

# Yashicamat M

Posted 9-20-03

This camera manual library is for reference and historical purposes,  
all rights reserved.

This page is copyright © by [mike@butkus.org](mailto:mike@butkus.org), M. Butkus, NJ.

This page may not be sold or distributed without  
the expressed permission of the producer

I have no connection with any camera company. On-line camera manual library

[Back to main on-line manual page](#)

If you find this manual useful, how about a donation of \$3 to:

M. Butkus, 29 Lake Ave., High Bridge, NJ 08829-1701  
and send your e-mail address so I can thank you.

Most other places would charge you \$7.50 for a electronic copy  
or \$18.00 for a hard to read Xerox copy.

This will help me to continue to host this site,  
buy new manuals, and pay their shipping costs.

It'll make you feel better, won't it?

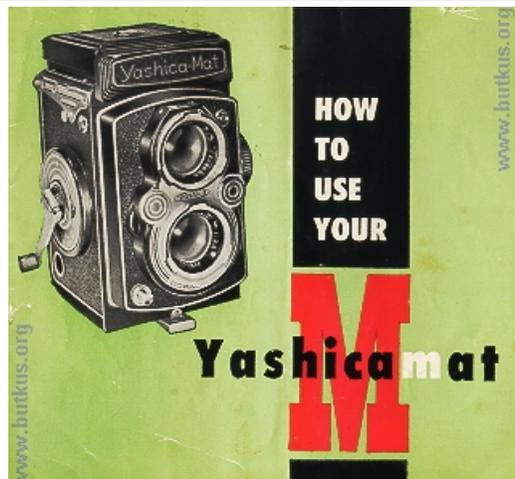
If you use Pay Pal, use the link below.

Use the above address for a check, M.O. or cash.



<https://www.PayPal.me/butkus>

Venmo @mike-butkus-camera



# Description of Yashica

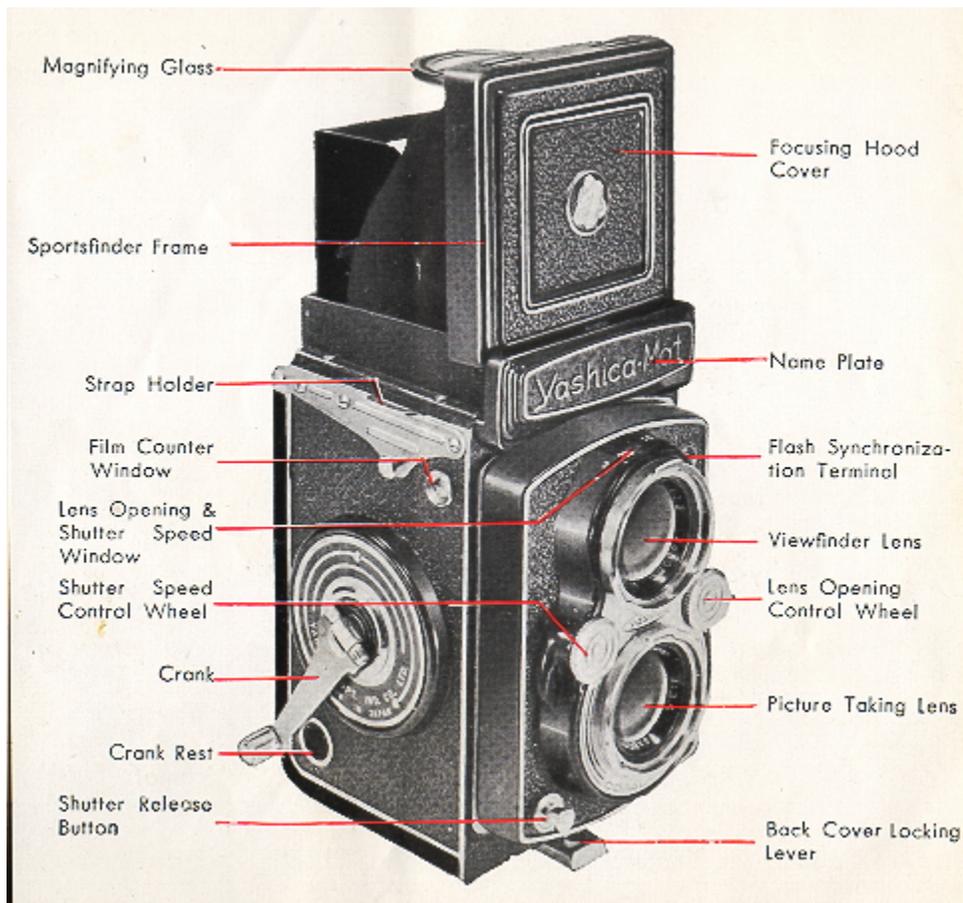
## THIS IS YOUR YASHICAMAT

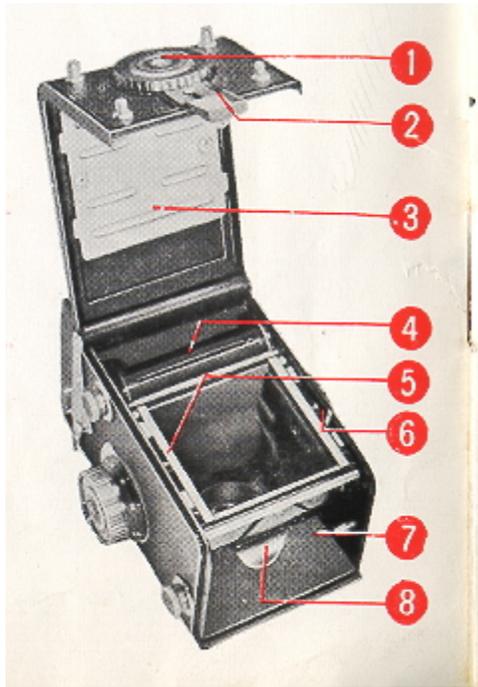
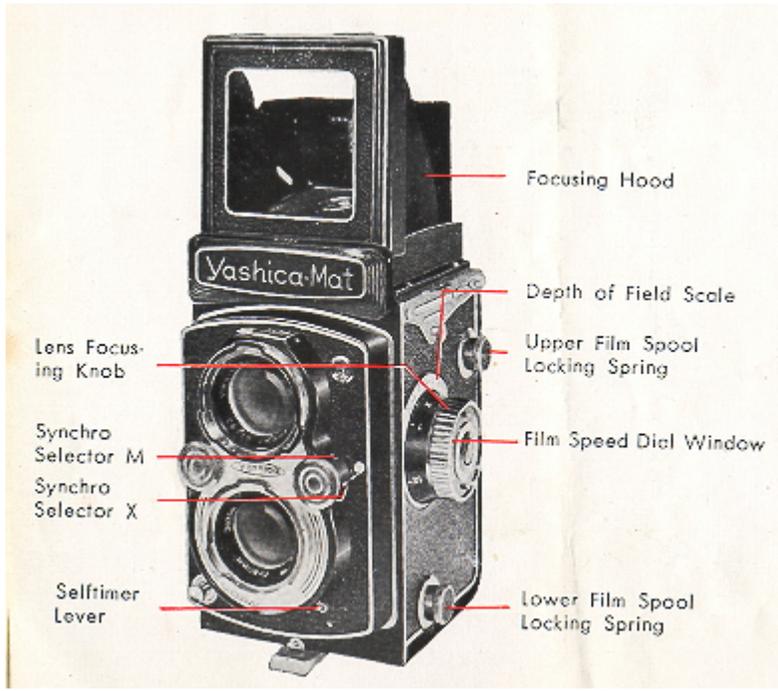
A precision instrument capable of bringing you some of the finest photographs you've ever taken. Please read the following pages carefully. Follow the easy, step-by-step recommendations.

To fully exploit all the advantages of your Yashicamat

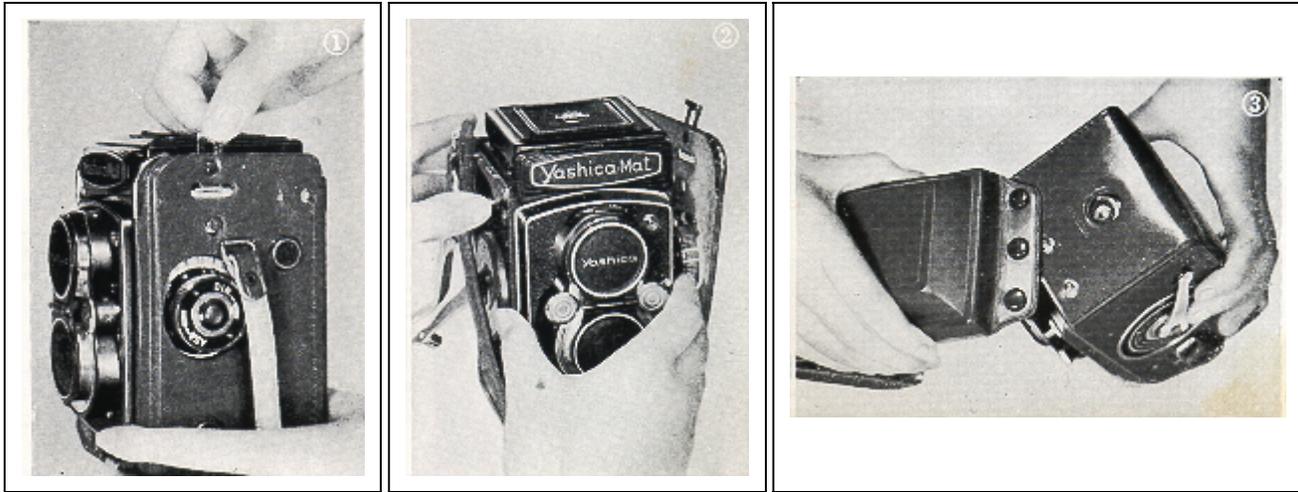
To take better pictures with more confidence

To maintain the flawless operate the camera.





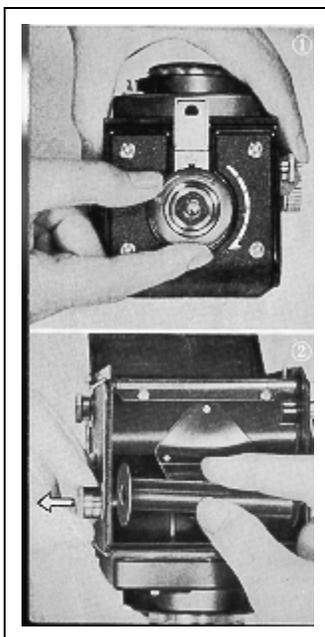
## REMOVING THE CAMERA FROM THE CASE



Just snap off the bottom when removing the entire front element of the carrying case. To remove the camera for film loading raise the two metal Lock Slides. Spread the sides of the case apart and lift the camera free.

Your Yashica camera comes complete with a deluxe, leather eveready case. While the camera is in the case, all working parts are visible and ready to use. All you need to do is open the back-snap and lift the top of the case forward.

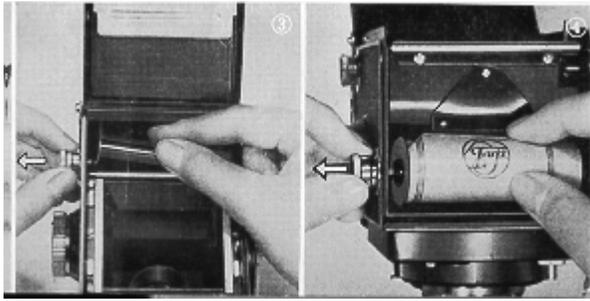
## LOADING THE FILM



120 size film, 12 pictures per roll, in the popular 2 1/4 X 2 1/4 size. Black-and-White or Color

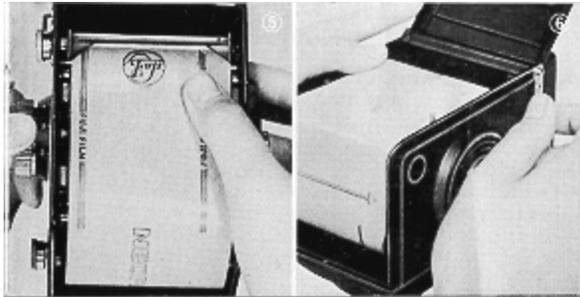
(1) To unlock back cover, turn the tripod socket in the direction marked 'O'. Then open the Back Cover by swinging it out.

(2) Remove the Take-Up Spool in the Lower Film Chamber by pulling out the lower Film Spool Locking Spring.



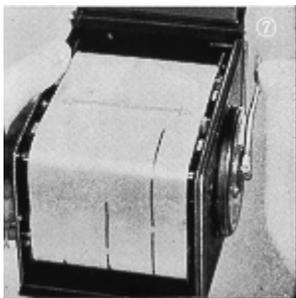
(3) Place the Take-Up Spool in the Upper Film Chamber by pulling out the Upper Film Spool Locking Spring.

(4) Place a new roll of size 120 film in the Lower Film Chamber.



(5) Flip up the Film Transport Crank and slowly wind it clockwise so that the wider slot of the Take-up Spool in the Upper Film Chamber faces upward. Then gently draw out the film leader and thread it firmly and evenly into the slot.

(6) Gently wind the Crank clockwise.



(7) Advance the film by slowly winding the Crank until the arrow on the film points to the triangles on either side of the camera body.

(8) Close the camera back cover and lock it by turning the Tripod-Socket in the direction marked 'C'. The letter 'S' will appear in the Film Counter Window.

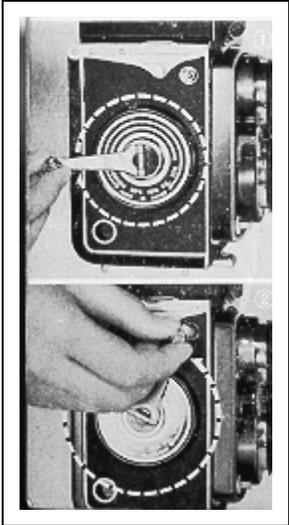
The Yashicamat transport employs a fine, precision mechanism, constructed to provide years of trouble-free performance.

Like any fine instrument it should be treated with care and respect.

The following are recommended:

a. Operate the film transport crank gently. It is important that the clockwise, film-advancing stroke of the crank be first completed before it is brought back.

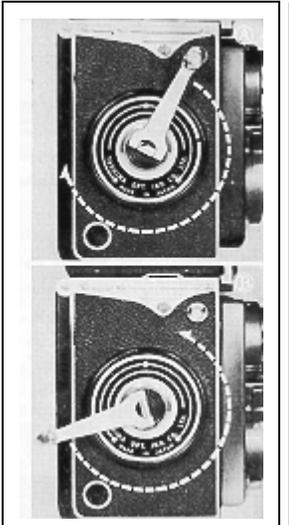
b. In loading the film, be sure that the paper leader is inserted in the take-up spool so that the film will crowd evenly.



(1) Wind the crank clockwise until it comes to a stop. The letter 'S' will have disappeared and No. 1 will appear in the Film Counter Window.

(2) Then wind the Crank counter-clockwise until it stops. You are ready to Snap your first picture.

For subsequent exposures a smooth pendulum swing, first downward to stop and then upward to stop, advance the film and winds the shutter simultaneously.



(A) The downward wind advances the film and moves up the number of the next film in the Film Counter Window.

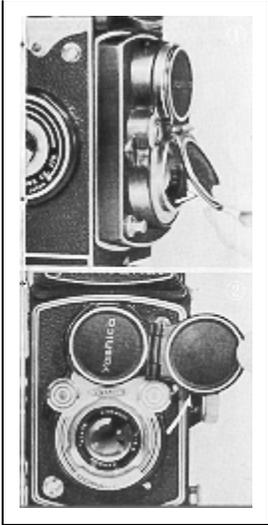
(B) The upward-wind activates the shutter.

(C) The position of the Crank when it is flipped back into its rest after your pictures have been taken.



The shutter should not be kept wound when not in use because it weakens the shutter spring, and there is the possibility you may unknowingly press the shutter button and waste a film.

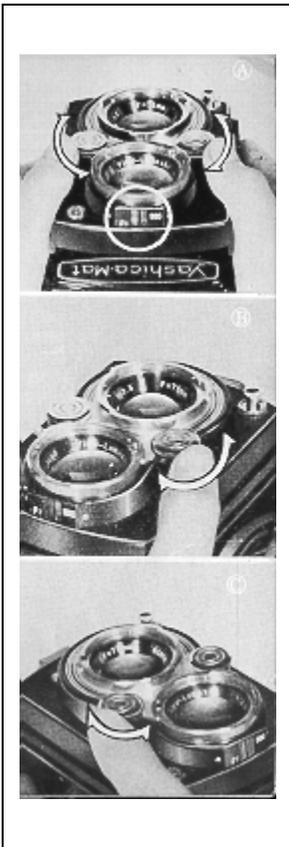
## TO REMOVE THE LENS CAP



Raise the lower cap and fold back on its hinge.

Turn the upper cap counter clockwise and remove.

## LENS OPENING AND SHUTTER SPEED



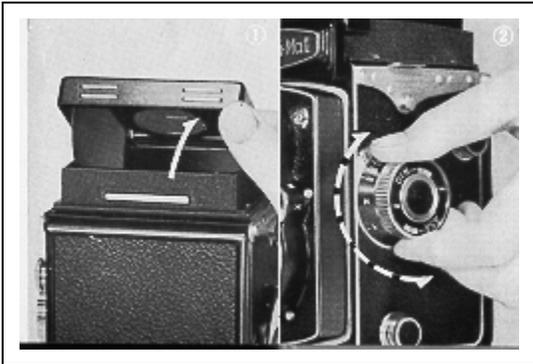
(A) The arrow points to the Lens Opening and Shutter Speed Scale Window. The letter 'f' on the left of the window indicates lens opening and 'see' indicates shutter speed.

(B) The shutter speed is set by turning the Control Wheel with your right-hoed thumb either up or down as indicated by the arrow. The red shutter speed figures should be set so that the red line in the window runs exactly through the center of the figures.

(C) The lens opening is set by turning the Control Wheel with your left-hand thumb either up or down as indicated by the arrow. The block lens opening figures should be set so that the red line in the window runs exactly through the center of the figures.

The correct combination of lens opening (aperture) and shutter speed (exposure) is imperative to obtain a good picture For details see Pages 10 and 11.

## SIGHTING THE SUBJECT AND FOCUSING



Your Yashicamat is a twin-lens reflex camera. The lower lens takes the picture. The upper lens is for focusing and composing on the ground glass viewing screen.

(1) Open the focusing hood by lifting it at the back.

(2) Rotate the Focusing Knob until your subject on the ground glass screen is sharp. The bright round lens in the center of the ground glass viewing screen enables you to obtain a sharp focus and should be the center of the picture you are composing on the screen. The red lines on the screen help you to judge proportion and proper composition. Compose your subject on the ground glass as you would like to see it in the final picture.

### MAGNIFYING GLASS - Assures more accurate focusing



(A) Raise the Magnifying Glass by pressing the front of the Focusing Hood Cover inward, holding the Focusing Hood so that it does not close.

When using the Magnifying Glass, place your eye as close to the Magnifying Glass as possible.

(B) Always make sure that you have first lowered the Magnifying Glass before closing the Focusing Hood

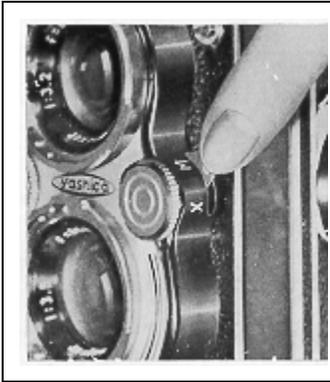
Sight your Subject through the Sports Finder Window.

(A) Depress the Focusing Hood Cover until it clicks into place. Lift the Yashica to your eye level.

(B) Push the Release Button to closing the Hood cover.

## TAKING FLASH PICTURES

### Your Yashicamat offers M-X synchronization



Correct exposures for flash pictures will be obtained easily and correctly by consulting the guide numbers printed on the package of the flash bulbs.

When taking color flash pictures you may need filters or have to use proper bulbs according to the type of films (Daylight or Tungsten) you are using.

## FLASH PICTURES

Your camera dealer will be glad to supply the proper flash attachment for your camera.

As you become more proficient at taking pictures, you will want to acquire accessories that increase the versatility of your YashicaMat. One of the first accessories you will want will be a flash unit.

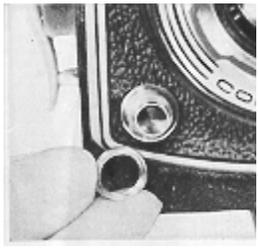
Your Yashica is ready and waiting. Synchronization for flash is built-in. A standard PC connector plugs into the flash terminal. The battery case is attached to the camera via an arm that screws into the tripod socket.

Selector Position	M	X	X
Bulb used	Medium Peak	Short Peak	Medium Peak
Shutter Speed	Any Speed	1/60 or slower	1/30 or slower when using self timer

**Do not use short Peak Bulb with "M" M' Synchronization.  
Move the selector to X position when using Electronic Flash**

**There are hand bracket flash units you can purchase. The flash has a bracket to hold the camera and a cord coming from the flash unit to the sync plug on the camera. They are more expensive than a hot shoe flash.**

## Cable Release



A standard, overlap-type Cable Release can be fitted to your Yashica. Simply unscrew the Shutter Release Ring and Screw in the Cable Release. Your camera dealer will supply the proper Cable Release for your camera. See left Picture.

## SELF-TIMER



For taking self-portraits or group pictures, you have about 8 seconds to get into the picture. Therefore your camera must be mounted on a tripod or brace to prevent a blurred picture.

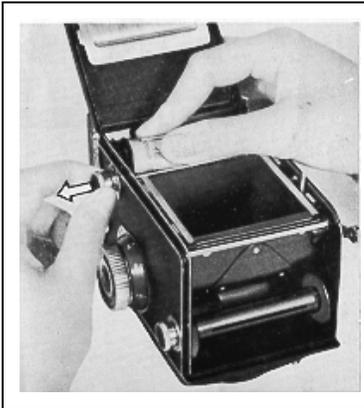
**Caution! Be sure to move the synch selector to the X position when using Self-timer.**

## ASA SPEED INDICATOR



The ASA speed dial on the focusing knob is to keep record of your film speed. Turn dial to your film speed number. Since the camera has no meter, this is just to remind you what film you have in the camera.

## UNLOADING THE FILM



After all 12 pictures have been taken, wind the Film Transport Crank about 6 times to take up the remaining film. Some times the crank may catch when the film comes to the end of the spool. In that case don't forcefully turn the crank; just open the camera and remove the film. The tail end of the film has stuck to the slot of the spool.

In addition to focusing, there are two other basic adjustments on any fine camera the LENS APERTURE or OPENING and the SHUTTER SPEED.

### THE LENS OPENING

The lens opening controls the amount of light that will pass through the lens onto the light sensitive film. Your Yashicamat, with its Yashinon lens, offers openings at f 3.5, 4, 5.6, 8, 11, 16, 22.

Notice that the lower the number, the larger the opening. F 3.5 is the largest opening, f 22 the smallest.

To set the lens opening, move the Aperture Control Wheel to the desired number on the Aperture Scale.

### SHUTTER SPEED

The Shutter Speed controls the duration of the exposure. Shutter speeds on this camera with its fine Copal Shutter are 1, 1/2 1/4 1/8, 1/15, 1/30, 1/60, 1/125, 1/250, 1/500 of a second and B. The 'B' setting is for taking pictures with an exposure longer than 1 second. Use a Tripod or Brace when using B. When you press the Shutter Release Button on the 'B' setting the shutter stays open until you release pressure on the button. It is advisable to set the shutter speed before you wind the shutter at all times.

Camera may be Hand Held		Use a Tripod or Brace	
Average Pictures	Action Pictures	Time Exposure	Slow speeds
1/30 1/60 1/125	1/250 1/500	'B'	1 sec 1, 2 1/4 1/8 1/15

### EXPOSURE

Exposure means finding the right combination of lens-opening (aperture) and shutter speed in relation to the sensitivity (ASA) of your film. (ASA) indicates American Standard Association. For example, if you are using a film of ASA 200 (TRI-X type) sensitivity your correct exposure will be according to the following table

### DAYLIGHT EXPOSURE TABLE

Your shutter speed will be 1/125 with aperture numbers shown below.

Bright Sun	Hazy Sun	Cloudy-Bright	Cloudy-Dull or Open Shade (4)	
Light Subject (1)	f/32	f/22	f/16	f/11
Average Subjects (2)	f/22	f/16	f/11	f/8
Dark Subject (3)	f/16	f/11	f/8	f/5.6

(1) Light Subjects: Distant landscapes, near-by people with sea, beach and snow scene. in the background.

(2) Average Subjects: Near-by people, houses, gardens, buildings and places not in the shade. Advisable to use this class when light and dark objects are in about equal proportions.

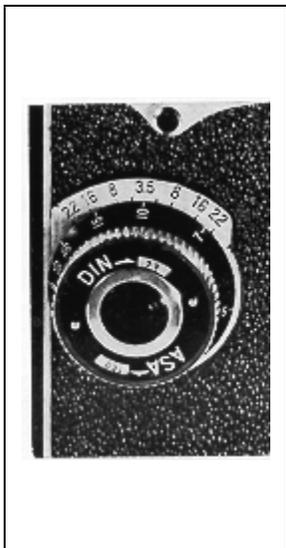
(3) Dark Subjects: People in cork clothing: trees, flowers, animals and large buildings,

(4) Open Shade: Subjects shaded from the sun but lighted by a wide area of open sky. The less the open sky the larger the lens opening.

If you are using on ASA 100 film, you will make a larger lens-opening or lower your shutter speed (1/ 60)

But if you never want to make a mistake, use an exposure meter. Be sure to consult your local camera dealer.

## DEPTH-OF-FIELD



When you focus the camera a subject there is is certain distance in front and back back of subject within which other objects will also appear sharp. This is known as the " Depth-of-Field", and it varies with the lens aperture. The smaller the aperture the greater the Depth-of-Field; it is much larger at f 22 than at f: 3.5.

At the focusing knob is a scale which will indicate the Depth-of-Field when the camera is focused at various distances. You will notice that an either side of the f :3.5 figure is a of numbers which represent lens apertures. When the camera is focused on your subject look for the aperture you are using on either side of the scale to determine the Depth-of-Field. Thus, if the camera is focused at 10 feet and the lens aperture is f/8 the Depth-of-Field (area in which all objects are sharp) is from about 8 to 13 ft.

You can also use the depth-of-field score to use your Yashica as a fixed-focus camera. In this case set the infinity mark on the distance scale opposite the lens aperture being used. If the aperture is f: 8 you will notice that all objects from about 25 feet to infinity will be sharp.

## REVIEW:

- Select your exposure combination
- Set the lens opening aperture)
- Set the shutter speed

- d. Wind the crank downward to advance the film
- e. Wind the crank upward to wind the shutter
- f. Compose (on the ground glass or through the sports finder)
- g. Take the picture
- h. Replace the crank in its Rest

## **FILTERS**

Your Yashicamat accepts sunshades and filter's adapter rings in convenient Bayonet mounts that readily fasten to the 'taking' lens. A complete range of filters and supplementary lenses are available in the popular Series V size Bay mm 30.4

Initially, you will find a yellow filter ideal for bringing out clouds in landscape pictures and for general uses. As you become more advanced, you may want to use various filters, such as orange, green, etc. for different effects. Your camera dealer will give you complete information.

## **Notice!**

Be sure to replace the lens Cap when your camera is not in use. Keep your camera away from dust and moisture. For cleaning the lens surface to remove dust or dirt, always wipe very lightly by using clean gauze or lens cleaning cloth. Do not wipe the lens with a dirty handkerchief. When you are not using your camera for a long period do not leave the shutter set.