicks into place. Then, insert a compatible SD memory card (Class 10 or higher recommended for 4K video) until it locks. Close the compartment cover securely.



Figure 1.2: Rear view of the Nikon COOLPIX P950, highlighting the battery and SD card compartment on the underside.

1.4 Charging the Battery

Connect the UC-E21 USB cable to the camera and the EH-73P Charging AC Adapter. Plug the adapter into a power outlet. The charging indicator light will show the charging status. Ensure the battery is fully charged before first use.

2. OPERATING THE CAMERA

2.1 Powering On/Off

Press the **ON/OFF** button located on the top of the camera to power it on or off. The lens will extend upon power-on.



Figure 2.1: Top view of the Nikon COOLPIX P950, showing the ON/OFF button and mode dial.

2.2 Basic Controls and Navigation

Familiarize yourself with the camera's main controls:

- **Mode Dial:** Select shooting modes like Programmed Auto (P), Shutter-Priority Auto (S), Aperture-Priority Auto (A), Manual (M), and various Scene modes.
- **Zoom Control:** Use the zoom lever around the shutter button to adjust the optical zoom. The side zoom control on the lens barrel offers an alternative for smoother zooming during video recording.
- **Shutter Button:** Press halfway to focus, fully to take a picture.
- **Video Record Button:** Dedicated button for instant 4K UHD video recording.

- **Vari-angle LCD Monitor:** The 3.2-inch LCD can be rotated and tilted for flexible shooting angles, including self-portraits.
- **Electronic Viewfinder (EVF):** Use the EVF for precise framing, especially in bright conditions or when using extreme zoom.
- **Side Dial:** Customizable dial for quick access to settings like ISO, aperture, or shutter speed depending on the selected mode.



Figure 2.2: Angled front view of the Nikon COOLPIX P950, highlighting the main zoom control and side dial.

2.3 Shooting Modes

The COOLPIX P950 offers a variety of shooting modes to suit different scenarios:

- **Scene Modes:** Includes Landscape, Portrait, Close-up, Party/Indoor, Backlight, Night Portrait, Food, Fireworks, Night Landscape, Dawn/Dusk, Sports, and specialized Bird and Moon modes for optimized settings.
- **Programmed Auto (P):** Camera sets optimal exposure while allowing some user control.
- **Shutter-Priority Auto (S):** You set the shutter speed, camera sets aperture. Ideal for controlling motion blur.
- **Aperture-Priority Auto (A):** You set the aperture, camera sets shutter speed. Ideal for controlling depth of field.
- **Manual (M):** Full control over both shutter speed and aperture.

2.4 Image Stabilization (VR)

The camera features Dual Detect Optical VR (Vibration Reduction) to minimize blur caused by camera shake, especially crucial when using the powerful zoom. This system uses two types of detection to provide highly effective stabilization.

2.5 4K UHD Video Recording

Record stunning 4K Ultra HD videos at 30 frames per second. The camera's advanced zoom and stabilization ensure your video footage is clear and steady, even when capturing distant subjects.

Video 2.1: Official Nikon COOLPIX P950 Product Tour. This video demonstrates the camera's features, including its powerful zoom and 4K video capabilities, in various outdoor settings.

2.6 Connectivity (Wi-Fi & Bluetooth)

The COOLPIX P950 features built-in Wi-Fi and Bluetooth for seamless connectivity with your smart devices. Use the Nikon SnapBridge app to:

- Automatically transfer photos to your smartphone or tablet.
- Remotely control the camera from your smart device.
- Add location data to your photos using your smart device's GPS.

3. MAINTENANCE

3.1 Cleaning the Camera

- **Lens:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth or a lens brush to gently remove dust. For stubborn smudges, use a specialized lens cleaning solution.
- **Body:** Wipe the camera body with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- **LCD Screen:** Use a microfiber cloth specifically designed for screens.

3.2 Battery Care

To prolong battery life:

- Fully charge the battery before each use.
- Remove the battery when the camera is not in use for extended periods.
- Store batteries in a cool, dry place.

3.3 Storage

When storing the camera, especially for long periods, ensure it is clean and dry. Use a camera bag or case to protect it from dust, moisture, and physical impact.

4. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your COOLPIX P950, try the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Camera not powering on:** Ensure the battery is fully charged and correctly inserted.
- **Images are blurry:** Check if VR (Vibration Reduction) is enabled. Ensure sufficient lighting. Use a tripod for extreme zoom.

or low-light conditions.

- **SD card error:** Reinsert the SD card. Try a different compatible SD card. Format the card (this will erase all data).
- **Wi-Fi/Bluetooth connection issues:** Ensure the SnapBridge app is updated. Restart both the camera and your smart device.

For more detailed troubleshooting, please refer to the official User Manual.

5. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Name	COOLPIX P950
Photo Sensor Resolution	16 MP
Optical Zoom	83x
Maximum Focal Length	2000 Millimeters (35mm equivalent)
Video Resolution	4K UHD 2160p
Image Stabilization	Dual Detect Optical VR
Screen Size	3.2 Inches (Vari-angle LCD)
Viewfinder	Electronic
Connectivity Technology	Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, GPS
Supported File Format	JPEG, RAW, MP4
Item Weight	1000 Grams

6. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

6.1 Warranty Information

The Nikon COOLPIX P950 comes with a 1-year manufacturer's warranty. Extended protection plans are also available for purchase:

- 3-Year Protection Plan
- 2-Year Protection Plan

6.2 Official User Guide

For detailed instructions and advanced features, please refer to the official User Guide:

- [Nikon COOLPIX P950 User Guide \(PDF\)](#)
- [Nikon COOLPIX P950 User Manual \(PDF\)](#)

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