



M7

Bedienungsanleitung / Instructions



1 Write to [mike@butkus.org](mailto:mike@butkus.org) for a copy of the entire manual.

# Contents

	Page	Page
CE-Notice.....	62	
Foreword.....	63	
Nomenclature.....	65	
Viewfinder displays.....	65	
Attaching the carrying strap.....	66	
The power supply.....	67	
Compatible batteries.....	67	
Loading and replacing the batteries.....	67	
Automatic battery check.....	68	
The main switch.....	69	
The shutter release button.....	69	
The shutter speed dial.....	70	
The quick-wind lever.....	71	
Exchanging the film.....	72	
Opening the camera.....	72	
Loading the film.....	73	
Closing the camera.....	73	
Advancing the film to the first frame.....	74	
Rewinding and removing the film.....	74	
Setting the film speed.....	75	
The following settings are possible.....	76	
Film speed displays in the viewfinder.....	76	
The set, displayed and used film speed.....	77	
Setting an exposure compensation.....	78	
Example of a compensation to plus.....	79	
Example of a compensation to minus.....	79	
Attaching a lens.....	80	
Removing a lens.....	80	
Leica M lens design.....	81	
The focusing ring.....	81	
The aperture ring.....	82	
The depth of field scale.....	83	
Lens hoods.....	84	
Use of older Leica M lenses.....	84	
How to hold the camera correctly.....	85	
The bright-line viewfinder.....	86	
The frame selector.....	88	
The rangefinder.....	90	
Coincidence of the image focusing.....	90	
Split-image focusing.....	90	
Exposure metering.....	92	
Switching on the exposure meter.....	92	
The exposure modes.....	93	
The aperture priority automatic exposure mode.....	93	
Metering memory-lock.....	94	
Setting the exposure manually.....	95	
The "B" setting.....	96	
Meter sensitivity.....	96	
Light levels below the measuring range.....	96	
Switching off the exposure meter.....	96	
Metering diagram.....	97/98/99	
Metering fields in the viewfinder.....	98/100/101	
General information on exposure metering.....	102	
Flash photography.....	104	
Compatible flash units.....	105	
Attaching and connecting the flash unit.....	106	
The TTL flash mode.....	106	
Settings for TTL flash mode.....	107	
Flash exposure displays in the viewfinder with the SF20 or compatible flash units with SCA 3502/3501 adapter.....	107	
Displays in TTL and automatic flash mode.....	107	
Displays in manual flash mode.....	108	
Synchronisation on the 2nd shutter curtain.....	109	
High Speed Synchronisation flash mode.....	111	
Strobe flash mode.....	112	
Flash LED displays in strobe mode.....	112	
System accessories for the LEICA M7.....	113	
Interchangeable lenses.....	113	
Filters.....	113	
Viewfinder.....	113	
Viewfinder magnifier.....	114	
Eyesight correction lenses.....	114	
LEICA MOTOR M.....	115	
Bags and cases.....	115	
Tips on maintenance of your Leica camera and lenses.....	116	
Alphabetical index.....	118	
Technical data.....	119	
Other Leica products.....	121	
Projectors.....	121	
Binoculars and spotting scopes.....	121	
Leica Academy.....	122	
Leica in the Internet.....	122	
Leica for the Service Centre.....	122	
Leica Service Centre.....	123	

[Write to mike@butkus.org](mailto:mike@butkus.org) for a copy  
 of the entire manual.

## The power supply

To control the shutter – apart from the two mechanical and therefore permanently available shutter speeds of 1/60s and 1/125s – and for exposure metering, the LEICA M7 requires two 3 volt DL 1/3N type lithium batteries. They are also necessary for the electrical triggering of a connected flash unit.

Lithium batteries can be stored for many years with only a slight loss of power. This is a particular advantage if the camera is often not used for long periods of time.

## Compatible batteries

- Lithium cells
- Duracell DL 1/3 N
- Kodak K 58 L
- Philips CR 1/3 N
- Ucar 2 L 76
- Varta CR 1/3 N

## Loading and replacing the batteries

1. Release the bayonet lock on the battery compartment cover (2) by turning it to the left (approx. 40° anti-clockwise) and remove it.
2. Wipe any oxidation residue from the batteries using a clean cloth.
3. Insert the first battery into the battery compartment with the minus pole pointing upwards (corresponds to the markings in the battery compartment) and push it upwards. Then insert the second battery in the same



position in the remaining section of the compartment.

**Note:** To allow easy removal, the contact spring presses the lower battery slightly towards the cover. The final position of the batteries is only ensured by replacing the cover.

4. Replace the cover against the spring pressure and lock it into place by turning it to the right until you feel it click into place.
5. To remove the batteries, carry out these steps in reverse. The upper battery will slide downwards by itself when the camera body is in a vertical position. To assist this, you can lightly tap the camera on your hand.

Write to [mike@butkus.org](mailto:mike@butkus.org) for a copy of the entire manual.



metering based on estimation or using an external hand exposure meter.

**Note:** The electrical circuit can be broken by oxidation of the battery surfaces; this will also cause the LEDs to go out. In this case, remove the batteries and clean them with a clean cloth. If necessary, also clean the contacts inside the camera.

### **Important!**

- New and used batteries, or batteries of different types or from different manufacturers, should not be used together.
- The battery contacts must be kept clean.
- Batteries should not be incinerated, recharged, opened, dismantled or heated.
- Used batteries should be removed as soon as possible and should not be disposed of in normal waste, as they contain substances harmful to the environment.
- To ensure that they are properly recycled, you should take the batteries to a dealer or recycling point.
- Batteries should be stored in a cool dry place.

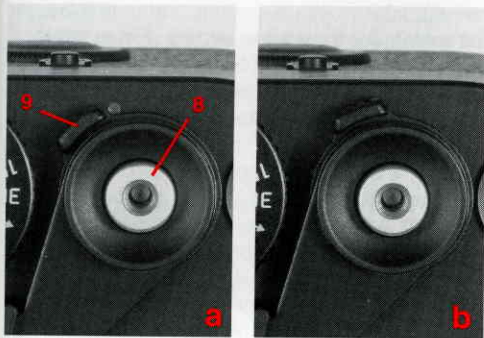
At room temperature and measurements of 10s per exposure, a new set of batteries should last for approximately 65 36-exposure films, or 2340 exposures.

### **Automatic battery check**

If the decimal display LEDs or the light balance flash when exposure metering is activated, the batteries should be replaced. If the batteries do not have sufficient power for the electronically controlled functions of the camera (exposure metering and the electronic shutter speeds), "bc" lights up or the displays disappear altogether.

In these cases, you can continue to use the camera with the two mechanical shutter speeds of 1/60s and 1/125s available and exposure

**Write to [mike@butkus.org](mailto:mike@butkus.org) for a copy of the entire manual.**



### The main switch

The main switch (9), designed as a click-stop lever, is on the front underneath the shutter release button (8). To turn on the camera, move the lever to the right, to cover the red marking (b). In its idle position, i.e. when it is to the left and the red marking is visible (a), it turns off the camera

electronics and, at the same time, mechanically blocks the shutter release to prevent accidental exposures.

If the shutter is cocked when turning on, the exposure meter is also activated. Initially, the film speed is displayed on the viewfinder for approx. 2s (depending on the setting, for more details see the section "Film speed displays in the view-

finder" on P. 76). The display then changes and the exposure meter results light up for 14s. If the shutter is not cocked when turning on, there is no display.

In manual mode the shutter can be released immediately after the main switch is turned on; when set to aperture priority mode you must wait approx. 2s (until the film speed display has gone out).

**Note:** If the camera is being transported in a bag, for example, or will not be used for a long period, it should be turned off at the main switch.

### The shutter release button

The shutter release button (8) has two pressure levels. Pressing it down lightly to the first pressure point activates exposure metering if the shutter is cocked. After the shutter release button is released, the metering system and the display in the viewfinder remain active for approx. another 14s (for more details see the sections under "Exposure metering" on P. 92).

With the aperture priority mode, pressing down to the 2nd pressure point locks the metered exposure value, i.e. the shutter speed determined by the camera (for more details see the section "Aperture priority mode" on P. 24). Going past the 2nd pressure point releases the shutter.

Write to [mike@butkus.org](mailto:mike@butkus.org) for a copy of the entire manual.