

# Yashica Guy™



## 35mm YASHICA ELECTRO RANGE-FINDER MANUAL

**This Document was Updated on January 2, 2005**

**This Update adds Support to Questions Most Frequently Asked Since the Last  
Revision**

**Entire Contents © 1999 – 2005 by Joe Marcel Wolff**

**All Rights Reserved. Copies May be Printed Out for Personal Use**

# 35mm YASHICA ELECTRO RANGE-FINDER MANUAL

## ***KEY STEPS FOR AUTOMATIC PHOTOGRAPHY WITH THE G SERIES***

- 1. Load and Check Battery***
- 2. Unlock Shutter Release Button***
- 3. Load Film***
- 4. Set ASA Film Speed***
- 5. Set Camera for Automatic Operation***
- 6. Select Appropriate Exposure Symbol***
- 7. Focus***
- 8. Control Exposure -- using "Over - Under" Lamps....SHOOT!***

## **BATTERY LOADING AND CHECKING**

1. Unscrew the Battery Compartment Cover with the edge of a coin.
2. Mercury battery sales are prohibited. Therefore use of the Yashica Guy Pro Battery Adapter is suggested to replace the original types Mallory TR 164, Eveready E164 or discontinued Duracell PX 32 Alkaline battery.
3. When the camera will not be in use for a while, be sure to remove the battery and store it in a dry cool place, to avoid a battery leak that could ruin your camera.
4. Check battery before picture-taking. Press Battery Check Button. If the green light comes on in the Film Exposure Counter, the battery power is sufficient. If not, the battery should be replaced.

## **FILM LOADING (Always load in subdued light)**

1. Pull out Film Rewind Knob, and Back Cover will pop open. The Film Exposure Counter is automatically set at "S" (Start).
2. Place a 35mm film cassette into film chamber and push down the Film Rewind Knob.
3. Insert film leader into Take-up Spool and advance film with the Film Advance Lever, making sure the perforations properly engage the sprocket teeth. Close Back Cover.
4. Gently wind the film rewind crank-handle on Film Rewind Knob, until a slight resistance is felt, to remove film slack.
5. Advance film, then press shutter Release Button, and repeat until the figure "1" appears in the Film Exposure Counter.
6. Make sure the film is properly loaded. As you advance the film, the Film Rewind Knob should rotate counter-clockwise.

## **ASA FILM SPEED SETTING**

Align the mark on the ASA Film Speed Index Setting Ring with the ASA / ISO rating of the film in use. The Film rating is shown on the box or the instructions that come with the film. (DIN film speed rating conversion table is given inside the camera).

## **SHUTTER RELEASE BUTTON**

To lock the Shutter Release Button, align the mark on the Shutter Release LOCK with the letter "L". To unlock, give Lock  $\frac{1}{4}$  turn clockwise. When camera is not in use, the shutter should not be left cocked, and the Shutter Release Lock should be in the locked position.

## **AUTOMATIC OPERATION**

For automatic operation, set the Exposure Control Ring to AUTO position. (With the use of exclusive Lens Shade provided with the GT model, the Exposure Control Ring will lock at the AUTO position.)

## **EXPOSURE SYMBOLS**

Select the appropriate Exposure Symbol and set it opposite the mark by turning the Aperture Ring.

**SUN or CLOUD** symbol - for outdoor photography.

**WINDOW** symbol - for indoor and night photography.

This should bring you close to the correct exposure with 100 ASA / ISO film. Use the "Over - Under" lamps to zero in.

## **FOCUSING**

1. Sight through the Viewfinder and turn the Focusing Ring until the two images in the center focusing area form one clear image.
2. Compose picture within the bright frame that, during focusing, in particular at short distances, moves diagonally for automatic parallax correction.

## **EXPOSURE CONTROL**

1. The RED and YELLOW warning arrows in the Viewfinder and on the camera top are actuated when the Film Advance Lever is wound and the Shutter Release Button is pressed in half way. Practice this without film in the camera.
2. The absence of both arrows signifies hand-held photography is possible. All you need do for a perfect picture is FOCUS and PRESS the Shutter Release Button down all the way. The appearance of the RED arrow ( when the Shutter Release Button is half - pressed ) signifies too much light. Turn the aperture Ring in the direction of the arrow until it disappears. If it fails to disappear, a neutral density filter should be used and the ASA Film speed Setting Ring reset accordingly. If the original setting was ASA 100, reset to ASA 25 when an ND4 Neutral Density filter is used. With The MG-1 and the GL models, do not reset the ASA. The Electronic Exposure

Control [EEC] in the lens mount will correct for this because it "sees" through the filter in place.

3. The chart below is a convenient guide to resetting the ASA Index on your camera to compensate for the filter in use. Guide numbers that are shown on the film package are now generally displayed as **ISO** numbers. These are identical to the earlier ASA rating Index.

<b>Convert ASA / ISO Index to FILTER FACTOR</b>										
<b>ASA</b>	<b>Colour or Neutral Density Filter Factor</b>									
	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>1000</b>	650	500	400	320	250	200	125	80	64	40
<b>800</b>	500	400	320	250	200	160	100	64	50	32
<b>650</b>	400	320	250	200	160	125	80	50	40	25
<b>500</b>	320	250	200	160	125	100	64	40	32	20
<b>400</b>	250	200	160	125	100	80	50	32	25	16
<b>320</b>	200	160	125	100	80	64	40	24	20	12
<b>250</b>	160	125	100	80	64	50	32	20	16	10
<b>200</b>	125	100	80	64	50	40	25	16	12	8
<b>160</b>	100	80	64	50	40	32	20	12	10	6
<b>125</b>	80	64	50	40	32	25	16	10	8	5
<b>100</b>	64	50	40	32	25	20	12	8	6	4
<b>80</b>	50	40	32	25	20	16	10	6	5	3
<b>64</b>	40	32	24	20	16	12	8	5	4	2.5
<b>50</b>	32	25	20	16	12	10	6	4	3	2
<b>40</b>	25	20	16	12	10	8	5	3	2.5	1.6
Yashica Guy has rounded off results to the nearest ASA setting										

## **EXPOSURE INDICATORS**

The appearance of the YELLOW arrow signifies too little light for hand-held photography, since the exposure speed will be slower than 1/30 second. Turn the Aperture Ring in the direction of the arrow until it disappears. If it fails to disappear, use a tripod. (Yashica convertible Grip/Tripod ST-7 is handy to lean up against a wall or post for support ). Whether the YELLOW arrow disappears or not, the precise exposure speed will be determined and set automatically to a maximum of 30 seconds.

## **CONTROL OF SHUTTER SPEED**

The Electro Exposure control system is of the Aperture Priority type. You select the lens opening and it sets the shutter speed for the correct exposure. This normally works out very well

You can however overcome this and control the shutter speed, for sporting events for example.

When you understand the relationship between the aperture stops and the percentage of light between them, it actually becomes quite simple to select the shutter speed best suited for your shots.

Each *f* stop on the lens barrel, namely, 16 - 11 - 8 - 5.6 - 4 - 2.8 - 2 - 1.4 represents a 100% change from the adjoining setting. As the numbers get larger, the amount of light transmitted by the lens becomes LESS, because this number is NOT the size of the lens opening but is the ratio of the size of the lens opening [aperture] to the focal length of the lens. With this in mind, it is not difficult to follow the procedure.

In daylight photography, set the lens opening to maximum for the sake of simplicity. This is 1.7 on the 'G' series. Now slowly press the shutter release button until you see the red over exposure lamp. Then adjust the lens opening until both the red and yellow lamps are out. At this point your camera is set for the correct exposure with the shutter set at 1/500th sec. If you wish to cut the shutter speed in half to 1/250th second for the sake of greater depth of focus, move the indicated lens opening on the barrel to the next 100% smaller aperture setting. For example if the lamp went out at *f* 5.6, decrease the lens opening by 100% to *f* 8.0. Obviously you can move from one mid point to the next. To obtain an exposure of 1/125th second, you would move the lens by two increments to *f* 11. Try this without film in the camera to get the hang of it.

It is also possible to use an Exposure Meter to determine the correct Aperture to get the Shutter Speed that you would like the camera to use. Just set the Exposure Meter's selected Aperture for that speed on the camera, and the Electro Shutter will automatically match the correct Shutter Speed. Use of an Incident Light meter is highly desirable.

### **FILM UNLOADING (ALWAYS UNLOAD IN SUBDUED LIGHT)**

1. After the last exposure, DO NOT try to advance the film further as it may tear or come loose, making it impossible to rewind the film into the cassette.
2. Before removing it from the camera, the film should be rewound into its cassette. Press the Film Rewind Release Button on the bottom plate of the camera. If you fail to do this, you may tear the film perforations or even damage the camera mechanism.
3. Unfold the crank handle on the Film Rewind Knob and very slowly turn it in the direction of the arrow until a slight resistance is felt. Continue slowly winding until you feel it turning freely. Caution. If you wind too quickly under conditions of low humidity, you may cause static-electricity to discharge onto your film, resulting in light streaks on the negative. Gently allow the rewind handle to turn as the film may unwind itself within the cassette. If the film turns too quickly, static marks will fog and ruin your negatives.
4. Open the Back Cover, remove the cassette and send for processing.

### **DEPTH OF FIELD**

1. Depth of field is the area in front and behind the subject on which the camera is focused. within which all objects also appear acceptably sharp in the picture. It varies with the aperture and is more extensive.
  - a. When the lens is stopped down
  - b. When the camera is focused on a distant subject
  - c. In the background rather than the foreground
2. The depth of field can be determined by reference to the depth-of-field scale on the lens barrel. With the camera focused on 2 meters and an aperture of f/16, the depth of field will be from 1.4 to 3.8 meters, i.e. the range enclosed by the number 16 on both sides of the red index mark.

## **SELF-TIMER**

1. If you want to include yourself in the picture, use the Self-Timer and proceed as follows:
  - a. Advance the film
  - b. Move Self-Timer Lever down all the way in the direction of the arrow
  - c. Press Shutter Release Button and the shutter will click about 8 seconds later.

## **“B” SETTING**

Since the shutter will operate automatically for long time exposures, “B” setting [ Bulb ] is used only very occasionally, mainly for special effects. At “B” setting the shutter will remain open for as long as the Shutter Release Button is kept depressed. This function requires a battery in the camera.

1. Align the “B” symbol on the Exposure Control Ring with the red triangular mark.
2. The use of a tripod and cable release is essential.

## **FLASH EXPOSURE**

To stop movement in dim light, use flash.

The Electro G's require that the camera battery be installed to trigger flash exposures. Mount a Strobe Flash Gun in the Accessory Shoe and connect the synchro cord to the Flash Sync. [PC] Terminal. The GSN / GTN and GL have both a Hot Shoe and PC terminal. Flashbulbs can be used when the indicator on the lens is set at the lightning bolt symbol. Some models have an M & X selector. X is for Strobe [Electronic Flash]. All these models in the G group will synch Strobe in the AUTO setting at all but the highest shutter speeds for outdoor fill light.

If you plan to use a strobe flash with the Electro 35, G or GS that does not have a hot shoe, you need to place insulation tape on the base of the shoe to prevent the flash from shorting out.

If you do not follow this, a charged flash will fire as soon as it is installed, or simply drain it's batteries when switched on after it is installed. The use of one of the older strobe flash units without a hot shoe contact will avoid this problem as well as the use of a Flash Bracket [highly recommended].

If you still have flashbulbs and want to have some fun, align the Flash Symbol on the exposure Control Ring with the red triangular mark. The shutter speed is automatically set at 1/30 sec. [ "M" type, flash-bulb synch ]. Focus the camera and divide the guide number of the strobe flash or flash bulb by the flash-to-subject distance. The figure thus obtained should be set by turning the Aperture Ring. Example: ASA 100 film - guide number 84 - divide by distance (15 ft.) equals f/5.6 aperture. NOTE: The guide number differs with ASA film speeds.

## **FOR BETTER PICTURES**

1. For better color pictures, shoot in soft, diffused light.
2. When shooting by available light indoors, be aware that the colour of nearby objects or walls, will be reflected onto the subject. This can result in undesirable colour tints that cannot be compensated for in printing. Also pay attention to your clothing that can reflect colour particularly while shooting close-ups.
3. When the YELLOW arrow is ON, use a tripod (also with B and Self-Timer).
4. When the main subject is the point of interest, use the largest aperture suited for the prevailing light. If a greater depth of field is required, stop down the aperture as necessary.
5. When it is necessary to stop action in outdoor photography, turn the Aperture Ring to where the RED arrow just disappears. At this point, the shutter is about 1/500 sec.
6. When photographing spot-lighted subjects or against light, reset the **ASA** Film Speed Index Setting Ring.

Example with ASA 100 film:

- ✓ Strong spot-lighted subject - reset to ASA 200-400.
- ✓ Against light - reset to ASA 50 or 25.
- ✓ The use of a Neutral Density [ND] or Polarizing filter when shooting in blazing sunlight, snow or beach scenes is recommended. Reset the **ASA** Film Speed Index Setting Ring according to filter factor, unless you are using one of the models that have the Exposure sensor within the lens mount. e.g. MG-1, GL. For night photography, WITHOUT FLASH, set the Exposure Control Ring at the AUTO position and the Aperture Ring at the INDOORS (window) symbol. In all cases, the shutter speed will be determined and set AUTOMATICALLY. However, when shooting with the YELLOW arrow on, use a tripod.

# ACCESSORIES

## ***LENS SHADE***

The lens shade serves to ward off flare on the lens. Its' use is always recommended for better results. It is the single most valuable camera accessory.

## ***FILTER***

Filters are handy for special photographic effects. Many kinds of 55mm screw-in type filters are available for colour and B&W film.

## ***AUTO-UP LENS***

Auto-Up Lenses are available designed for the Yashica ELECTRO 35 G, GT, GS , GSN and GTN, and some earlier models. It enables photography of subjects between the distance of 80cm (32 inches) and 45cm (18 inches).

## ***GRIP/TRIPOD ST-7 or SIMILAR.***

This is a “must” for sharper, clearer pictures under any condition. It is essential for night photography, time exposure, self-portraits, etc. to prevent camera shake.

## ***AUXILIARY LENS SET***

The Auxiliary Lens Set consists of an auxiliary telephoto lens that extends the focal length of the camera lens to 58.4mm and an auxiliary wide angle lens which reduces the focal length of the camera lens to 37.7mm. To make picture composition easier and more accurate, an exclusive viewfinder is supplied to serve both lenses. Be sure to read the limitations and instructions required in order to use these lenses on the Yashica Guy web site, before deciding to purchase this item. These lenses function within a limited aperture range and require that the distance as indicated by the rangefinder, be recalculated.

# CARE OF YOUR CAMERA

1. Keep both the inside and outside of your camera clean. Use a soft, clean cloth.
2. To clean the lens, first blow away any dust or grit, then clean with a lens brush or soft, clean lint-less cloth.
3. Avoid storing the camera with the shutter charged.
4. Do not leave the camera in the glove compartment or trunk of a car, or in direct sunlight, as heat may affect the film, battery, light seals, etc.
5. When the camera is not in use for a long period of time, remove the battery and store in a cool, dry place. It is advisable to carry a spare battery.
6. Do not dismantle the camera or the lens for cleaning.
7. Do not store the camera in its leather carrying case. This may trap moisture and lead to the eventual penetration of microscopic flaws in the chrome plating. Specks of green oxide from the brass below could come to the surface and permanently damage the cosmetics of your camera. This is most important in coastal locations that have salt air.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Apply only to G, GS, GSN. Download data on other models from the Yashica Guy site.

- **Lens:** COLOR-YASHINON DX f/1.7 45mm; 6 elements in 4 groups, stops down to f/16.
- **Shutter:** Electronic shutter with an infinite range of speeds from 1/500 sec. to 30 seconds; B setting; built-in self-timer; M and X sync; shutter release lock; automatic setting.
- **Focusing:** Coupled range/viewfinder focusing; 0.8 meter (2'6") to infinity; bright frame with automatic parallax compensation.
- **Exposure Control:** Solid-state "Electronic Brain" controls the electronic shutter according to light intensity measured by the CdS sensor; precise shutter speed for correct exposure in any light is determined and set AUTOMATICALLY; exposure symbols for easy selection of aperture, arrows warn against over exposure and signal slow shutter speed and advisability of using a tripod; ASA / ISO range varies with model from 25 to 1000.
- **Original power source** - Mercury 5.6 V Mallory TR164, Eveready E164. An Alkaline / Lithium battery type converter is available from Yashica Guy.
- **Other Features:**
  - ✓ Single-stroke film advance lever charges shutter, sets electronic exposure control to standby condition, registers count of exposed frames and prevents double exposure, automatic resetting exposure counter;
  - ✓ Fold-away crank-handle for rapid film rewind;
  - ✓ Multi-slot take-up spool for easy film loading; battery checker incorporated in the exposure counter window.
  - ✓ Lens Shade: 57mm slip-on type.
  - ✓ Filters: 55mm screw-in type.
  - ✓ Dimensions: Approx Metric: Length 142mm, Width 33mm, Height from base to top of shutter release 86mm, width from front of lens ring at INF to Test Switch frame 78mm.
  - ✓ Dimensions as above Imperial: L 5<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", W 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", H 3<sup>11</sup>/<sub>32</sub>", front of lens to back 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>".
  - ✓ Weight: 750 grams (1.65 lbs).

**This Document is © Copyright 1999 – 2005 by Joe Marcel Wolff  
It may not be uploaded to any other website. If you wish to make this document  
available to your site visitors, kindly provide a link to this Yashica-Guy.com page.**