MINOLTA XG-7

The quality easy-to-use compact SLR system.

Minolta XG-7.

The camera that proves you don't have to sacrifice quality and handling convenience to get advanced automation.

The Minolta XG-7 is an automatic, compact 35mm single lens reflex camera that brings superb photographic results within the reach of everyone, including people without extensive photographic experience. Yet it offers advanced features and handling that will be appreciated by even the most demanding photographer.

The XG-7 provides automatic exposure control and the option of automatic film advance and automatic flash. For the advanced photographer who views his camera as a creative tool, it is the key to the Minolta system of special accessories and almost 40 interchangeable lenses. Yet for all these photographic capabilities the XG-7 is remarkably compact, lightweight and easy to operate.

The exceptional quality of the XG-7 is difficult to describe, but easy to understand once you compare it with other compact cameras, regardless of price. The XG-7 is smooth and quiet ... a camera you'll feel comfortable with from the very beginning. It is a unique blend of the optical, engineering and electronic skills that have made Minolta the best selling 35mm SLR cameras in North America.

Minolta XG-7.

Major advantages in size, handling and automation.

1 The simplicity of auto-exposure ... the versatility of manual control.
The XG-7 offers you aperture-priority automatic exposure control with electronic accuracy. Or full manual control of lens opening and shutter speed. It means there's virtually no subject you can't photograph with ease.

2 Compact, lightweight, easy to handle.
The XG-7 is one of the lightest and smallest SLR's ever made. Yet it is not cramped. Your fingers fall naturally into place on oversized controls. And the XG-7 is so precisely balanced that it becomes almost a part of you.

3 Automatic film advance with the Auto Winder G.
Shoot single frames or action filled sequences at approximately two frames per second. This option attaches to the XG-7 in seconds to give you a whole new approach to creative photography.

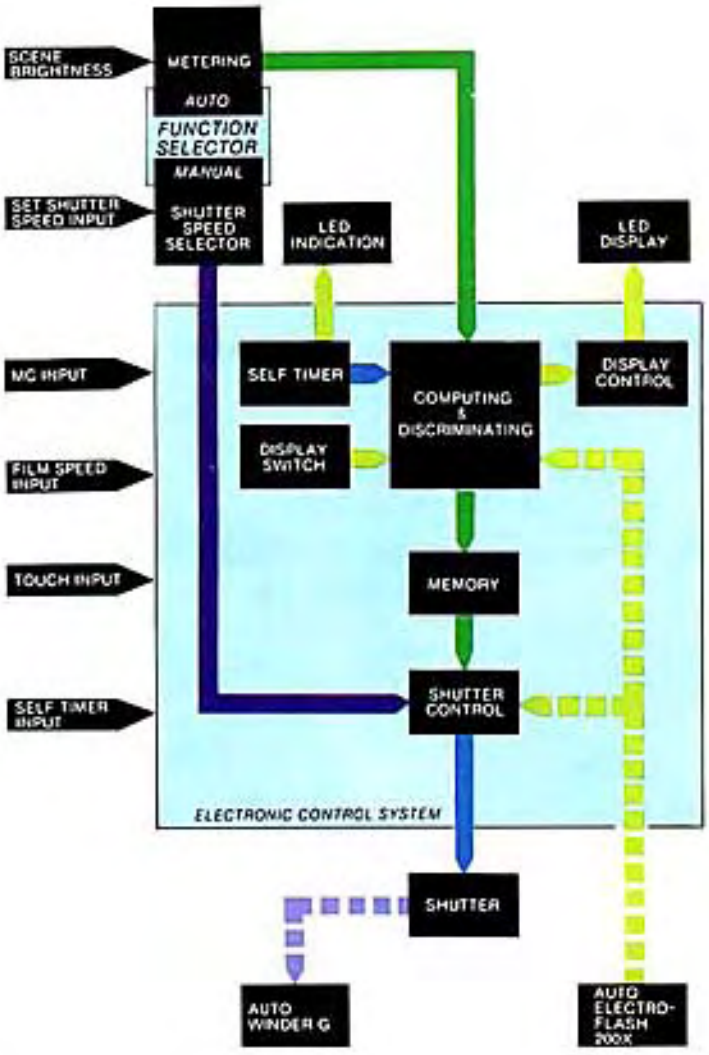
4 Auto Electroflash 200X synchronizes with the Auto Winder G.
Auto thyristor circuitry for accurate flash and long battery life is combined with remarkably fast recycling time so that the 200X can actually keep up with the Auto Winder G and shoot flash sequences.

5 Extra-bright viewfinder and LED's provide complete picture taking information.
Focusing and composing are fast and easy through the bright XG-7 viewfinder. Red light emitting diodes tell you what shutter speed the camera is setting automatically, whether the flash is ready to fire and if you are in danger of getting an under or over-exposure.

6 Electronic systems make photography effortless and virtually foolproof.
Advanced electronic design makes picture-taking with the XG-7 amazingly easy. Just the presence of your finger on the operating button activates the metering and viewfinder display. An LED self-timer is located on the front of the camera, where you can see it. And you can't take an over-exposed picture, because the automatic shutter release lock won't let you.

7 The XG-7 accepts the complete Minolta lens system.
Every Minolta Rokkor, Rokkor-X and Celtic lens ever made, including the advanced new MD Rokkor-X series, will fit the XG-7 without modification. Every Minolta lens you mount on a XG-7 will provide faultless automatic or manual operation.

Aperture-priority auto-exposure control.



In its automatic mode the XG-7 is an aperture-priority camera. This simply means that you set the lens opening while the XG-7 sets the shutter speed.
Of course, you can use the XG-7 as a point-focus-shoot camera by ignoring the lens opening and letting the camera function on its own. But as you become more experienced (and adventuresome), you'll want to get more creative.
By choosing the aperture or lens opening, you can control depth-of-field. That's the area that stays sharp in front of and behind your subject. Depth-of-field changes with each lens opening, and many professional photographers believe that it is the single most important factor in creative photography.
As you adjust the lens opening, the XG-7 will automatically select the shutter speed needed for perfect exposure and the LED's in the viewfinder will display the shutter speed as it's being selected. If you want a faster shutter speed to stop action, simply make the lens opening larger. If you want to deliberately blur a subject to emphasize action, make the lens opening smaller.
Another important advantage of aperture-priority automation is that it is the only way to use close-up equipment and mirror lenses automatically.

Electronics at work inside the XG-7.
While you're concentrating on the enjoyment of fine photography, information processing circuits in the XG-7 will be computing light levels and cross-checking them to film speeds and lens openings. This information is channeled to the electronically controlled focal plane shutter in the form of a shutter speed selection command. All this happens in microseconds.
The electronic information network can select the proper shutter speed from the XG-7's range of one second to 1/1000th second. For instance, if light conditions require a shutter speed of 1/675th of a second, that's exactly the speed that will be set. When light is too dim or too bright for the lens aperture you've selected, bright red triangles will light up on top or below the shutter speed scale in the viewfinder. These are signals to change to a smaller lens opening if the triangle is pointing up or a bigger lens opening if the triangle is pointing down.
If light conditions are so bright that speeds higher than 1/1000th second are still necessary, the XG-7 will lock the shutter and prevent you from making an over-exposed picture. The electronics that do this also lock the shutter to prevent poor exposures when battery power is too low or when the camera main switch is in the OFF position.

You can even vary the auto-exposure setting.
You can add or subtract up to four times the "normal" light for out-of-the-ordinary shooting situations and still stay in the automatic exposure mode. This is exceptionally handy for "bracketing". That's when you shoot several pictures of the same subject at varying exposures to make sure you get that one exposure that is the most flattering.

Manual exposure mode for total control of every step.
From time to time, you might want to pick aperture settings and shutter speeds yourself. Drastically varying light conditions or just plain experimenting requires a camera that lets you go off on your own. Not all compact cameras allow full manual control, but the XG-7 does. You can start in the automatic mode to get an idea of the correct shutter speed for a given lens opening, then switch to manual to set your own exposure.

The XG-7 viewfinder: control center for fine photography.

1. Split-image/microprism focusing spot.
2. Shutter speed scale.
3. LED shutter speed indicator shows speed being set automatically.
4. LED over-exposure warning.
5. LED under-exposure warning.

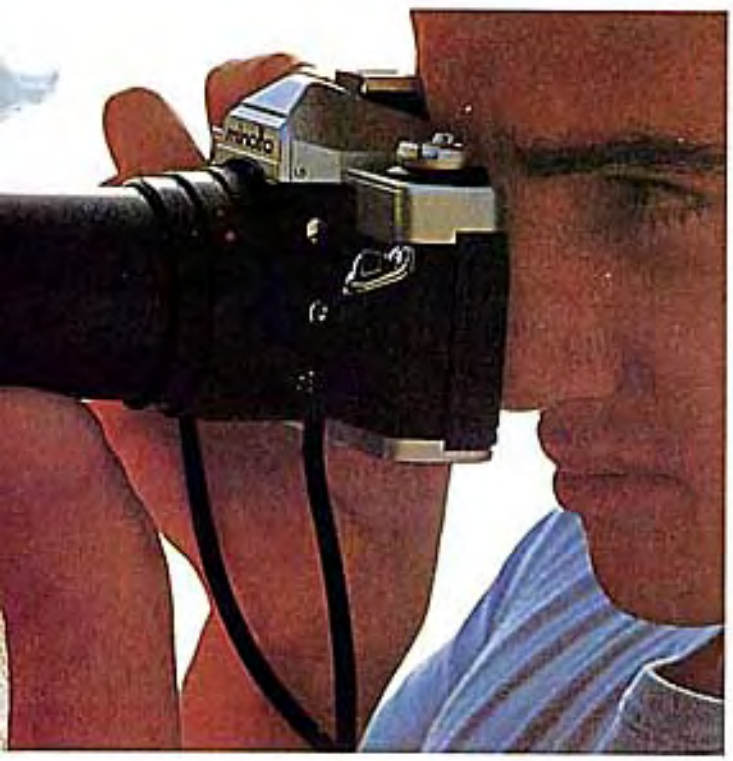
Focusing, composing and monitoring exposure are effortless as you look through the XG-7's bright viewfinder.
The combination split-image/microprism center spot makes even the most critical focusing a snap, while an overall fresnel screen assures corner-to-corner brightness. At the mere touch of your finger to the XG-7's operating button, the metering system is activated. A red LED lights alongside the shutter speed being set automatically, from 1 to 1/1000th second. Two triangles are ready to warn against over or under-exposure. If the top triangle lights, the XG-7 will lock rather than take an over-exposure. And, if the Auto Electroflash 200X is mounted and fully charged, an LED will pulsate next to 1/60th of a second. This exclusive Minolta feature means you never have to look away from the finder to see if the flash is ready to fire.

Let your finger rest on the XG-7's operating button and something incredible happens. The transient electricity that's pulsing across your finger completes the circuit that controls the meter. You don't have to apply *any* pressure to see the bright LED's in the finder come to life, showing exactly what shutter speed the XG-7's electronics are selecting. Gloves? No problem. If some article of clothing comes between your finger and the operating button, a very slight pressure will activate the XG-7's systems. Slightly more pressure on the operating button and the exposure is made. No jarring. No blurred pictures caused by jabbing fingers.

The upper LED triangle lights to warn against over-exposure, and the shutter will lock until you properly adjust the aperture. The lower LED triangle warns against under-exposure.

Oversize mirror for easy focusing.
The reflex mirror in the XG-7 is one of the largest used in 35mm SLR cameras. It means images won't be cut off in the finder even if you choose to use very long telephoto lens.

LED dot blinks at "60" (1/60th second) to show that the Auto Electroflash 200X is fully charged and ready to fire. Until then, the XG-7 will operate in the automatic aperture-priority mode for existing light, or you may set aperture and shutter speed manually.



The Minolta Auto Winder G. For automatic film advance and exciting sequence photography.

Shoot two-frames-per-second sequences or individual shots.

Press the XG-7's operating button and let go. The Auto Winder G will advance the film immediately after the shutter closes, so you're instantly ready for the next picture. Or keep your finger on the operating button and the shutter will keep operating *and* the film will continue to advance to give you dramatic sequences at up to two frames per second. A bright LED on the back of the Auto Winder G flashes each time an exposure is made.

Compact and lightweight.

The Auto Winder G was designed to match the compact size and superior balance of the XG-7. Together they make one of the lightest and smallest camera/winder teams in SLR photography. Yet the new coreless

micromotor inside will outperform bigger, more expensive winders and at the same time use less power.

Attaches in seconds.
The Auto Winder G quickly attaches to the tripod socket of the XG-7. All electronic connections are made automatically as you attach the winder. There are no caps to remove, store or hunt for later on.

Four penlight batteries shoot up to 150 rolls.
That's 36-exposure rolls we're talking about ... up to an incredible 5,400 pictures. Hi-energy Ni-Cd (nickel cadmium) batteries let you shoot this much and then recharge in hours, indefinitely. Alkaline batteries shoot up to seventy rolls.

Film protection shut-off.
When you've reached the end of a roll, the motor will automatically shut off without damaging the film. At the same time, a bright LED will glow steadily to inform you that the full roll is exposed.

Flash synchronization.
Team the Auto Winder G with the Auto Electroflash 200X and you can take electronic flash pictures at Auto Winder speeds.

The Minolta Auto Electroflash 200X. Electronic flash at auto winder speeds. Maximum ease/maximum versatility.

Slip the Auto Electroflash 200X onto the XG-7 and turn it on. In manual, the Hi setting (Guide Number 33 in feet at ASA 25) is for conventional flash shooting. The Lo setting (Guide Number 12 in feet at ASA 25) is for winder synch and will recycle as fast as two frames per second.

Result: up to 36 sequence shots with flash, without stopping.
In the Automatic mode, the yellow or red positions offer the creative choice of f/5.6 or f/2.8 lens openings (with ASA 100 film).
The Auto Electroflash 200X uses thyristor circuitry so just the right amount of light is used with each flash without wasting battery power. That means batteries last considerably longer.

Automatic shutter speed selection.
When the 200X is attached and fully charged it will set the shutter speed on the XG-7 to 1/60th second for proper flash synchronization. While it is charging, the shutter will return to whatever speed the aperture-priority automation selects. Or to whatever pre-selected manual speed was chosen. When the flash is fully charged, the shutter will automatically switch back to 1/60th second.
Whenever the 200X is fully charged, the 1/60th LED will pulsate. In the Lo power manual position, it will pulsate constantly since the 200X will always be ready to fire at up to two flashes per second.

28mm wide angle diffuser (included).
The 200X will cover the angle-of-view of a 35mm lens, but you can slip the wide angle diffuser on and shoot automatically accurate flash pictures with 28mm wide-angle lenses.

Ni-Cd battery charger NC-2 (optional).
Nickel-Cadmium batteries are recommended for use with the Auto Winder G and the Auto Electroflash 200X for best results and longest service. The NC-2 recharges four AA Ni-Cd penlight batteries in 8 hours.

Refinements that make the XG-7 easier and more rewarding to use.

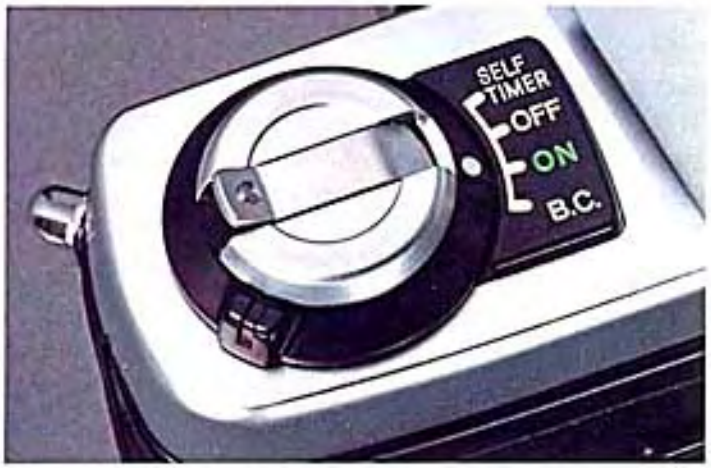
Minolta bayonet lens mount.
All Rokkor, Rokkor-X and Celtic lenses, including the new MD Rokkor-X lens series fit with the same single, fast twist. No realignment techniques or adjustments are ever necessary. The rugged Minolta lens mount will provide years of precise service.

Oversize front mounted LED self-timer.
Move the main switch to self-timer and depress the operating button. Immediately, a bright red LED will begin to blink silently on the front of the camera. The electronic self-timer delays release for ten seconds, but as it approaches release time it will begin to blink at a faster pulse. Not only does it allow time for you to get into the picture, it tells you if you have time to smile. At any time during the ten seconds, you can cancel the self-timer sequence by turning the main switch to OFF.

Convenient main switch.
The central main switch is located on the XG-7 top left side, where you can reach it easily. SELF-TIMER, OFF, ON and B.C. (for battery check) are clearly marked. Each position is also equipped with a detent to keep the wrong position from being selected and to make sure everything stays in your control.

Safe-load signal.
To let you know that the film is loaded correctly and advancing without problems, there is a safe load signal to visually confirm proper film advance. It is located in front of the film advance lever.

Remote control socket.
This socket accepts an electronic remote control cord that lets you release the shutter on the XG-7 from as far as 16.7 feet away. It activates the electromagnetic release for smooth vibration-free shots. This is critically important for close-up and long lens shooting.
Standard mechanical cable releases can also be used in the same socket.



±2EV over/under exposure control.
There will be times when you'll wish to vary the automatic exposure settings to compensate for unusual or complicated lighting situations or for dramatic effect and emphasis in "average" light conditions. You can do this by using the over/under exposure override. It electronically instructs the XG-7 shutter to add or subtract light in the steplessly variable amounts you select up to ±2EV (equivalent to two full lens openings or shutter speeds).
It's easy to do. Just depress the Auto setting release button and align the letter A with +2, +1, −2, −1 or anywhere in between.

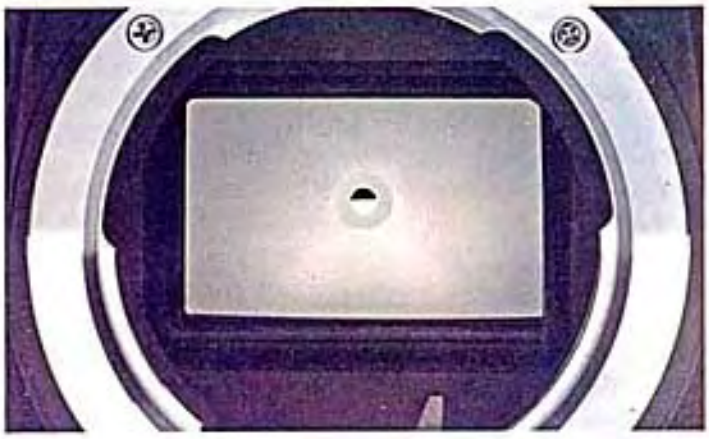
Film advance lever.
The film advance lever is exceptionally smooth and free from the grinding noises associated with many of the compact 35mm SLR cameras. It provides a fast 130° stroke with 30° offset for rapid access to the lever. The lever tip is carefully sculptured to match the contours of your thumb for comfortable operation.

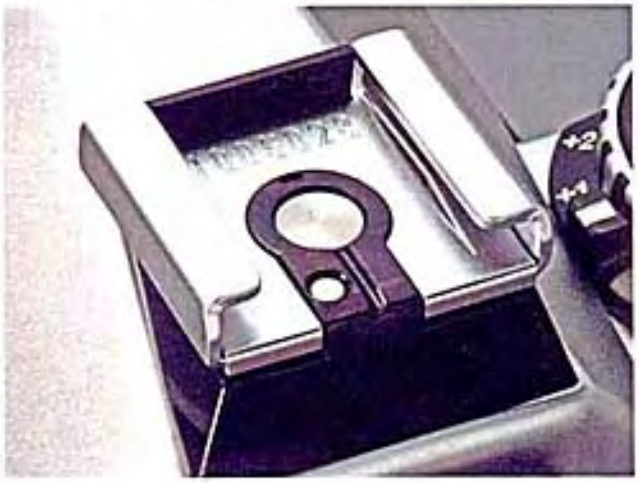
Integrated shutter speed/ function selector and electromagnetic release.
The shutter speed selector allows you to switch from manual to automatic mode by rotating the ring in any direction. You can go from A (for aperture-priority automation) to 1/1000th second or to B (for time exposures) with a single motion of your index finger. In the center of the shutter speed ring is the operating button. It's an electromagnetic switch that provides vibrationless operation with only the smallest amount of contact from the tip of your finger to activate the metering system and slight pressure to make the exposure.

Memo holder.
It's always handy to have a reminder of the film you're using. Just tear off the end of the film box and slip it into the convenient memo holder. It's an ideal place to put filter notes or any other information you want to refer to. For your convenience when traveling abroad, there's a DIN/ASA conversion table mounted inside the memo holder as well.

Oversize, quick-return mirror.
The reflex mirror in the XG-7 is large enough to provide exceptionally bright images edge-to-edge, top-to-bottom; even when using extremely long lenses or high magnification close-up equipment for macrophotography.

Hot shoe.
The accessory bracket on top of the XG-7 pentaprism is equipped with a hot shoe and a unique shutter control that allows the Auto Electroflash 200X to set the shutter to the synch speed (1/60th second) automatically. It is designed for X synchronization so no other adjustments are necessary. With the Auto Electroflash 200X or other hot shoe flashes attached, no cables are needed. Units that require connecting cords can be used with the built-in PC terminal.





Technical Specifications

XG-7

Type: Compact 35mm SLR with automatic and full manual exposure control

Lens mount: Minolta SLR bayonet (Standard lenses: 50mm f/1.2, f/1.4 or f/1.7 MD Rokkor-X)

Auto-exposure range: EV 2 to EV 17 at ASA 100 with f/1.4 lens

Shutter: Horizontal-traverse focal-plane type, with electromagnetic release. Exposure system automatically prevents shutter release when speed required for proper exposure is over 1/1000th sec.

Shutter speeds. 1/1000th to 1 second steplessly on automatic mode or in steps on manual mode

Metering: Full-aperture through-the-lens center-weighted type, by two CdS cells. Film speed range: ASA 25 to 1600. Auto-exposure adjustment: Up to ±2EV

Mirror: Oversize quick-return type

Viewfinder: Eye-level fixed pentaprism type. Mat-Fresnel-field focusing screen with central horizontally oriented split-image focusing spot surrounded by microprism band; stepless speeds indicated by 10 light-emitting diodes; LED over/under-range indicators; LED at "60" position blinks as flash-ready signal in auto or manual mode with Auto Electroflash 200X.

Flash contact: X contact: 1/60th second "X" and slower speeds PC terminal and hot shoe

Film advance: Motorized: With Auto Winder G
Manual: By lever advance with 130° stroke with 30° offset

Power source: Two 1.5v silver-oxide cells, Eveready S-76 or equivalent

Others: LED indicated self-timer, memo holder, safe load signal and ASA-DIN conversion scale

Size and weight: 2 x 3-7/16 x 5-5/8 inches (52 x 88 x 138mm), 17-13/16 ounces (505g) without lens and power cells

Accessories: Auto Winder G, Auto Electroflash 200X, Remote Cord S & L

AUTO WINDER G

Type: Automatic film winder for Minolta XG-7

Winding time: Approximately 0.4 seconds

Winding speed: Up to 2 fps.

Power source: Four 1.5v AA-size (penlight) cells

Drive motor: Coreless-type micromotor

Winding capacity: Successive 36 exp. cartridges
Sealed carbon-zinc: approximately 50*
Alkaline-manganese: approximately 70*
Nickel-cadmium: approximately 150*

*as determined by Minolta's testing method

Size and weight: 1-3/8 x 1-7/16 x 5-7/16 inches (35 x 37 x 138mm); 7-3/8 ounces (210g) without cells