

MINOLTA PROD 20's

1990



Serial Nr.29698
Minolta Code 0489-557

Characteristics and functions

The Minolta Prod 20's was introduced in 1990. It was an exercise in Minolta's style: this camera is nothing more than a re-bodied AF-E II with the addition of the Self-Timer function and was sold in a limited and numbered edition, accompanied by packaging and accessories that recalled the production of the objects in the 1920s. The camera is autofocus and automatic in exposure (AE). The lens is a Minolta 35mm f.4.5 with the possibility of a minimum focus of 0.95m. The electronically programmed shutter works from EV 9 to EV 16.2 for 100 ISO films. Film sensitivity setting is only possible by means of DX-coded film magazines. The Prod 20's comes with a satin aluminum top and bottom cap. The writing "PROD - 20'S" appears on the top shell followed by "NO.29698" (serial number) engraved and painted in black; proceeding to the right you will find the porthole of the automatic additive frame counter. Further to the right is the dual-function aluminum shutter button: partially pressed it locks the focus (AF) and exposure (AE), if pressed fully, it releases the shutter and

advances the film; it is surrounded by a chrome crown that serves as a lock for the shutter button: a small black dot must be made to coincide with "L" (Look) to lock the shutter and turn off the camera, while rotated in correspondence with the red dot engraved on the upper casing turns on the camera and unlocks the button. Two chrome rings appear on the sides of the camera where you can attach the shoulder strap for transport. The central band of the camera is covered with brown imitation leather, while the film compartment door is in brown plastic with the same effect as the part covered in imitation leather. On the front, a protrusion comes forward along the right-hand corner to hold the battery and hold the camera more firmly with your right hand only. The central part of the front side is in satin finish aluminum fixed with 4 visible screws and contains the autofocus system with the viewfinder window in the center at the top; while below the lens is placed inside an oversized chrome frame where, around it, the indications appear: "Minolta f = 35mm 1: 4.5 (22) Made in Japan". The lens coverage is provided by a customized satin aluminum cap with "PROD" engraving and rubberized interior to improve grip on the chromed frame. To the right of the lens is the lever to arm the self-timer (rotate 90 ° counterclockwise). The self-timer is activated by pressing the shutter button halfway. A red led lights up for the shutter delay time (10 seconds). The electronic flash is oriented vertically and is hidden under a large porthole with a chrome frame located in the upper left part of the front. The exposure meter cell is positioned along the chromed frame of the porthole of the flash. The rear side of the camera is practically all occupied by the film compartment door (hinged to the right) which has the slider to its left for unlocking the door itself (lower the black slider by 3mm). To close the back, bring the parts together and press until the lock clicks again. The eyepiece window has a circular shape, in the viewfinder you can see: the bright frame and the focus area (with cancelable memory). On the aluminum caseback we find engraved and painted in black "Manufactured by Minolta". More to the left is the thread for the use of the stand, while to the far right is the release system of the entire bottom that is used to get to the battery compartment (1 DL223A 6v.). A slot is used to introduce a coin to be able to rotate the selector from position "L" (look) to position "O" (open) - make the black dot coincide. The caseback is covered with a die-cut, transparent adhesive that helps not to scratch the satin aluminum of the caseback itself.

Weight 390g. batteries excluded.

Length 141.5mm. Height 73mm. Depth 49mm.