

MINOLTA C20

1996



Serial Nr.40515867
Minolta Code 2437

Characteristics and functions

The Minolta C20 came on the market in 1996. This is a motorized camera with built-in electronic flash and easy focusing with a minimum shooting distance of 1.5m. The lens is a 34mm Minolta. f./4. The shutter works with times of 1/125" and 1/30". The range of film sensitivities allowed is 100 to 400 ISO with DX-coded magazines. The C20 is of considerable size, on the upper side there is the window of the additive frame counter with automatic reset when the back is opened and the gray shutter button contained in a depression that facilitates the support of the first phalanx of the right hand index. The frame counter has a practical control system for correct film hooking: if the film does not advance, the frame counter does not increase its numbering. On the left side of the camera there is the selector for unlocking the film compartment door; it must be moved downwards by 5 millimeters in the direction of the arrow (open). To close the back, simply bring the parts together and exert a pressure to trigger the lock again. On the right side we find the black plastic ring, with a rectangular section,

for attaching the shoulder strap. The eyepiece window is located on the back side. A simple bright frame is visible in the viewfinder. To its right there are two LEDs: the upper green one indicates "ready-flash", the lower red one indicates the lack of light and consequently suggests using the flash for a correct exposure. The back door has on its left the window for viewing the inserted magazine, while on the right there is a large depression where you can rest the thumb of your right hand for a more stable grip. The back is hinged to the right. On the front side, at the top, there is a window that contains the flash, the red LED with double function: illuminator of the "Red-Eye Reduction" system and self-timer signal (it flashes for the shutter delay time - about 10"), the viewfinder window and the light meter cell. A large bulge with a vertical trend placed on the far right improves the grip of the camera. The lens mount contains the lens itself covered by a sliding cap connected to the lower selector. This selector has five positions: "OFF", "person and mountain" (1.7-7m.), "First floor" (1-1.8m.), "Groups" (1.5-4.3m.) and "panoramas" (2.7m.-infinity). The four focus symbols refer to a table shown in the instruction booklet only. The setting can be seen by looking at the lens mount from above: there is a thin and very elongated window with engraved, in white, "Off" and the three focus symbols while the "person and mountain" symbol is green ; underneath it runs a red signal commanded by the movement of the selector itself. To the right of the central protuberance there is the slider control for activating the self-timer which must be moved upwards in the direction of the special symbol silk-screened in red. To return to normal function, return the self-timer cursor to the rest position; this maneuver also serves to cancel the self-timer setting after activating it, but before the actual shutter release. On the front, under the flash, we find "C20" silk-screened in gold and underneath "Red-Eye Reduction" in red. Further down is the black button with the flash symbol which is used to forcefully insert the flash and must be held down during shooting. The word "Minolta" with "Rising Sun" in the "O" is placed in the lower left corner and is silk-screened in gold. Around the lens we find the words "Minolta Japan" at the top, "All Glass Lens f = 34mm", at the bottom; surrounded by a line that runs along the entire outer circumference of the frame. Everything is silk-screened in gold. The underside of the C20 is very crowded: on the left there is a flare covered by the frame of the film compartment door that facilitates its introduction, proceeding to the right we find a gray plastic label drowned flush with the back bearing the serial number and the inscriptions: "Minolta Co., Ltd." and "Osaka Japan", placed on two lines. In the rearmost position there is a sticker with white writing "Made in China". Then there is the thread for using the tripod and, in the rearmost position, the selector for recovering the exposed film, with the relative symbol (move the cursor three millimeters in the direction of the symbol). On the far right is the sliding cap of the battery compartment (2x AA 1.5v. batteries).

There is also the version with date back (QD - weight 200g.).

Weight 190g. batteries excluded.

Length 126mm. Height 70.5mm. Depth 46.5mm.