

MINOLTA HI-MATIC 9

1966



Serial No.527077
Minolta Code 0178

Characteristics and functions

The Minolta Hi-Matic 9 is presented in 1966. It is Minolta's first compact camera to use the new CLC (Contrast Light Compensator) system and is equipped with a bright Minolta Rokkor-PF lens 1:1.7 f = 45mm. It has a sophisticated electronic circuit which, by means of three separate functions, allows the camera to be used in a totally programmed way (mode A) from EV 5.5 to EV 17 (f.1:1.7 to 1/16" and f .1:16 to 1/500") or in diaphragm priority setting one of the shutter speeds between 1/8" and 1/500"; while the appliance will consequently regulate the working diaphragm (1.7-16). Setting "B" is also available. The third function of the electronic circuit is in charge of controlling the use of the flash, automatically, by means of the system called "Easy Flash". The Hi-Matic 9 has a CdS cell located in the lens mount. This camera is equipped with a new Seiko-FLA shutter. There is the flash cable socket with X synchronization for electronic flashes, at all times. The mechanical self-timer has a delay of 10 seconds.

The camera has a traditional appearance with chrome-plated caps and a central part in black imitation leather. The lens mount is partly chrome and partly satin.

On the upper cap there are: the foldable knob for film recovery, the flash-shoe with hot contact engraved with the serial number, the wording "HI-MATIC 9", the shutter button - located inside a circular crown - which includes the thread for using the flexible release (Cable Release). Continuing to the right we find the charging lever in satin-finish metal, with a glossy circular part, which is used to advance the film and simultaneously prepare the shutter for shooting; at the extreme right is the square window of the additive type counter with automatic zeroing when the back is opened. On the back side of the upper shell is the black plastic eyepiece window. In the viewfinder the luminous frame is visible with the telemetric system in the center, while to the right is the EV scale (5.5-17) with the black exposure needle. The two over-and under-exposure areas are red. The lightning symbol along the right side of the light frame is positioned between the values 9 and 11, is flanked by a rectangular luminous area and serves to evaluate the range of action of the flash according to the distance and time set. At the far right of the rear side of the upper shell is the window where the red signal to adjust the film progress preceded by "FILM>". The back covered in black imitation leather occupies the entire remaining area of the back side of the Hi-Matic 9. The back is hinged along the right side of the camera, while on the left there is the automatic release opening system by raising the chromed tongue by about 5mm. placed at the top end. To close the back it is sufficient to bring the parts closer together and produce a slight pressure until the click. Also on the left side, just above the back opening system is the socket for the synchro-flash cable. On the back we find: on the left a large flare covered by the door which facilitates the introduction of the film spool; the metal cap with central cut and knurled surface that covers the battery compartment, the thread for the use of the stand, the JAPAN engraving and the release button of the clutch for the recovery of the exposed film, located in a slightly depressed area . On the front of the upper shell there is a rectangular overhang that contains the word "minolta" and "EASY FLASH", then follows a chrome frame that contains the window of the rangefinder system and the viewfinder. The large for the Minolta Rokkor-PF 1:1.7 f = 45mm lens is positioned in the part covered in black imitation leather. In the part closest to the camera body is the distance scale (on the left from 0.9-infinity, in meters and on the right from 3 to infinity, in feet); a satin-finish metal foot improves grip when the satin ring is rotated and supports the camera when it is placed on a surface such as in self-timer photographs. Continuing towards the front we find a satin part with, on the left, the scale of the NG (10-80 in meters and 32-260 standing) and, on the right, the lever for the activation of the mechanical self-timer with a delay of 10 about seconds (first arm the bolt and then move the lever to the "V" position). There is also the CHECK function to check the state of charge of the battery (position the black dot coinciding with Check Δ). In the lower part, on the other hand, the code of the mounted shutter is printed (SEIKO-FLA). The two chrome rings are used for adjustment complete the camera according to the three modals available resources. If the symbol is positioned with the two A superimposed, the programmed adjustment of the exposure is obtained; if you set the flash symbol, set the camera for automatic use of the flash (adjust the NG scale in advance); if you set the speed dial to A the camera works at aperture priority, if you set the aperture ring to A the camera works at shutter speed. To obtain manual adjustment of the shutter, both ring nuts must be unlocked from position "A" by means of the small striped button located in front

of the chrome rings, along the right side of the lens. The reference to all these adjustments is a small black line engraved on the outer ring nut. In the lower part of the outer satin-finish ring nut we find the slider for setting the sensitivity of the introduced film that serves to calibrate the exposure meter. The cursor moves along a central rail bearing the values of Asa (25..50..100..200..400..800) and Din (15..18..21..24..27..30). Around the first lens there is a black plastic mount that bears the incision for the identification of the lens in white (Minolta Rokkor-PF 1: 1.7 f = 45mm), followed by a chromed crown with the CdS cell of the exposure meter, located in the upper part in black plastic. Nearby is the words "CLC". There is also the thread for adapting Minolta conversion or compensation filters with 55mm diameter. On the sides of the camera, in symmetrical position, the two chrome-plated triangular rings for attaching the shoulder strap are placed.

Power supply: a 1.35v battery. type PX 675 or equivalent.

Weight 755g. battery not included.

Width 146mm; height 82mm. to the upper shell, 91mm. at the edge of the shutter button; depth 74mm. including the lens.