

MINOLTA 35

1947



Minolta 35 Serial No.2413
Super Rokkor 45mm. f.1:2,8 Serial No.4821

Characteristics and function

The Minolta 35 is presented in 1947; it is not, like most cameras produced in Japan in those years, a copy of the Leica. The format adopted is an unusual 24x32mm. which allows you to take full advantage of the proportion with photo paper. The shutter is a classic curtain shutter in rubberised horizontal sliding cloth with a maximum speed of 1/500 ". The Minolta 35 is equipped with a Super Rokkor 45mm lens. with maximum aperture at f.1: 2.8 consisting of five lenses in three groups, according to the Tessar scheme; the minimum shooting distance is one meter. The coupling of the lens with the camera is achieved by means of a 39x1 thread as on the Leica. The aesthetic aspect does not differ from the Leica range-top coeve: the upper carter, the caseback and the optic-holder plate are in satin-finish metal; the central part is instead covered in black leather. On the upper carter we find, from left to right, the raised, ruled pawl for film recovery; the turret of the viewfinder that also contains the rangefinder system with a 40mm base; the slide carries objects with synchro contact; the engravings in black "Minolta 35 - No.2413 - C.K.S."; a small black dart, a reference to the shutter speed. The speed selector is instead set at a lower level. The speed setting (500 - 200 - 100 - 50 - 35 - 25-1 - B) must be performed

with the loading shutter by raising and turning the pawl itself. The lower right floor of the upper carter is housed in the AR selector (with relative inscriptions), in the shutter button contained in a cylindrical turret with recess, in the large circular ribbed frame used to advance the film (according to the movement indicated by the curved arrow engraved on the top) and the simultaneous arming of the shutter. The ring of the additive counter is coaxial to the film advancement pawl. Also the ring of the counter must be moved with the shutter closed; the reference is given by a small arrow positioned at the extreme right. On the back of the upper carter we find the circular viewfinder / rangefinder window. In the front there are two small windows: the one with a rectangular frame is the viewfinder, the other with a circular frame, is that of the rangefinder. The optical plate is fixed to the body with 4 screws and contains, in addition to the lens, also the slow speed selector (T - 1 - 2 - 4 - B - 25) and the self-timer lever with a delay of about 10 seconds . The caseback is fixed with two screws and contains: on the far left the small chrome-plated button for unlocking the back door (hinged along the right side of the camera), while on the right is the thread for the use of the stand, which it also serves to fix the camera in the leather bag. In the back position is the engraving: MADE IN OCCUPIED JAPAN.

Camera weight with lens: 745g.

Width 140mm; height 76mm .; depth 56mm. including the objective.

Table of comparative production of format and combination of optics

Production Year	Body Type	Size	Matched Lens
1947	Minolta 35 (A)	24x32mm.	45mm. f. 1:2,8
1947	Minolta 35 (B)	24x32mm.	45mm. f. 1:2,8
1948	Minolta 35 (C)	24x33mm.	45mm. f. 1:2,8
1949	Minolta 35 (D)	24x34mm.	45mm. f. 1:2,8
1951	Minolta 35 Model E	24x34mm.	45mm. f. 1:2,8
1952	Minolta 35 Model F	24x34mm.	45mm. f. 1:2,8
1953	Minolta 35 II (tipo a)	24x34mm.	45mm. f. 1:2,8
1953	Minolta 35 II (tipo a)	24x34mm.	50mm. f. 1:2,8
1955	Minolta 35 II (tipo b)	24x34mm.	50mm. f. 1:2
1958	Minolta 35 IIB	24x34mm.	50mm. f. 1:1,8