

MINOLTA AUTOPAK 700

1966



Serial Nr.111643
Minolta Code 0171

Characteristics and functions

The Minolta Autopak 700 presented in 1966 is the only device produced by Minolta - which uses Pak 126-type magazine films with a negative format of 28.5x28.5mm. - to have an aesthetic appearance identical to compact cameras for 35mm film. contemporary to it. The lens is a Rokkor 38mm. f. 1/2.8 and the programmed shutter is a Seikosha-LA (567-LA II) that works from EV 8 (1/30"with f.2.8) to EV 17 (1/250" with f.22).

The camera has a classic shape. The upper cap, in satin-finish metal, is very linear: at the left end is the flash-shoe which has the hot contact for the use of both bulb and electronic flash. The serial number is engraved on the hot shoe. The shutter button is located on the right side, in an advanced position; inside, a thread allows the

adaptation of a separate accessory for the use of the self-timer or the flexible release (Cable Release). The name of the camera is engraved between the hot shoe and the shutter release: "Autopak 700". On the front, in the satin part of the shell, the word "Minolta" appears, while at the left end there are the viewfinder window and that of the rangefinder, both contained in a cantilevered frame. On the front of the satin-finished metal caseback, the words "Minolta Camera Co.Ltd." Appear to the right of the lens. The lens is contained in a metallic frame with an oversized appearance, so much so that the CdS exposure meter cell is placed on the front. and there is also the thread for the 55mm. diameter filter attachment so as to be able to use the whole series of compensation and conversion filters produced by Minolta. In the lower part of the lens there is a rail in which the black plastic foot connected to the focus adjustment slides. This is done by means of the rangefinder, but estimation focusing is also possible by moving the cursor to the scale in meters / feet. The minimum shooting distance is 0.8m. / 2.6ft. The central ring of the lens is the only one that can rotate: you have to press the small chrome lever located at the bottom left to unlock the ring from position "A" and set the desired shutter speeds (B, 1/30", 1/60 ", 1/125", 1/250", 1/500"). The selector for choosing diaphragms is also unlockable, using the same chrome lever used to set the times, so that it can be moved from position "A" to correspond to the chosen aperture value (2.8; 4; 5.6; 8; 11; 16 ; 22). The EV values scroll through a window on the left side of the lens when the dials for adjusting shutter speeds and apertures are moved from the "A" positions. On the rear side of the upper shell are the loading lever and, on the far left, the black plastic frame of the viewfinder window. In the viewfinder you can see the bright frame for the evaluation of the field of view, complete with references for shooting at close range; in the center is the rangefinder collimation system and on the right appears a yellow field with red ends where the galvanometer needle marks the EVs set in automatic exposure. On the left side of the top shell there is the socket for the flash cable. At the lower left end of the back is the release system for the opening of the film compartment door: moving it 3mm. towards the top, the coupling is released. To close the back, a pressure is sufficient to allow it to be hooked again. The back door has a large window that allows you to see the inserted magazine. The frame counter is replaced by the progressive numbering on the loader itself. Two chrome rings on the sides are used to attach the shoulder strap.

The caseback is smooth: on the far left there is the black plastic cap of the battery compartment (PX 625) for the functioning of the light meter. Proceeding to the right you will find the thread for the tripod and the wording "Japan".

Weight 535g. battery excluded.

Length 140mm .; height 87mm .; depth 61.5mm.