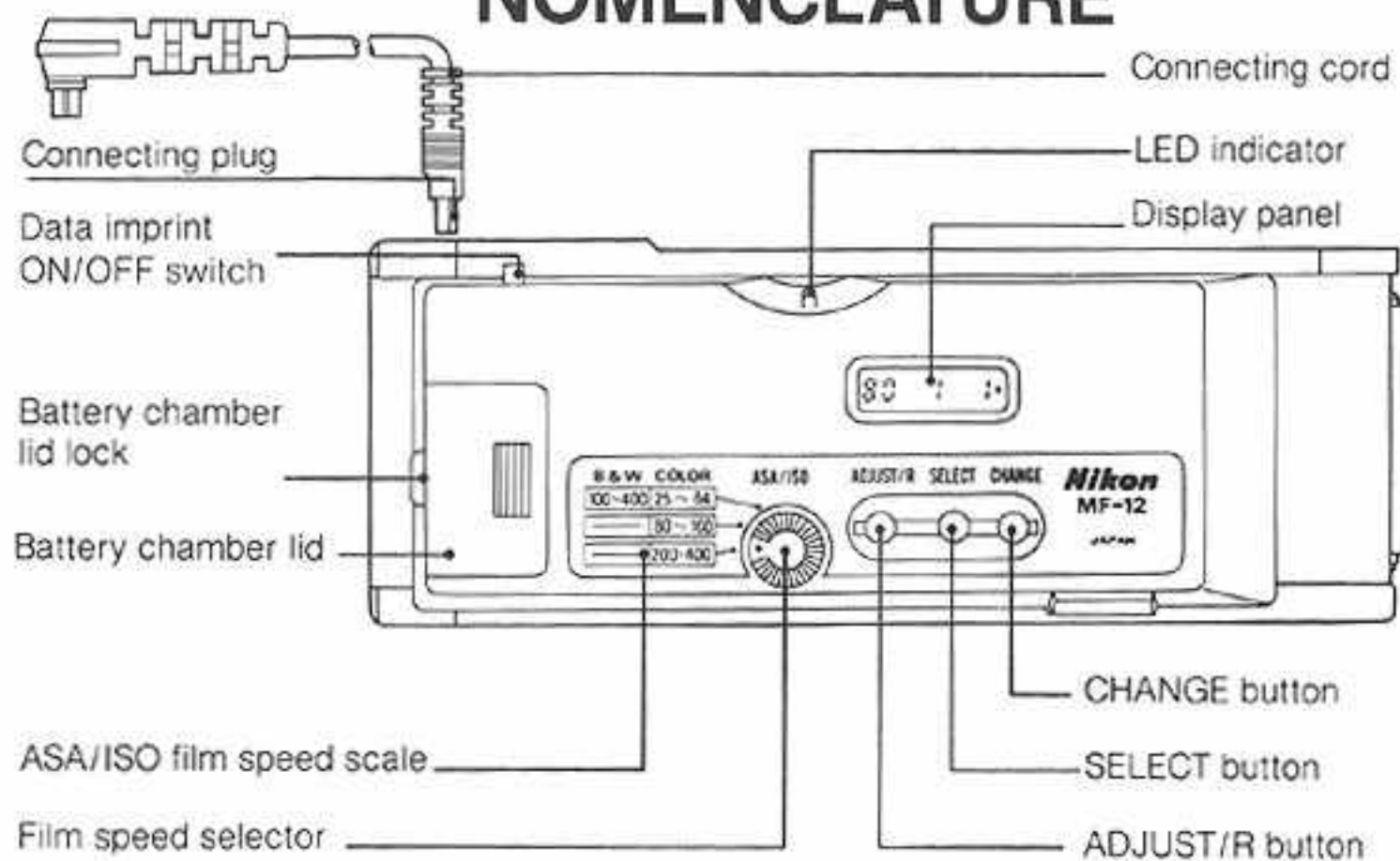


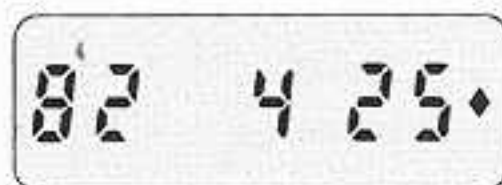
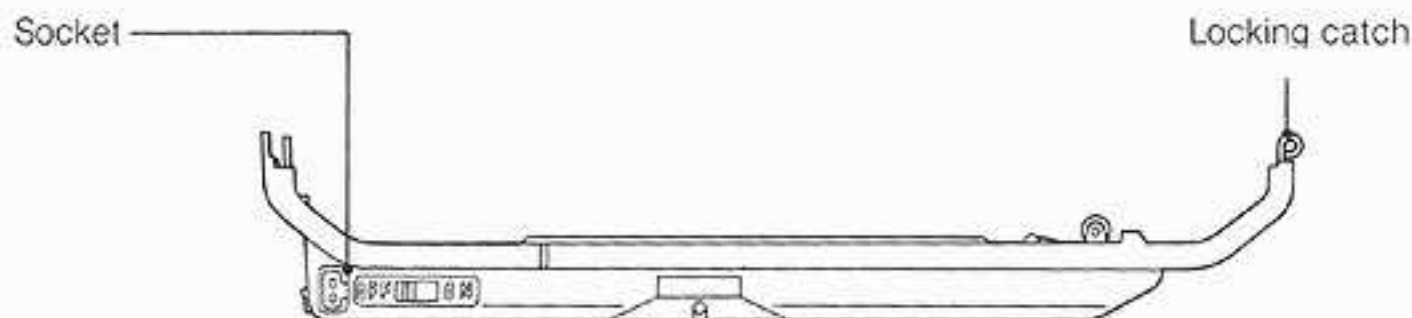
Nikon DATA BACK

MF-12

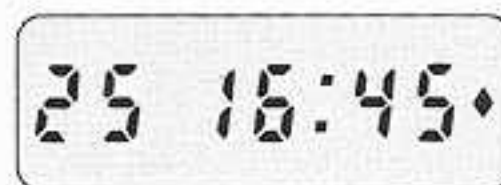
Instruction Manual

NOMENCLATURE





Year/Month/Day display



Day/Hour/Minute display

Note:

- 1) Both displays include a "blinking" diamond which indicates clock operation. The Day/Hour/Minute display includes a colon.
- 2) The clock is programmed for up to the year 2100.

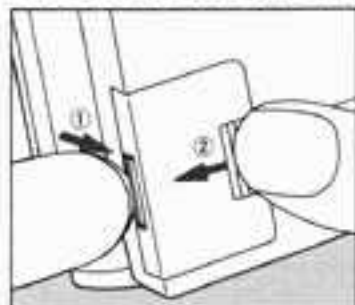
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FOREWORD

The Nikon Data Back MF-12 lets you record data regarding date and/or time in the pictures you take. You have a choice of recording the Year/Month/Day or the Date/Hour/Minute. Simply attach the MF-12 to your FE or FM camera, choose one or the other, then shoot. The data will be imprinted on the lower right-hand side of the photograph. To get the most out of this fine instrument, we recommend you spend some time mastering its operation. Have this Owner's Manual and that of the camera you are using on hand for best results.

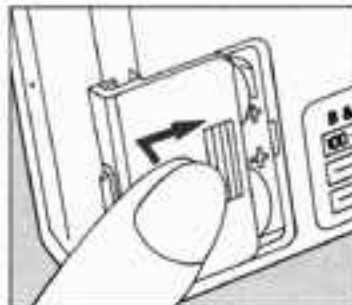
INSERTING BATTERIES



1. Open the battery chamber by sliding the lid's knurled portion with your thumb as you pry the battery chamber lid lock open with the nail of your other thumb or the tip of a ballpoint pen.



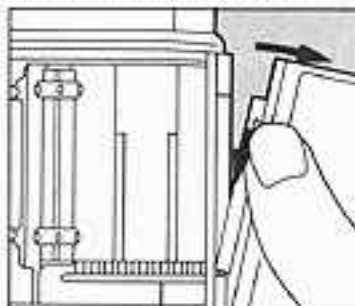
2. Set the two 1.55V SR-44 type silver-oxide batteries in the battery chamber with the "+" signs facing up.



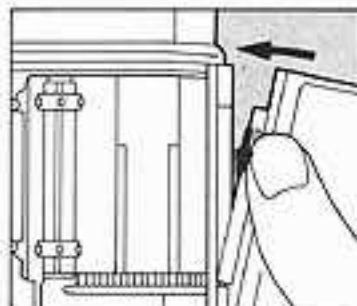
3. To close the battery chamber, first apply pressure and slide the lid until it clicks into place.

Note: 80 1 1 (i.e., January 1, 1980) will appear in the LCD display once the batteries are inserted. Otherwise, check if the batteries have been inserted correctly.

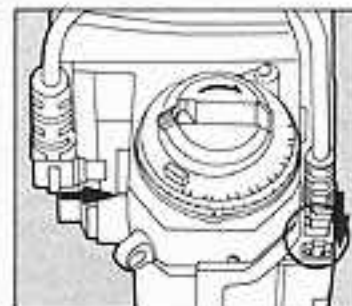
SETTING UP



1. Detach the camera back by pushing the locking catch connected to its hinge.



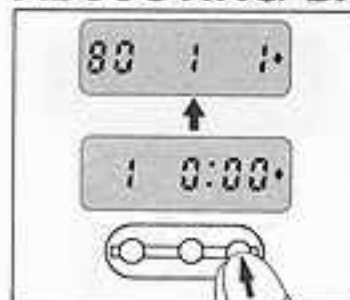
2. Attach the MF-12 to the camera by first pushing the corresponding locking catch on its hinge.



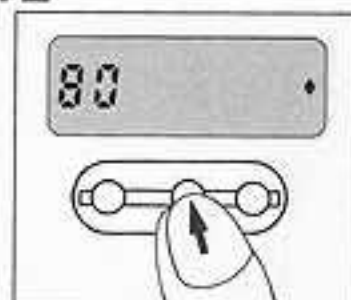
3. Then insert the plug of the connecting cord into the socket of the data back, with the plug's projection fitting the groove inside the socket. Then, insert the other side of the cord into the sync terminal of the camera body.

Note: Remove the cord from the camera before opening the MF-12's back.

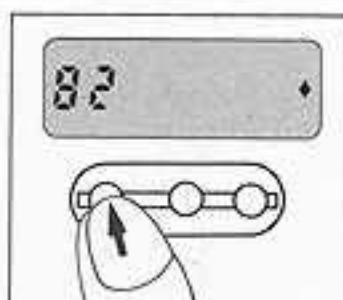
ADJUSTING DATE



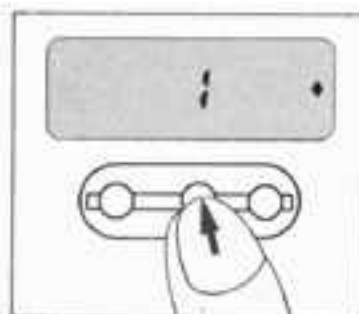
1. Adjust date first, taking **April 25, 1982** as an example. Start with the Year/Month/Day display. First, make sure that the display shows Year/Month/Day. If it shows Day/Hour/Minute (i.e., a colon appears in the display), change the display by pushing the CHANGE button.



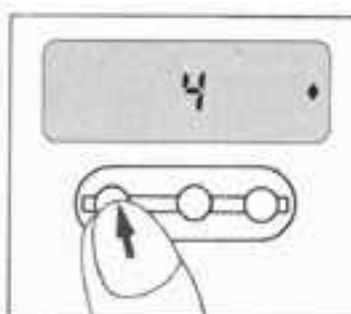
2. Push the SELECT button to activate the ADJUST mode for the year.



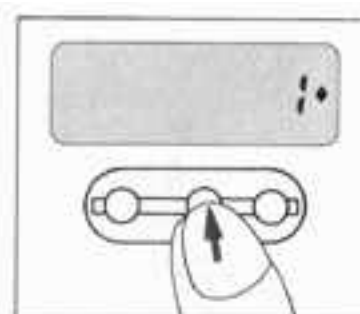
3. Set the year by pushing the ADJUST/R button until "82" appears in the display. (Note that continuous pushing advances the numbers in rapid succession.)



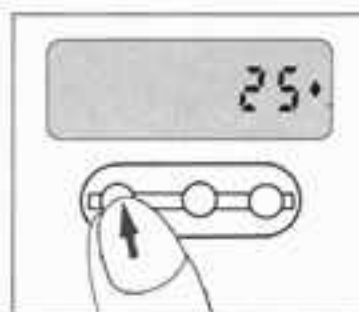
4. Set the month. Push the SELECT button again; this time the numerical indication for the month will appear.



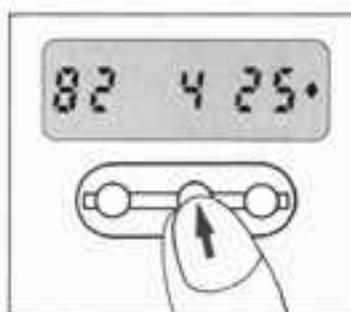
5. Push the ADJUST/R button until "4" (for April) appears in the display.



6. Set the day. After setting the month, push the SELECT button to activate the ADJUST mode for day.

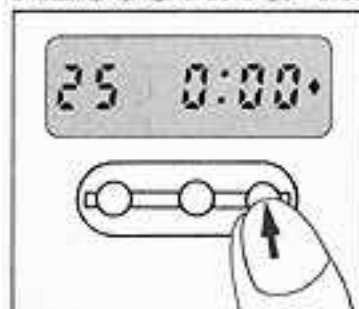


7. Push the ADJUST/R button, as before, until "25" appears in the display.

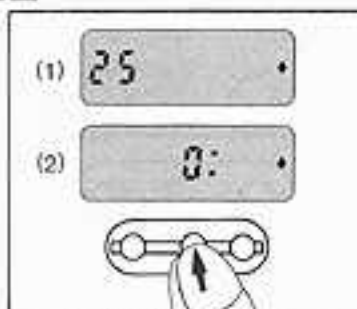


8. Push the SELECT button one more time. This cancels the ADJUST mode for day; the display should then read: **82 4 25**.

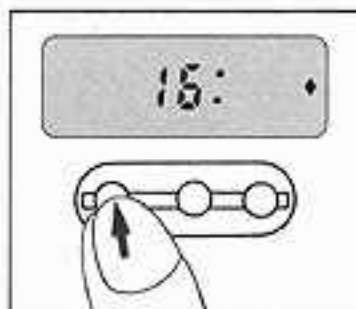
ADJUSTING TIME



1. Adjust time, taking 16:45* (i.e. 4:45 p.m.) as an example. Push the CHANGE button to switch the display to Day/Hour/Minute. (The existing time display may be more than 0:00 because the clock started working when the batteries were inserted.) You will note that the day ("25") set previously appears in the display which reads: 25 0:00 (give or take a few minutes).



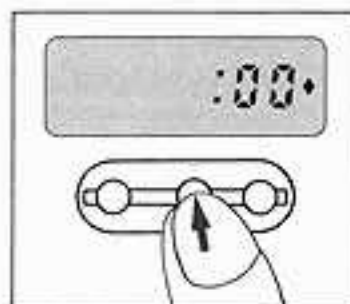
2. Push the SELECT button once to activate the ADJUST mode for the day (1); push it again to activate the ADJUST mode for the hour (2).



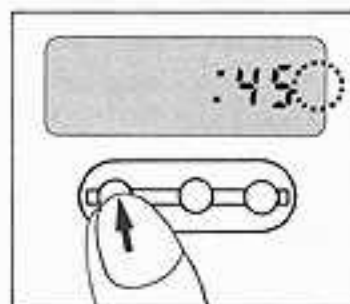
3. Set the hour to "16" by pushing the ADJUST/R button.

*The MF-12's built-in clock is the 24-hour type; hence 4:45 means AM, not PM.

Note: The CHANGE button cannot be used while the ADJUST mode is being applied.



4. Push the SELECT button to activate the ADJUST mode for the minute.



5. Push the ADJUST/R button to set the minute to "45."

Note: The 24-hour clock will keep time continuously as long as the batteries work. It "stops" counting only when you push the ADJUST/R button to set the minute. At this time, the blinking diamond disappears to show the clock has stopped functioning.



6. Push the SELECT button one more time and the display will read 25 16:45.

Note: To set the time to the precise second advance the time by one minute without first pressing the SELECT button. Precisely when the actual time coincides with the set time (i.e., at the tone of a radio/TV program), push the SELECT button and this will automatically complete the setting of the time.

SPECIAL USAGE

Instead of the Year/Month/Day or Day/Hour/Minute, you can use the MF-12 to imprint a one or two-digit number of your choice by pushing the ADJUST/R button. In the ADJUST mode for either hour or minute/second, the numerical indication for minute or hour is underlined.

Note: The built-in clock keeps time continuously. Thus, should you decide to use the minute indication for the number you enter, bear in mind that after the lapse of one minute, that number will change. Also, the number in the display will not be imprinted while the ADJUST/R button is being held down.

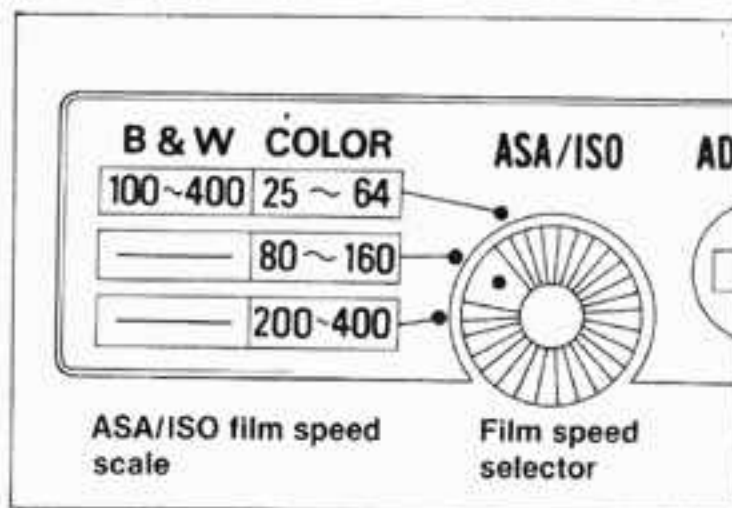
	Display	Data imprinted	Usable number
ADJUST mode for year	25	25	00~99
ADJUST mode for month	8	8	1~12
ADJUST mode for day	13	13	1~31
ADJUST mode for day	13	13	1~31
ADJUST mode for hour	22:	22	0~23
ADJUST mode for minute/second	:47	47	00~59

ADJUSTING FILM SPEED

Load the film and turn the MF-12's film speed selector until the white dot click-stops at the corresponding ASA/ISO indication in the ASA/ISO film speed scale.

Note:

- 1) Do not use films with ASA/ISO speeds not covered by the scale.
- 2) When using special films or using a technique for increasing or decreasing image density, make test shots first.
- 3) Make sure the MF-12's film speed selector clicks into the correct film speed setting, otherwise, erroneous results will occur.

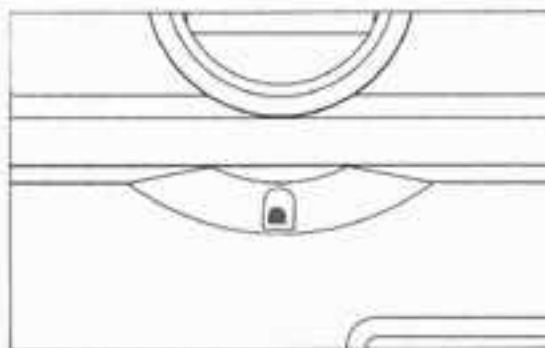


CHANGING BATTERIES

The life span of the batteries used with the MF-12 is approximately 2 years under conditions of normal use. If the MF-12's LED indicator is continuously lit, change both batteries; changing only one shortens the life span of both batteries.

Note:

- 1) In low temperatures of -10°C or below, the LED may light up continuously even if new batteries are used. Should this occur, turn off the LED to conserve battery power by pushing the ADJUST/R button. Batteries that temporarily "degenerate" due to low temperature can be used again as they recover their capacity when the temperature rises back to normal.
- 2) The MF-12 is programmed to show **80 1 1** in the display whenever batteries are replaced.

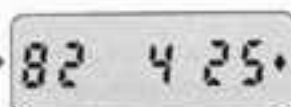


SHOOTING

To imprint data, turn the MF-12's data imprint ON/OFF switch to ON.



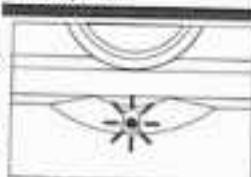
If data imprint is not necessary, make sure the MF-12's data imprint switch is on OFF.



Choose the type of data required for recording—Year/Month/Day or Day/Hour/Minute—by pushing the CHANGE button.



The diamond mark in the display is not imprinted.



The LED indicator flashes as the camera/shutter is released.

The diamond mark and colon in the display are not imprinted. Time data is underscored as shown in the illustration.



Note:

- 1) With color film, the data is imprinted in red; with B&W film, the data is imprinted in white. Accordingly, it may be difficult to read data imprinted on a red or white background.
- 2) To imprint data on a multiple-exposure picture, turn the data imprint switch to OFF after the first exposure.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY WITH FLASH UNIT

- For flash photography in conjunction with the MF-12, the use of Nikon electronic flash units with a hot-shoe contact is recommended. This type of unit is designed to match precisely the electronic circuitry of the MF-12. With non-Nikon flash units, the MF-12 may not operate properly or could even be damaged due to differences in the electronic circuitry.
- Make sure the data imprint switch is set to OFF when making flash test shots. If the switch is ON, data will be imprinted when the flash button of the flash unit is pushed. Also, to prevent accidental data imprinting, the data imprint switch should be OFF every time the sync cord is inserted or the flash unit is inserted into or removed from the hot shoe.

IMPORTANT

- Do not use cleaning fluids to clean the MF-12.
- Use a blower to remove accumulated dust in the three LEDs at the back of the MF-12.

ACCESSORIES

Battery Holder DB-3

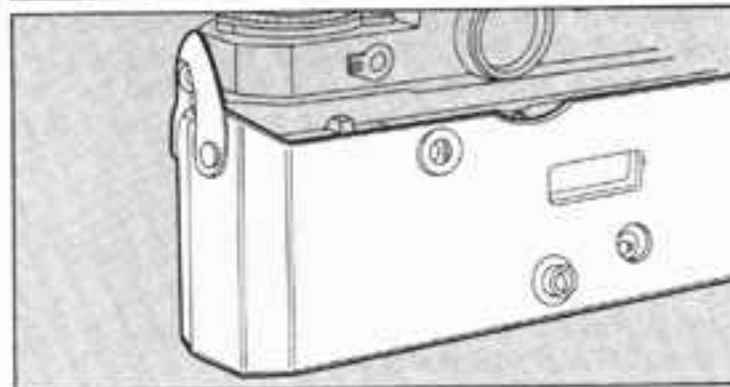
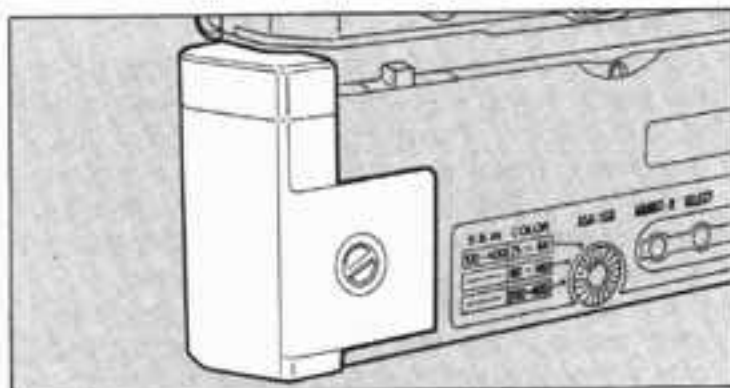
This optionally available holder accepts two 1.5V AAA-type batteries. Since the AAA-type battery has the advantage of big capacity over a silver-oxide battery, it can supply power beyond two years and is rather less affected by low temperature. To attach the DB-3 to the MF-12, remove the data back's battery chamber lid and, in its place, screw the DB-3 onto the screw hole in the chamber.

Camera Case Base Portion CF-15D

Also optionally available is the CF-15D. When used in place of the lower portion of the camera case of the FE/FM camera, the CF-15D can hold either camera with the MF-12 Data Back attached. This case has "windows" that let you see the MF-12's display and operate the data back as usual.

THE LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY (LCD)

- At high temperatures (approx. 60°C or above), the whole surface of the display will turn a black color, making it impossible to read the numerical information. When the temperature goes down, the display will return to normal.
- Avoid storing the MF-12 in excessively hot places, like inside the trunk of a car parked in the sun; doing so may shorten the LCD's life span.
- When the temperature drops below freezing point, the LCD display's response time naturally slows down; when it goes up again, the display works as before.
- Although the MF-12's LCD is of the highest quality, contrast may deteriorate and the display information may become difficult to see after six or seven years of normal use. Should this occur, please contact an authorized Nikon dealer or service facility to have the display replaced at a nominal charge.



SPECIFICATIONS

Usable cameras:	Nikon FE, Nikon FM	Data imprint check:	Red LED lamp at the upper center of the MF-12 blinks when data is imprinted
Attachment method:	Used in place of regular camera back	Data display:	By 7-segment, 6-digit LCD
Usable film speed settings:	ASA/ISO 100~400 for B&W films ASA/ISO 25~400 for color films	Power source:	Two 1.55V silver-oxide (SR-44 type) batteries; also, optionally available Battery Holder DB-3 holding two 1.5V AAA-type batteries
Film speed adjustment:	By 3-position, click-stopped dial	Battery life:	1.55V batteries —approx. 2 years (in normal temperatures) 1.5V AAA-type batteries with Battery Holder DB-3 —more than 2 years (in normal temperatures)
Data imprint type:	By 7-segment, 6-digit red LEDs; exposure time controlled by film speed selector		Built-in 24-hour type clock starts from 0:00, January 1, 1980, every time batteries are inserted
Imprint data:	Year/Month/Day, Day/Hour/Minute or any 1- or 2-digit number; automatically programmed until the year 2100 and adjusted for leap years	Clock:	Built-in, 24-hour type
Imprinted area:	Lower right-hand corner of picture frame	Timing accuracy:	Within ± 15 seconds a month (in normal temperatures)
Imprinted area size:	0.5mm (high) \times 6.6mm (width) when all 6 figures appear	Temperature:	$-10^{\circ}\text{C} \sim +40^{\circ}\text{C}$ in use; $-20^{\circ}\text{C} \sim +55^{\circ}\text{C}$ in storage
Data imprint decision:	By data imprint ON/OFF switch	Usable motor drive:	Nikon Motor Drive MD-11 and MD-12
Data adjustment:	By pushing ADJUST/R button; year, month, day, hour and minute are separately set	Dimensions (W \times H \times D):	Approx. 118mm \times 46mm \times 7mm
Imprint signal:	Through camera body sync terminal; data cannot be imprinted while the ADJUST/R button is being pushed	Weight:	Approx. 75g (without batteries)



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* **Credit:** Miss [Riza](#) (Marketing) & members of the Technical Service dept of [Shriro Malaysia](#), Distributor of Nikon cameras in Malaysia & Singapore, who provides so many useful input to make this site possible. Special thanks to Mr [MC Lau](#), who has helped with his images of the MF-12 databack.