

## Modern Classic SLRs Series : Nikon F3 AF - Full Specifications

### Specifications

**Type of camera** 35mm single-lens-reflex

**Picture format:** 24mm x 36mm (standard 35mm film format)

**Lens mount:** Nikon bayonet mount

**Lenses:** Autofocus operation: AF-Nikkor 80mm f/2.8 and 200mm f/3.5 IF-ED; focus-aid operation: more than 30 Nikkor and Nikon Series E lenses with a maximum aperture of f/3.5 or faster; manual operation: more than 60 Nikkor and Nikon Series E lenses available.

**Focus detecting system:** TTL image displacement detecting system by SPDs built into AF-Finder DX-1

**Brightness range for autofocus/focus aid operation:** Approx EV 4~EV 20 (at ASA/ISO 100)

**Focus information display:** Visible in the viewfinder via red LEDs; two red arrows light up to indicate correct focus in autofocus/focus-aid operation, right or left hand arrows indicate out-of-focus image (too near or too far), red X glows to when autofocus/focus-aid is impossible or subject is out of focus to a great extent.

**Focus lock buttons:** Two buttons provided on AF-Nikkor lens barrel; either locks lens distance setting during autofocus operation.

**Exposure control system>:** Aperture priority automatic exposure or manual override and backup mechanical control; through the lens, full aperture metering via silicon photodiode (SPD) with centreweighted metering pattern and metering circuits incorporated into the camera body; meter works with all viewfinders.

**Metering range:** EV 1 to EV18 at ASA/ISO 100 with f/1.4 lens or EV 3 to EV 20 at ASA/ISO 100 with f/2.8 lens.

**Shutter:** Horizontal-travel, titanium focal plane shutter

**Shutter speeds:** Auto: electromagnetically controlled stepless speeds from 8 to 1/2000 sec.; manual: quartz/electromagnetically controlled discrete speeds from 8 to 1/2000 sec., plus B and X (1/80 sec.); mechanical: T setting on shutter speed dial and 1/60 sec. when using backup mechanical release lever.

**Exposure information display:** Visible in the viewfinder via LCD; on auto, discrete shutter speed closest to automatically selected speed is displayed, overexposure indicated by +2000 and -8 indicates underexposure; on manual, M appears with + or - indicating over or underexposure and -+ correct exposure; aperture in use is also shown through aperture direct readout (ADR) window.

**Shutter release button:** Electromagnetically releases shutter; initial pressure on shutter release button switches on meter and autofocus/focus-aid function (after power switch is turned on), meter and autofocus/focus-aid function then remain on for 16 sec. after finger is taken off button.

**Backup mechanical release lever:** Trips shutter at 1/60 sec. regardless of shutter speed dial setting except at T; used when batteries are dead.

**Viewfinder:** Interchangeable eyelevel pentaprism type AF Finder DX-1 as standard; 0.8X magnification with 50mm lens or 1.3x with 80mm lens, both lenses set at infinity; approx 92% frame coverage; five other types available.

**Viewfinder Illuminator:** Illuminates both LCD and ADR f-number

**Finder terminal:** 5 pin terminal provided for accessories

**Focusing screen:** Fixed matte type screen is built into AF Finder DX-1; with viewfinders other than DX-1, 20 interchangeable screens are available.

**Film speed range:** ASA/ISO 12 to ASA/ISO 6400

**Exposure compensation dial:** (+/-) 2 EV compensation is possible in one-third increments

**Exposure memory lock button:** Operates on auto to electronically lock in shutter speed

**Auto flash control system:** TTL direct flash control governs output of Nikon dedicated flash unit using camera's SPD sensor; effective ASA/ISO range from ASA/ISO 25 to ASA/ISO 400

**Accessory shoe:** Special Nikon type located at base of rewind knob; has hot-shoe contact, ready light contact and TTL flash output control contact; accepts Nikon SB-12 or SB-16A shoe-mounting electronic flash unit or TTL direct flash output control from SB-11 and SB14 for TTL direct flash output control using camera's SPD metering cell.

**Sync terminal:** Threaded type provided for off camera or multiple flash photography.

**Flash synchronization:** Speeds of 1/80 sec. (X) or slower with electronic flash; with Nikon dedicated flash unit, flash sync is automatically set to 1/80 sec. when shutter speed dial is set at

A or 1/125 sec. or above; at slower speeds, shutter fires at the speed set.

**Flash ready-light:** Visible in the viewfinder; LED lights up when Nikon dedicated flash unit is completely recycled or blinks to warn of insufficient light output, improper flash connection, or improper ASA/ISO setting.

**Film advance lever:** Wound in single stroke or series of strokes with 30° stand-off angle and 140° winding angle.

**Automatic film advance:** Possible with optional Motor Drive MD-4

**Frame counter:** Additive type, self-resetting; for blank exposures before frame one, shutter speed automatically set to 1/80 sec. with shutter speed dial set at A or 1/125 sec. or above.

**Film rewind:** Via folding crank and rewind button in baseplate

**Self-timer:** Quartz timed 10 sec. delayed exposure; LED blinks at 2Hz for first 8 sec. then at 8 Hz for last 2 sec.

**Eyepiece shutter:** Prevents stray light from entering viewfinder from the rear during self-timer operation.

**Depth-of-field preview button:** Coaxial with mirror lockup lever

**Reflex mirror:** Automatic instant-return type with lockup facility; incorporates air damper.

**Multiple exposure lever:** Disengages frame counter for correct count.

**Camera back:** Hinged interchangeable type; memo holder provided.

**Power switch:** Switches on when turned clockwise to uncover red dot.

**Batteries:** Two 1.5V AAA-type alkaline manganese or zinc carbon batteries in the AF-Finder DX-1 for autofocus/focus-aid operation; two 1.55V silver oxide cells (Eveready EPX76, D 76 or equivalent, two 1.5V alkaline manganese cells, or one 3V lithium battery for camera body.

**Dimensions:** 148.5mm(W) x 115.5mm(H) x 90mm(D) with AF Finder DX-1.

**Weight:** Approx 950g with AF-Finder DX-1 (including batteries)

### Important!

The Nikon F3AF is an AI-type (Automatic Maximum Aperture Indexing) camera which performs full-aperture metering with AI-type lenses. The aperture ring of these lenses has a meter coupling ridge and a meter coupling shoe containing two holes. Almost all lenses now manufactured by Nikon are of the AI-type. However, please confirm whether or not your lens is AI before mounting it with the F3AF. Note that the 'AI' or 'AI-S' mark on the cover of the instruction sheet or book provided with AI-Nikkor lenses is your assurance that the lens offers the AI feature. All Nikon Series E lenses have the AI feature but do not have a meter coupling shoe.

To attach an AI-type lens to the camera body, follow the directions provided in the BASIC OPERATION section of this instruction manual. If the lens is a non-AI type stop down exposure measurement is required with the camera body's meter coupling lever locked up. Note: The modification, at reasonable cost of most non-AI Nikkor lenses having both an automatic diaphragm and meter coupling shoe, is available for the convenience of Nikkor lens users. For further information concerning lens modification, please contact your local authorized Nikon dealer.

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**Camera Instruction Manual:** [Nikon F3 HP](#) and [Nikon F3 AF](#) - HTML format  
(PDF format is [only](#) available for F3HP model and by way of an [e-mail request](#))

\* [Message Board](#) for Nikon F3 Models



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**Credit:** Special thanks to [Azrul Abdullah](#) for helping out to make an earlier attempt to convert the F3AF manual. Also to [Ted Wengelaar](#) from Holland, for his continuous flow of input, [Hiura Shinsaku](#) from [Nikomats ML](#), Japan, for his info on various prototypes of F3, KiamSoon for his great 3D image used in this site. [MCLau](#) for sharing his experience with a few Nikon flash units, [LarsHansen](#), the Danish Birdman for

rectifying a few errors, **CYLeow** & Mr Poon for their useful info on their F3P, **Steven Wolfe** on sharing his experience on F3T LE, Ms **RissaChan**, Sales manager of Shriro Malaysia, the local distributor of Nikon, A contributing site to a long **lost friend** on the Net - Made with a **PowerMac**. Broadcasting with a **RedHat**<sup>™</sup> Linux powered server.