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Sony ILME-FX3

Sony Alpha FX3 ILME-FX3 Full-Frame Cinema Line Camera and FE 50mm F2.5 G Lens User Manual

Model: ILME-FX3

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the safe and effective use of your Sony Alpha FX3 ILME-FX3 Full-Frame Cinema Line Camera, bundled with the FE 50mm F2.5 G Full-Frame Ultra-Compact G Lens. The FX3 is designed for cinematic video production, offering a 4K full-frame sensor with high sensitivity and a wide dynamic range. The accompanying FE 50mm F2.5 G lens provides excellent optical performance in a compact form factor, suitable for various shooting scenarios.

2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Upon opening the package, ensure all the following components are present:

- Sony Alpha FX3 ILME-FX3 Camera Body
- Sony FE 50mm F2.5 G Lens
- Power Adapter
- USB Cable
- Body Cap
- Lens Front Cap
- Lens Rear Cap
- Accessory Shoe Cap
- Handle Unit (if included in specific bundle)
- Rechargeable Battery Pack
- Shoulder Strap

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the main components of the Sony Alpha FX3 camera and the FE 50mm F2.5 G lens.



Figure 3.1: Front view of the Sony Alpha FX3 ILME-FX3 camera with the FE 50mm F2.5 G lens mounted. Key features visible include the lens aperture ring, focus ring, and the camera's grip, mode dial, and various control buttons. The "Cinema Line FX3" branding is visible on the top right, and the "α" (Alpha) logo is on the front.

Camera Body Features:

- **Grip:** Ergonomically designed for comfortable handling during extended shoots.
- **Control Dials:** Located on the top and rear for quick adjustment of ISO, Shutter Speed, and Aperture.
- **REC Button:** Prominently placed for easy access to start and stop recording.
- **Accessory Shoe:** For attaching external microphones, lights, or the included handle unit.
- **LCD Monitor:** Vari-angle touchscreen for flexible viewing and menu navigation.

FE 50mm F2.5 G Lens Features:

- **Focus Ring:** For manual focus adjustments.
- **Aperture Ring:** Allows direct control over the lens aperture (F2.5 maximum).
- **Focus Hold Button:** Customizable button for various functions.
- **AF/MF Switch:** To toggle between autofocus and manual focus.

4. SETUP

4.1 Charging the Battery

1. Insert the supplied rechargeable battery pack into the camera.
2. Connect the camera to the power adapter using the USB cable.
3. Plug the power adapter into a wall outlet. The charging indicator light on the camera will illuminate.
4. Charging is complete when the indicator light turns off.

4.2 Inserting a Memory Card

The FX3 supports SDXC memory cards. Ensure the card is inserted correctly into the memory card slot until it clicks into place.

4.3 Attaching the Lens

1. Remove the body cap from the camera and the rear lens cap from the FE 50mm F2.5 G lens.
2. Align the white index mark on the lens with the white index mark on the camera body.
3. Mount the lens by rotating it clockwise until it locks into place.

4.4 Initial Settings

Upon first power-on, follow the on-screen prompts to set the language, date, time, and region.

5. OPERATING THE CAMERA

5.1 Power On/Off

To power on the camera, slide the power switch located near the shutter button. To power off, slide it again.

5.2 Shooting Modes

The FX3 offers various shooting modes to suit different creative needs:

- **Automatic:** Camera automatically adjusts settings for optimal exposure.
- **Manual:** Full control over aperture, shutter speed, and ISO.
- **Cinema:** Optimized settings for cinematic video recording.
- **Movie:** Standard video recording mode.
- **Custom:** User-defined settings for quick recall.

5.3 Focusing

The camera features advanced autofocus capabilities:

- **Autofocus (AF):** Automatically focuses on the subject.
- **Manual Focus (MF):** Allows precise manual adjustment using the lens focus ring.
- **Focus Area:** Select from various focus area modes like Wide, Zone, Center, Spot, and Tracking.
- **Touch Tracking:** Tap on the LCD screen to select a subject for continuous tracking.

5.4 Video Recording

To record video, press the REC button. The camera supports 4K video resolution at various frame rates (24fps, 30fps, 60fps). Ensure your memory card has sufficient speed and capacity for 4K recording.

5.5 Image Stabilization

The FX3 features in-body image stabilization (IBIS) to reduce camera shake, especially useful when shooting handheld or in low light conditions. This is a dynamic stabilization system.

5.6 Connectivity

The camera offers USB and Wi-Fi connectivity for data transfer and remote control. Refer to the camera's menu for detailed settings on connecting to a computer or mobile device.

6. LENS OPERATION (FE 50MM F2.5 G)

6.1 Aperture Control

The FE 50mm F2.5 G lens features an aperture ring for direct control. Rotate the ring to adjust the aperture from F2.5 to F22. An "A" setting is available for camera-controlled aperture.

6.2 Focus Mode Switch

Use the AF/MF switch on the side of the lens to quickly toggle between autofocus and manual focus modes.

6.3 Focus Hold Button

The focus hold button can be customized via the camera menu to perform various functions, such as locking focus, activating Eye AF, or other assigned controls.

7. MAINTENANCE

7.1 Cleaning the Camera and Lens

- Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the camera body.
- For the lens, use a lens blower to remove dust, then gently wipe with a lens cleaning cloth and solution if necessary. Avoid touching the lens surface with bare hands.
- Never use organic solvents such as alcohol or thinner to clean the camera or lens.

7.2 Storage

When not in use, store the camera and lens in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Use lens caps and a body cap to protect the sensor and lens elements from dust and scratches.

8. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your camera, refer to the following common solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Camera does not power on.	Ensure the battery is fully charged and correctly inserted. Check if the power switch is in the "ON" position.
Cannot record video/take photos.	Check if a memory card is inserted and has sufficient free space. Ensure the lens is properly attached.
Images are blurry.	Verify focus settings (AF/MF). Ensure the lens is clean. Check shutter speed to avoid motion blur, especially in low light.
No sound recorded.	Check microphone settings in the camera menu. Ensure external microphones are properly connected.
Wi-Fi connection issues.	Restart the camera and the connected device. Check Wi-Fi settings in the camera menu and ensure correct network selection.

For more detailed troubleshooting, please refer to the comprehensive guide available on the official Sony support website.

9. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Alpha FX3
Model Number	ILME-FX3
Brand	Sony
Photo Sensor Size	Full Frame (35mm)
Photo Sensor Technology	BSI CMOS
Image Stabilization	Dynamic (In-body)
Video Resolution	2160p (4K)
Frame Rate	24fps, 30fps, 60fps
Supported File Format	Cinema
Lens Mount	Sony E
Compatible Mountings	Sony E
Maximum Aperture (Lens)	F2.5
Minimum Focal Length (Lens)	50 Millimeters
Maximum Focal Length (Lens)	50 Millimeters
Autofocus Points	280
Connectivity Technology	USB, Wi-Fi
Display Type	LCD (Vari-angle)
Flash Memory Type	SDXC
Water Resistance Level	Not Water Resistant

10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your Sony Alpha FX3 ILME-FX3 camera and FE 50mm F2.5 G lens are covered by a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card included in your product packaging for specific terms and conditions, including warranty period and coverage details.

For technical support, service, or to download the latest firmware updates and detailed manuals, please visit the official Sony support website:

[Sony Electronics Support](#)

You can also register your product online to receive important updates and support information.