

# MINOLTA ER

## 1963



Serial Nr.101794  
Minolta Code 0149  
Lens: Rokkor-TD 1:2.8 45mm. Serial Nr.1104297

### Characteristics and functions

In 1963 the Minolta-ER was presented. This device has remained the only example of a SLR camera with a fixed lens produced by Minolta. The Minolta-ER production is divided into two batches identifiable by the different engravings on the upper cap between the prism and the winding lever: "CHIYODA KOGAKU" or "MINOLTA CAMERA CO.LTD". This camera is equipped with a Minolta Rokkor-TD 45mm lens. f.1:2.8 with 4 elements placed in three groups; while, by means of additional afocal adapters, a 35mm wide-angle focal length can be obtained. f.1:5.6 and an 85mm tele. f.1:5.6. The focus ranges from 90cm. (3 feet) to infinity. The shutter is a central Seikosha SLV (317-E) with blades that works from 1/500" to 1/30" and pose B.

The Minolta-ER can work automatically with shutter priority coupled to the built-in selenium exposure meter or manually by setting times and apertures with a working range that goes from EV 8 (1/30" with f.1: 2.8) at EV 17 (1/500" with f.1:16) with 100 Asa film. The admitted sensitivities range from 10 to 400 Asa (11-17 Din). The device has a socket for the sync-flash cable with X and M synchronization.

The Minolta-ER has a very similar design to the contemporary SR; the massive appearance is given by the huge upper casing which is very projected above the lens since it must contain the selenium exposure meter in addition to the pentaprism. However, the line is clean. On the left we find the foldable crank for the recovery of the film and in the immediate vicinity the engraving of the black symbol of the film plane. Continuing to the right we meet the large pentaprism cover with the accessory slide, which has the serial number engraved inside it, and the word MINOLTA-ER in the forward part. The last part of the upper casing contains the shutter button with, inside it, the thread for the flexible shutter, the writing "CHIYODA KOGAKU" or "MINOLTA CAMERA CO.LTD", the long loading lever and the window of the frame counter additive with automatic reset when the back is opened. On the front, just below the shutter button, there is the word "minolta" followed in the center by the large exposure meter window located just above the lens from which only the striped black plastic ring for focusing protrudes. On the front, next to the lens, there is a very small circular chrome frame that contains a glass that transmits green light along the left side of the viewfinder when the 'A' function is set. On the left side of the prism at the height of the black plastic there is the sync-flash socket for the cable. On the sides of the lens are located the two black cursors for setting the speeds (B, 30, 60, 125, 250, 500) on the right, with the related data shown in white for exposure B and in red for the other speeds. On the left, on the other hand, the aperture cursor is positioned with the respective data: 'A' (red - position with click beyond the aperture scale) for setting the apertures in the automatic function and those for manual work (2, 8 - 4 - 5.6 - 8 - 11 - 16 - 22) shown in white. On the front, the lens has two chromed rings on a black field of which the internal one is threaded (d.46mm.). Inside this last ring there are the lens data: "MINOLTA ROKKOR-TD 1:2.8 f = 45mm 1104297" and more externally the Asa and Din scales for calibrating the exposure meter according to the sensitivity of the film used. The references of the two scales are placed before the "R" of Rokkor and after the second "m" of millimeters.

In the lower part of the lens we find the two meters / feet scales, the words Seikosha-SLV, painted in white on a black background. Further to the left is a small metal cursor with the three positions M, X and V where M and X are painted in white, while the V position of the self-timer is painted in green. Along the front corners are placed the rings for the shoulder strap. The back release system is positioned along the left side: the little tongue must be raised by about 6mm. To close the back you have to bring the parts together and lower the tab again. The back is hinged along the right side of the ER. On the back side, above the back door, there is the black plastic frame with the circular eyepiece. In the viewfinder you can see the reflex image that is formed on a frosted glass with a smooth crown and a central part with an image split stigmometer. On the back there are: the attachment for the stand, the release button of the clutch for the recovery of the film and a large recess that allows a glimpse of the lower part of the back door. This flare in the bottom serves to facilitate the introduction of the magazine since the film recovery crank cannot be elevated as on the SR. Weight 860g. without shoulder strap and accessories. Length 141mm., Height 93mm., Depth 78mm.