

MEKE MK430

Meike MK430 TTL LCD Flash Speedlite Instruction Manual

Model: MK430C

1. INTRODUCTION

The Meike MK430 TTL LCD Flash Speedlite is a versatile external flash unit designed for Canon DSLR cameras. It offers advanced features such as TTL auto flash, manual control, stroboscopic mode, and optical slave functions (S1/S2). This manual provides detailed instructions for proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your MK430 flash unit.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and understand the following safety precautions before using the Meike MK430 flash unit:

- Do not disassemble or attempt to repair the flash unit yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.
- Keep the flash unit dry. Do not expose it to rain, moisture, or high humidity.
- Avoid direct eye contact with the flash light, especially at close range, as it can cause temporary vision impairment.
- Use only recommended batteries. Incorrect battery types or improper installation can lead to leakage, overheating, or explosion.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- Do not operate the flash unit in the presence of flammable gases or liquids.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in your package:

- Meike MK430 TTL LCD Flash Speedlite
- Standard Hot Shoe Stand
- Wide Panel (built-in)
- Instruction Manual (this document)

4. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the components of your Meike MK430 flash unit.





Figure 4.1: Front view of the Meike MK430 flash unit mounted on its hot shoe stand, showing the flash head and built-in wide panel/diffuser.





Figure 4.2: Close-up of the Meike MK430 LCD display and control panel. The screen shows TTL mode, exposure compensation, ISO, and zoom settings. Buttons include PILOT, MODE, ZOOM, ON/OFF, and a SET button with directional arrows.



Figure 4.3: Collage showing various features of the MK430 flash. Top right: Flash head with wide panel extended. Middle right: Battery compartment open, revealing slots for four AA batteries. Bottom right: Hot shoe mount with locking ring.

4.1 Flash Head

The flash head can be rotated horizontally and tilted vertically for bounce flash photography. It also includes a built-in wide panel and a bounce card.

4.2 LCD Display

The LCD screen shows current settings such as flash mode, exposure compensation, ISO, and zoom position.

4.3 Control Buttons

- **PILOT:** Test flash button.

- **MODE:** Cycles through flash modes (TTL, Manual, Multi, S1, S2).
- **ZOOM:** Adjusts the flash zoom coverage.
- **ON/OFF:** Power switch.
- **SET/Directional Buttons:** Used to confirm selections and navigate menus.

4.4 Battery Compartment

Located on the side of the flash unit, it holds four AA batteries.

4.5 Hot Shoe Mount

Connects the flash unit to your camera's hot shoe for communication and triggering.

5. SETUP

5.1 Battery Installation

1. Open the battery compartment cover on the side of the flash unit (refer to Figure 4.3).
2. Insert four AA-size batteries according to the polarity indicators (+/-) inside the compartment.
3. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

5.2 Mounting on Camera

1. Ensure both the camera and flash unit are powered off.
2. Slide the flash unit's hot shoe mount completely into your camera's hot shoe.
3. Tighten the locking ring on the flash unit's hot shoe mount to secure it to the camera. Do not overtighten.

Note: The Meike MK430C is designed for Canon DSLR cameras with a standard hot shoe.

6. OPERATING MODES

Press the **MODE** button to cycle through the available flash modes.

6.1 TTL (Through-The-Lens) Auto Flash Mode

In TTL mode, the flash output is automatically controlled by the camera's metering system to achieve optimal exposure. This is the recommended mode for most general photography situations.

- Set your camera to a compatible exposure mode (e.g., Program AE, Shutter-priority AE, Aperture-priority AE, Manual).
- The flash will automatically adjust its output based on the scene.
- Exposure compensation (FEC) can be applied in this mode to fine-tune flash brightness.

6.2 Manual (M) Mode

In Manual mode, you manually set the flash output power from full power (1/1) down to lower power settings (e.g., 1/128). This mode offers precise control over flash intensity.

- Press **MODE** until "M" appears on the LCD.

- Use the directional buttons to adjust the flash power level.

6.3 Multi (Stroboscopic) Mode

Stroboscopic mode fires the flash multiple times during a single exposure, creating a series of images of a moving subject in one frame.

- Press **MODE** until "MULTI" appears.
- Set the flash frequency (Hz), number of flashes, and flash output using the directional buttons.

6.4 S1/S2 Optical Slave Modes

These modes allow the MK430 to be triggered wirelessly by another flash unit without direct connection.

- **S1 Mode:** The flash fires in response to the first flash from a master unit. Suitable for manual flash triggering.
- **S2 Mode:** The flash ignores the pre-flash of a master TTL flash and fires on the main flash. Useful when using a master TTL flash that emits a pre-flash.

7. ADVANCED FEATURES

7.1 Flash Exposure Compensation (FEC)

FEC allows you to adjust the flash output in TTL mode to make the subject brighter or darker. This is useful for fine-tuning exposure when the camera's automatic metering doesn't produce the desired result.

- Access FEC settings via the flash unit's menu or dedicated button (if available, otherwise through camera menu).
- Adjust the compensation value in steps (e.g., +/- 0.3 EV).

7.2 Auto Exposure Bracketing (AEB)

AEB automatically takes a series of three shots at different exposures (standard, underexposed, overexposed). While primarily a camera feature, the flash can integrate with it for consistent results across the bracketed shots.

- Set AEB on your camera.
- The flash will adjust its output for each shot in the bracketed sequence.

7.3 Auto Zoom / Manual Zoom

The flash head's zoom position can be adjusted to match the focal length of your lens, optimizing light coverage.

- **Auto Zoom:** The flash automatically adjusts its zoom position based on the camera's lens focal length.
- **Manual Zoom:** Press the **ZOOM** button and use directional controls to manually set the zoom position (e.g., 24mm, 50mm, 105mm).

8. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the flash unit. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth can be used, followed by a dry cloth. Do not use organic solvents or strong cleaning agents.
- **Battery Care:** Remove batteries when the flash unit will not be used for an extended period to prevent leakage.

- **Storage:** Store the flash unit in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Hot Shoe Contacts:** Keep the hot shoe contacts clean and free of debris to ensure proper communication with the camera.

9. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Flash does not fire.	Flash unit is off. Batteries are depleted or incorrectly installed. Flash not securely mounted on camera. Camera settings prevent flash firing.	Turn on the flash unit. Replace batteries or re-install correctly. Re-mount flash and tighten locking ring. Check camera's flash settings and shooting mode.
Flash output is too weak/strong.	Incorrect flash exposure compensation (FEC). Manual power setting is too low/high. Flash zoom setting does not match lens focal length.	Adjust FEC on the flash or camera. Adjust manual power setting. Set flash zoom to Auto or manually match lens focal length.
Flash does not sync with camera.	Hot shoe contacts are dirty or damaged. Flash unit is not fully compatible with camera model.	Clean hot shoe contacts on both flash and camera. Ensure the flash is the correct version for your camera brand (MK430C for Canon).

10. SPECIFICATIONS

Model	MK430C (ZN-Speedlite)
Guide Number	GN: 42 (at 105mm, ISO 100)
Flash Modes	TTL, Manual, Multi (Stroboscopic), S1, S2
Zoom Range	Auto, Manual (24-105mm)
Vertical Rotation Angle	-7 to 90 degrees
Horizontal Rotation Angle	0 to 270 degrees
Power Source	4 x AA size batteries (Alkaline or Ni-MH)
Recycle Time	Approx. 3 seconds (with fresh alkaline batteries)
Flash Sync Speed	Up to 1/2000s

Dimensions (L x W x H)	2.36 x 6.52 x 2.36 inches (approx.)
Weight	13.8 ounces (without batteries)
Compatible Mountings	Canon Hotshoe

11. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Meike products are designed for reliability and performance. For warranty information, technical support, or service inquiries, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or contact Meike customer service directly. You can typically find contact information on the official Meike website or through your retailer. For additional protection, consider purchasing an extended protection plan. Details on available plans can be found where you purchased the product.

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Name

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After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question