Thank you for purchasing this Minolta camera. Your new camera is equipped with functions which will suit your every photographic need. Before using your new camera, please take the time to read through this instruction manual for it contains important information on the use and care of your camera.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

For Proper and Safe Use	
Names of Parts	
Inserting the Battery	8
Low-Battery Symbol	
Camera Strap	
Loading the Film	10
Full-Auto Operation	12
For Closer Subjects	15
Special Focusing Situations	16
Focus Hold	18
Rewinding the Film	20

Using the Built-in Flash	21
Flash Range	21
Flash Lamp	
Selecting the Flash Mode	
Autoflash with Red-eye	
Reduction	24
Fill Flash	25
Flash Cancel	26
Subject Program Selectio	n27
Close-up Mode	28
Portrait Mode	30
Night Portrait Mode	32
Spot Metering Mode	34

Self-timer	36
Continuous Drive	38
For Owners of the	
Quartz Date Model	40
Imprinting the Date or Time	41
Setting the Date and Time	42
Care and Storage	44
Technical Details	50

### FOR PROPER AND SAFE USE

Read and understand all warnings and cautions before using this product.



Batteries may become hot or explode due to improper use.

- Use only the batteries specified in this instruction manual.
- Do not install the batteries with the polarity (+/-) reversed.
- Do not subject batteries to fire or high temperatures.
- Do not attempt to recharge, short, or disassemble.
- Tape over lithium battery contacts before disposal. Follow local codes for battery disposal.

Use caution, accidents may occur when using this product near young children.

Keep batteries or things that could be swallowed away from young children. Contact a doctor immediately if an object is swallowed.

Immediately remove the batteries and discontinue use if...

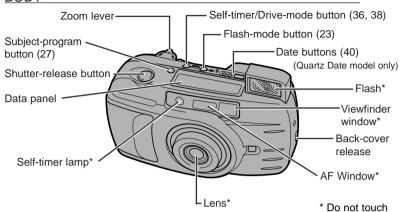
- the camera is dropped or subjected to an impact in which the interior is exposed.
- the product emits a strange smell, heat, or smoke.

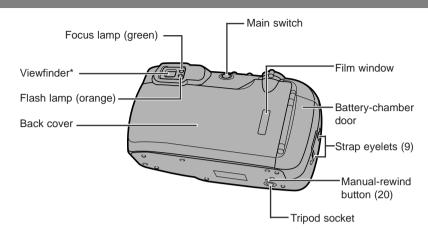
The lens retracts when the camera is turned off or Auto Power Off is activated. Touching the lens barrel while it is retracting may cause injury.

Do not disassemble. Electric shock may occur if a high voltage circuit inside the camera is touched. Take your camera to a Minolta Service Facility when repairs are required.

# **NAMES OF PARTS**

### **BODY**





For information on specific parts, refer to the page numbers shown in parenthesis.

Continued on next page.

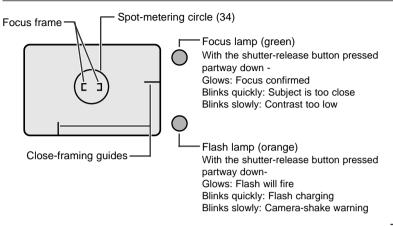
# **NAMES OF PARTS**

remote-control mode. Instructions for the

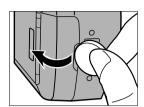
remote control are not included in this manual.

#### DATA PANEL Self-timer indicator --Continuous-drive indicator Low-battery symbol-Cartridge mark Date/Time display -Frame counter (Quartz Date model only) Film-transport signals Subject-program pointer AUTO (X) (S) (A) └─Spot-metering indicator Flash mode indicators -Night Portrait mode indicator -Portrait mode indicator Remote-control indicator Close-up mode indicator \* The remote control is not included with all models. Use the self-timer button to select

### **VIEWFINDER**

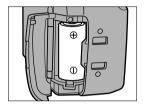


# **INSERTING THE BATTERY**



Your camera uses one 3-volt CR123A or DL123A lithium battery to supply power for all camera operations.

1. Open the battery-chamber door using a coin or similar object.



- 2. Insert the battery according the + and marks inside the battery chamber, then snap the door closed.
- Quartz Date model: The date and time must be reset (p. 42).

### LOW-BATTERY SYMBOL



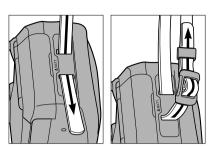
Power is sufficient, but the battery will have to be replaced soon.



Replace the battery. The shutter will lock until the battery is replaced.

# CAMERA STRAP

# Attach the strap as shown.

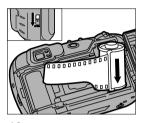


# **LOADING THE FILM**

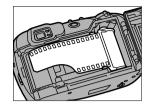


Use only 35mm, DX-coded film rated ISO 25 to 3200.

- ISO 400 film is recommended for best results.
- Always load and unload film in subdued light.
- Do not use Polaroid instant 35mm film. Winding problems may occur.



1. Press the main switch to turn the camera on. Slide the back-cover release down to open the back cover, then place the film cartridge into the film chamber.



2. Extend the film tip to the "FILM TIP" mark, making sure it lays flat.



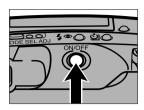


### 3. Close the back cover.

• The film automatically advances to the first frame and •\_! appears in the data panel.

If the film has been loaded improperly,  $\square$  will blink in the data panel and the shutter will remain locked. Open the back cover and repeat the loading procedure.

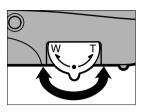
# **FULL-AUTO OPERATION**



- 1. Press the main switch to turn the camera on.
- Auto Power Off: To conserve power, the camera automatically turns off if it is not operated for more than 8 minutes.



- 2. Hold the camera steady, making sure your fingers do not cover the flash.
- For vertically framed pictures, hold the camera so the flash is on top.



3. Look through the viewfinder and push the zoom lever toward W (wide angle) to zoom out or toward T (telephoto) to zoom in.

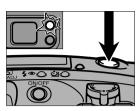


- 4. Place the focus frame on a detailed part of the subject and press the shutter-release button partway down.
- Your subject's face or a vertical edge make the best focus targets.
- The AF illuminator (flash) will fire in low light to determine focus distance.

12

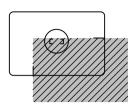
Continued on next page. 13

### **FULL-AUTO OPERATION - CONT'D**



- 5. When the green focus lamp glows, press the shutter-release button all the way down to take the picture.
- If the green focus lamp blinks, the focus may not be accurate (p. 7, p. 16-17).
- The flash will fire automatically in low-light and back-lit situations.
- The film automatically advances to the next frame.

# FOR CLOSER SUBJECTS



When your subject is closer than 2.0m (6.6 ft.), compose your picture within the close-framing guides using Focus Hold if necessary (p. 18).

Correct

Incorrect



# **SPECIAL FOCUSING SITUATIONS**

Some scenes or subjects, like the examples below, are difficult for the autofocus system to lock on to. When the focus will not lock, focus hold (p. 18) on another object the same distance from you as your main subject, recompose, then take the picture.

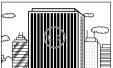


When your subject is near a very bright object or area.



When two subjects overlap in the focus frame.





When a very bright or low contrast area fills the focus frame.

When a subject composed of alternating light and dark lines fills the focus frame.

The green focus lamp will blink slowly to warn you that focus may not be accurate. Focus will be set to infinity without flash and between 2 - 5m (6.6 - 16.4 ft.) with flash.

16

The green focus lamp

may glow, but the focus may not be

accurate.

# **FOCUS HOLD**



Subjects outside the focus frame may not be in focus. Use focus hold to ensure accurate focusing.



1. Place the focus frame on your subject.



2. Press and hold the shutter-release button partway down until the green focus lamp glows.



- 3. Without lifting your finger, recompose the picture and press the shutter-release button all the way down to take the picture.
- Lift your finger from the shutter-release button to cancel focus hold.

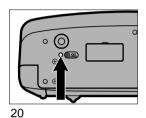
# **REWINDING THE FILM**



The film will rewind automatically after the last frame has been exposed.

When  $\square$  appears and  $\bigcirc$  blinks, open the back cover and remove the film.

If rewind stops before the film has been completely rewound, all the indicators will blink. DO NOT OPEN THE BACK COVER. Insert a fresh battery, then press the manual-rewind button.



### MANUAL REWIND

To begin rewind before the end of the roll, turn the camera on and press the manual-rewind button using a pen.

# **USING THE BUILT-IN FLASH**

When you turn the camera on, the built in flash is automatically set to autoflash or autoflash with red-eye reduction, whichever was used last. In these modes, the flash will fire automatically in low-light and back-lit situations.

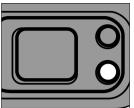
	ISO 100	ISO 400
39mm	0.6 - 7.0m 2.0 - 23.0 ft.	0.6 - 14.0m 2.0 - 46.0 ft.
125mm	0.6 - 2.25m 2.0 - 7.4 ft.	0.6 - 4.5m 2.0 - 14.8 ft.

### FLASH RANGE

The range of the built-in flash depends on the film speed and focal length you are using. To ensure proper exposure, make sure your subject is positioned within the flash range.

Continued on next page. 21

### **USING THE BUILT-IN FLASH - CONT'D**

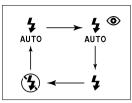


### FLASH LAMP (ORANGE)

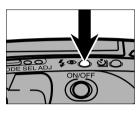
The orange flash lamp comes on when the shutter-release button is pressed partway down.

- The flash lamp will glow when the built in flash is ready.
- When the flash lamp blinks slowly, your scene is too dark for a sharp hand-held picture. Use flash or place the camera on a tripod.
- When the orange flash lamp blinks rapidly, the flash is charging. Wait until it glows steadily, then take the picture.

# **SELECTING THE FLASH MODE**

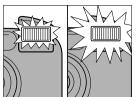


Autoflash 🛵 , autoflash with red-eye reduction 🔥 , fill flash 4, or flash cancel 3 can be selected.



Press the flash-mode button until the desired indicator appears in the data panel.

# **AUTOFLASH WITH RED-EYE REDUCTION**



Pre-flash Main Flash

MODE SELADJ 4® Q 💆 🔾

.38 451 auto ♣

Use the built-in flash's red-eye reduction mode to reduce the red-eye effect when photographing people or animals in low-light situations. The flash will fire a few short bursts before the main flash burst to reduce the redeye effect.

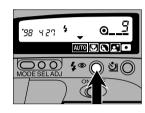
Press the flash-mode button until 4.00 appears in the data panel, then take the picture.

• Warn your subject the flash will fire a few short bursts just before the picture is taken.

# **FILL FLASH**

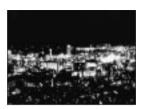


The flash will fire when the shutter is released regardless of lighting. Use fill flash to reduce harsh shadows on your subject's face.

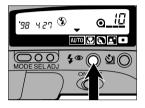


Press the flash-mode button until \$ appears in the data panel, then take the picture.

# **FLASH CANCEL**



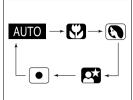
The flash will not fire in this mode. Flash cancel should be used when photographing twilight scenes or subjects beyond the flash range.



Press the flash-mode button until <sup>®</sup> appears in the data panel, then take the picture.

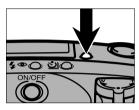
• Use of a tripod is recommended.

# **SUBJECT PROGRAM SELECTION**



Subject Program Selection lets you tailor the camera's fully automatic operation to suit the subject.

Optimal camera settings are provided for Closeup , Portrait , and Night Portrait photography, as well as for the Spot Metering mode.



Press the subject-program button until 
▼ is above the desired indicator.

• The camera returns to wo after the picture is taken.

# **CLOSE-UP MODE**

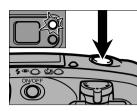


This mode lets you take pictures of subjects as close as 45cm (18 in.).



# 1. Press the subject-program button until ▼ is above ♥.

- Two seconds after close-up mode is selected, the lens will automatically zoom to 115mm and lock.
- Autoflash (or autoflash with red-eye reduction) mode is initially set, but any other flash mode can be selected.



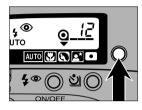
# 2. Place the focus frame on the subject, then take the picture.

- If your subject is closer than 2.0m (6.6 ft.), compose your subject within the close-framing guides using Focus Hold if necessary (p. 15, p. 18).
- If the green focus lamp blinks slowly with the shutter-release button pressed partway down, focus cannot be confirmed and will be fixed at 45cm (18 in).

# PORTRAIT MODE



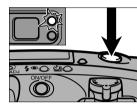
In Portrait mode, the lens automatically zooms to provide suitable framing for portraits when the shutter-release is pressed half-way down.



- 1. Press the subject-program button until ▼ is above 🕥.
- Autoflash (or autoflash with red-eye reduction) is initially set, but any other flash mode can be selected.



- 2. Place the focus frame on your subject, then press the shutter-release button partway down.
- The lens will automatically zoom to the appropriate focal length.

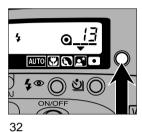


- 3. Wait for the lens to zoom, then press the shutter-release button all the way down.
- If you manually zoom the lens after selecting Portrait mode, return to autozoom is no longer possible.

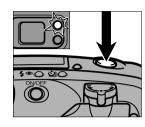
# **NIGHT PORTRAIT MODE**



Night Portrait mode sets a slow shutter speed to correctly expose a dark background, such as a sunset or night scene, while flash properly exposes the foreground.



- 1. Press the subject-program button until ▼ is above ♣.
- Fill flash is set, but fill flash with red-eye reduction can be selected.



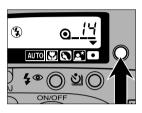
- 2. Place the focus frame on the subject, then take the picture.
- The shutter speed will most likely be slow. Use of a tripod is recommended.

J2

# **SPOT METERING MODE**



In Spot Metering mode, the camera sets exposure based on the area inside the spot-metering circle. Use this mode to photograph strongly back-lit or spot-lit subjects.



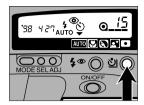
- 1. Press the subject-program button until ▼ is above •.
- Flash cancel is initially set, but any other flash mode can be selected.



2. Align your subject within the spotmetering circle, then take the picture.

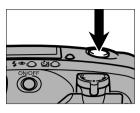
 The back-light detection of autoflash and autoflash with red-eye reduction does not operate in spot metering mode.

# **SELF-TIMER**



The self-timer delays release of the shutter for approximately 10 seconds after you press the shutter-release button.

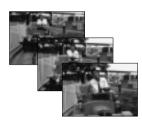
- 1. Place the camera on a tripod, then press the self-timer button until  $\circ$  appears in the data panel.
- 2. Place the focus frame on your subject.



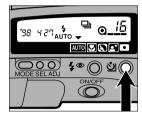
- 3. Press the shutter-release button all the way down.
- Swill blink in the data panel. The self-timer lamp on the front of the camera will blink slowly during the countdown, then rapidly just before the shutter is released.
- To cancel the self-timer, press the self-timer button again or turn the camera off.
- Self-timer is automatically cancelled after the shutter is released.
- The camera locks focus on the subject when the shutter-release button is pressed. Focus hold can be used (p. 18).



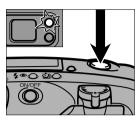
# **CONTINUOUS DRIVE**



In this mode, the camera continuously takes pictures and advances the film as long as the shutter-release button is held down.



1. Press the drive-mode button until □ appears in the data panel.



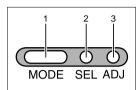
# 2. Press and hold the shutter-release button all the way down.

- Without flash, the shutter will release every 2 seconds; with flash, the shutter will release when the flash is charged.
- Continuous drive mode remains selected after the series is complete.
- The selected subject program mode remains selected for the entire series. The subject program mode will return to when the series is complete.

# FOR OWNERS OF THE QUARTZ DATE MODEL

This feature enables you to record the date or time onto the lower-right portion of the picture. The automatic calendar is through the year 2029.

### DATE BUTTONS

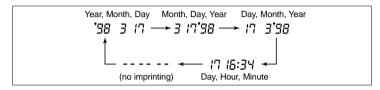


- 1. MODE button
- 2. SELECT button
- 3. ADJUST button

### IMPRINTING THE DATE OR TIME

Turn the camera on, then press the MODE button to choose the data imprinting format.

• The display will change as follows.



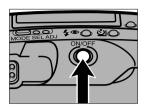
- Imprinted data may be difficult to read if the lower-right corner of the photograph is bright or non-uniform.
- The data may not be imprinted on the last frame.

40

Continued on next page. 41

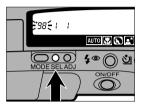
### FOR OWNERS OF THE QUARTZ DATE MODEL - CONT'D

### SETTING THE DATE AND TIME

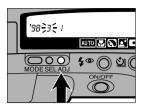


Reset the time and date after changing the battery.

1. Turn the camera on.



- 2. Use the SELECT button to move between the different parts of the displayed data.
- The selected part will blink, indicating that is it the data to be changed.





- 3. Press the ADJUST button to change the data to the correct value.
- Data continues changing as long as the button is held down.
- In 24-hour format, pressing the ADJUST button while the colon is blinking resets the second counter zero (not displayed).
- 4. When all data is correct, press the SELECT button until all the data stops blinking.

# **CARE AND STORAGE**

### **OPERATING TEMPERATURE AND CONDITIONS**

- This camera is designed for use from -10 to 40 °C (14 to 104 °F).
- Never leave your camera where it may be subjected to extreme temperatures such as in the glove compartment of a car.
- At colder temperatures, the data panel response time will be slow. At higher temperatures, the display will temporarily darken, but will restore when the temperature normalizes.



- Never subject the camera to extreme humidity.
- To prevent condensation from forming, place the camera in a sealed plastic bag when bringing it from a cold environment into a warm environment. Allow it to come to room temperature before removing it from the bag.
- When photographing in cold weather, it is recommend that you keep the camera and spare batteries inside your coat to keep them warm when you are not shooting. Cold batteries will regain some of their charge when they warm up.

44 Continued on next page. 45

### **CARE AND STORAGE - CONT'D**

### **CLEANING**

- Keep the AF window clean or the focus may not be accurate.
- If the camera body is dirty, gently wipe it clean with a soft, clean, dry cloth.
- To clean the lens surface, first brush away any dust or sand then, if necessary, moisten a lens tissue with lens cleaning fluid and gently wipe the lens in a circular motion, starting from the center.
- Never place lens fluid directly on the lens.
- Never touch the lens surface with your fingers.
- Never use alcohol or solvents to clean the camera.



When storing the camera for extended periods, please follow these quidelines:

- Store the camera in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from dust and chemicals. For very long periods, place the camera in an airtight container with a silica gel drying agent.
- Before using after prolonged storage, always check the camera's operation to make sure it is functioning properly.

46

Continued on next page.



### **CARE AND STORAGE - CONT'D**

### **QUESTIONS AND SERVICE**

- If you have questions about your camera, contact your local camera dealer or write to the Minolta distributor in your area.
- Before shipping your camera for repair, please contact an authorized Minolta Service Facility for details.

### **BEFORE IMPORTANT EVENTS**

- Check camera operation carefully or take test photographs.
- Minolta is not responsible for any loss which may occur due to an equipment malfunction.

### **CAMERA ERROR**

If all the indicators in the data panel blink, or the data panel is blank and the camera will not function with a fresh battery, remove and reinsert the battery. If normal operation does not resume, or the camera malfunctions repeatedly, contact an authorized Minolta Service Facility.

# **TECHNICAL DETAILS**

**Camera Type:** 35mm lens-shutter camera **Lens:** 39-125mm f/3.6 - 10.9 lens

4 element/4 group construction

Focusing Range:  $0.6m - \infty (2.0 \text{ ft.} - \infty)$ 

Close-up mode (115mm fixed focal length) 0.45m - ∞

(1.5 ft. - ∞)

**ISO Range:** DX coded films ISO 25-3200 (in 1 EV increments)

**Metering Range** 

(ISO 100): Wide: EV 2.4 - 17 Tele: EV 3.9 - 17

Flash Range

(ISO 100): Wide: 0.6 - 7.0m (2.0 - 23.0 ft.)

Tele: 0.6 - 2.25m (2.0 - 7.4 ft.)

Close-up mode: 0.45 - 2.4m (1.5 - 7.9 ft.)

**Battery:** One CR-2 3V Lithium battery

Battery-condition indication: 3-stage indication

Battery performance: approx. 13 rolls based on Minolta's standard test method using 24 exposure rolls with flash for

50% of the exposures.

Viewfinder: Magnification: 0.41X - 1.2X

Field of View: 87% (subject at 3m)

Eyepoint: 18mm from the viewfinder frame

**Dimensions:** 129.5 x 69.5 x 50 mm

5.1 x 2.7 x 2.0 in.

Weight: 275g (9.7 oz.) without battery

Specifications are based on the latest information available at the time of

printing and are subject to change without notice.

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation. Changes or modifications not approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment. This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the

equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- · Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

This Class B digital apparatus meets all requirements of the Canadian Interference-Causing Equipment Regulations.



This mark on your camera certifies that this camera meets the requirements of the EU (European Union) concerning interference causing equipment regulations. CE stands for Conformité Européenne (European Conformity).

53

#### Minolta Co., Ltd.

Minolta GmbH Minolta France S.A. Minolta (UK) Limited Minolta Austria Ges. m.b.H. Minolta Camera Benelux B.V. Belgium Branch Minolta (Schweiz) AG Minolta Svenska AB Finland Branch Minolta Portugal Limitada Minolta Corporation Head Office Los Angeles Branch Minolta Canada Inc. Head Office Vancouver Branch Minolta Hong Kong Limited Minolta Singapore (Pte) Ltd. Shanghai Minolta Optical Products Co., Ltd.

9222-2446-11 MM-A804

#### 3-13, 2-Chome, Azuchi-Machi, Chuo-Ku, Osaka 541-8556, Japan

Kurt-Fischer-Strasse 50, D-22923 Ahrensburg, Germany 365 Route de Saint-Germain, F-78420 Carrieres-Sur-Seine, France Rooksley Park, Precedent Drive, Rooksley, Milton Keynes, MK13 8HF, England Amalienstrasse 59-61, A-1131 Wien, Austria Zonnebaan 39, P.O. Box 6000, NL-3600 HA Maarssen, The Netherlands Kontichsesteenweg 38, B-2630 Aartselaar, Belgium Riedstrasse 6, CH-8953 Dietikon, Switzerland P.O. Box 9058, Albygatan 114, S-17109 Solna, Sweden Niittykatu 6 PL 37, SF-02201 Espoo, Finland Av. do Brasil 33-A, P-1700 Lisboa, Portugal

101 Williams Drive, Ramsey, New Jersey 07446, U.S.A. 11150 Hope Street Cypress, CA 90630, U.S.A.

369 Britannia Road East, Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 2H5, Canada 230-3771 Jacombs Road, Richmond, B.C. V6V 2L9, Canada Room 208, 2/F, Eastern Center, 1065 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong, China 10, Teban Gardens Crescent, Singapore 608923

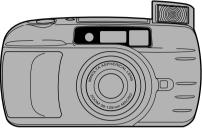
368 Minolta Road, Songjiang, Shanghai, China

© 1998 Minolta Co., Ltd. under the Berne Convention and Universal Copyright Convention

Printed in Malaysia

# Supreme FREEDOM ZOOM EX

125 EX



**E** INSTRUCTION MANUAL