



Argus

argoflex

MODEL E



**INSTRUCTION
BOOK**

YOUR ARGOFLEX CAMERA

Your Argoflex camera is a precision instrument of All-American manufacture. It is known as a twin-lens reflex camera because it is equipped with two identical lenses, one used as a view finder and focusing lens, the other for actual picture taking.

The two f4.5 Varex lenses with which your Model E Argus is equipped are three element Anastigmat lenses of 75 mm. focal length. Both the focusing and the taking lenses are identical and are accurately compounded of a number of pieces of optical glass correctly chosen and combined to produce crisp sharp negatives. The use of identical lenses for both focusing and taking assures Argoflex owners of critically exact focus. Color correction is achieved in the Varex lenses by exact computation and accurate grinding which assures a precision built piece of optical equipment.

All Argus lenses are manufactured by well-known American lens manufacturers and their speed ratings, expressed in "f" values, are accurate and guaranteed.

Although your Argoflex camera is ruggedly built to stand years of hard service, it must be treated with the same care as any other high quality precision instrument. Never attempt any repairs yourself and never oil the camera mechanism. The delicate adjustments in any camera demand an experienced repair man for the work, and can be most satisfactorily done in our own Service Department. (See guarantee and service policy on back of this book.)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Load the camera as shown on pages 12 and 13.
2. Open focusing hood by releasing catch No. 8, Figure 1.
3. Set shutter speed adjustment No. 5 and lens opening No. 12.
4. Focus by turning knurled ring No. 11.
5. Make exposure by pressing shutter release lever No. 6, **SLOWLY**, don't "jab".
6. Advance the film after each exposure.

IMPORTANT

If you are accustomed to using a candid type camera, the above brief instructions will suffice. It is strongly recommended, however, that the experienced amateur as well as the beginner read the step by step instructions which are given on the following pages.

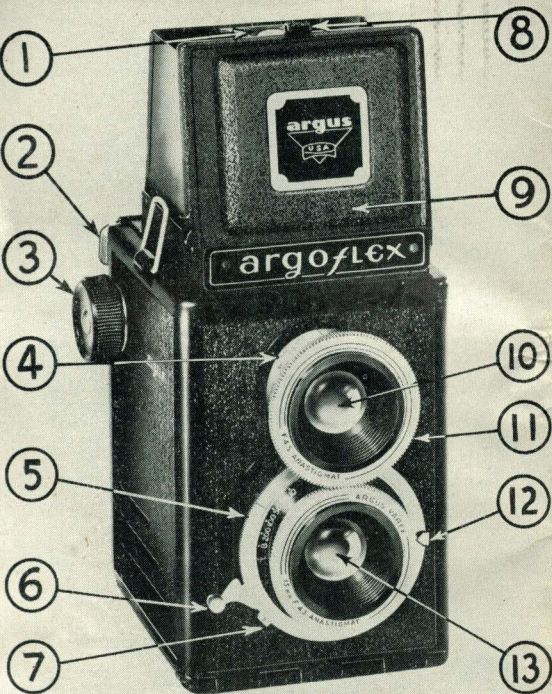


FIGURE 1

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Magnifying Glass | 7. Cable Release Socket |
| 2. Back Release Catch | 8. Hood Release Catch |
| 3. Film Winding Knob | 9. Direct Vision Finder |
| 4. Depth of Focus Scale | 10. Focusing Lens |
| 5. Shutter Speed Adjustment | 11. Focusing Ring |
| 6. Shutter Release Lever | 12. Stop Lever |
| | 13. Taking Lens |

LET'S PRACTICE FIRST

A few moments spent with your *empty* Argoflex camera and this instruction book will repay you many times over in improved pictures.

Follow the instructions carefully and deliberately, going through each motion just as though you were making a picture. Practice making imaginary pictures until you have thoroughly mastered the operation of each part of the camera.

When you have done this, the operation of the camera becomes more or less automatic and more time and thought may be devoted to lighting conditions, exposures, composition and many other factors which go to make up a satisfactory picture.

Exploring Your Camera— Hold the camera with the lens facing you, and refer to Fig. 1. The upper lens (10) is the focusing lens and reflects its image by means of a mirror on to the ground glass in the focusing hood. The lower lens (13) is the actual camera lens which takes the picture.

On the lower lens are two adjustments. The shutter speed adjustment (5) gives you your selection of five shutter speeds from 1/10 to 1/200 of a second by revolving the outer ring until the scored mark rests opposite the shutter speed required. The aperture or lens opening is adjusted by moving the pointer (12) along the scale ranging from f4.5 to f18.

To better understand the operation of this very important part of your camera, set the

shutter speed adjustment (5) at 1/10 of a second and open the back of the camera by depressing the two catches (2) at the top of the camera with the thumb and forefinger.

Point the lens toward a bright source of light and press the shutter release lever (6) several times while varying the shutter speed dial from 1/10 to 1/200. Notice the smooth action of the shutter mechanism.

Now set the shutter speed dial (5) to "B" or bulb exposure. Notice now that when you press the lever (6) the shutter remains open until you remove your finger. By setting the dial at "T" or time exposure, the shutter will open when pressed the first time and close when pressed the second time. Try this several times and then leave the shutter open while you practice using the diaphragm or lens opening adjustment, commonly referred to as "stop-lever."

With the shutter open and the lens pointed toward a light, move the stop lever (12) from f4.5 to f18 and back again. Notice how the diaphragm closes and lets in less light through the lens at each successively higher stop number.

This adjustment, together with your shutter speed adjustment, enables you to adapt your camera to various kinds of light conditions as well as to subjects with varying degrees of motion.

For suggested shutter speeds and stop-lever settings using Verichrome or Plenachrome film out of doors, consult the table, Fig. 12.

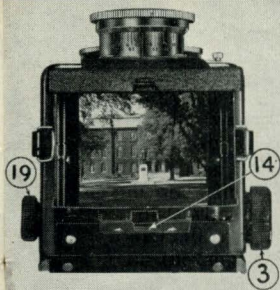


FIGURE 2

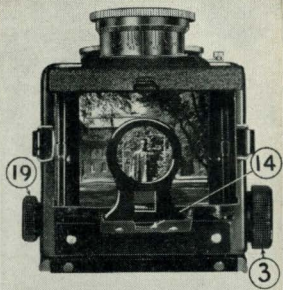


FIGURE 3

Making Practice Exposures— Now slip the thumb nail under the hood release catch (8) allowing the entire hood to snap into position. This hood contains both the ground glass and the direct view finder. You will use the ground glass or reflex finder most often, so let's investigate it first. Hold the camera as shown in Fig. 5, looking down into the hood, and pointing your camera at any well lighted object, you will see that this object appears on the ground glass finder as shown in Fig. 2. This image is the same size as that included on the film and will look exactly like your finished print.

FIGURE 4

FIGURE 5

FIGURE 6



To fold down the reflex hood for carrying, first be sure that the magnifying glass is in the "down" position. Then fold the right and left hood wings down, followed by the rear hood plate. The front hood plate then folds into place and holds the entire hood in position.

Time and Bulb Exposures—For taking time exposure with either the "T" or "B" settings of the shutter, your camera must be placed on a firm support such as a tripod or table. The tripod socket (20), Fig. 11 and supporting feet are built into the Argus camera for this purpose. To avoid jarring the camera during exposure longer than $1/25$ of a second, a cable release may be used. It may be screwed into the cable release socket (7) Fig. 1 and the shutter operated without touching the camera itself.

Close-Up Pictures—For taking pictures at distances closer than eight feet, extra precautions are required. In any camera, the finder and lens itself do not "see" or cover quite the same area, due to the slight difference in position of the two lenses. At distances beyond eight feet, no correction need be made for this error, but on extreme close-ups, the image on the ground glass or in the direct view finder must be kept at least a quarter of an inch from the top edge of the finder. Allowing this margin will prevent the cutting off of heads or other parts of the subject in the finished print.

The Distance and Depth of Focus Scale

The Argoflex is equipped with a distance scale (15) Fig. 7 and a depth of field scale (16) Fig. 7. The distance scale is for use when you wish to estimate the distance between the camera and the subject and set the lens accordingly. This is done by turning the dial (11) until the desired footage is opposite the center mark (17).

The depth of field or depth of focus scale is to indicate what objects in your picture are sharp from front to rear.

For example, if you were making a picture of a group of people which measured in depth five feet from the front row to the back row, and you desired the faces in the front row to be as sharp as those in the back, you can by referring to the depth of field table, determine what lens opening you must use to be certain of a sharp, clear picture.

As shown in Fig. 7, at a distance of seven feet with the lens wide open, the picture would be sharp from a point six feet beyond the camera to a point a little less than eight feet beyond the camera. If the closest object to the camera which you desire to have sharp was five feet and the farthest one about ten feet away and you wanted both of them sharp in the picture, it would be necessary to set the lens opening at 12.7.

This depth of field scale will prove very helpful and until you have thoroughly mastered it, it would be well to keep a record of the stop openings used in the

various pictures and compare them with your finished prints.

LOADING YOUR CAMERA

After you have followed the foregoing instructions carefully, you are ready to load your camera with film.

The Argoflex is designed to take either the Eastman 120 or 620, or the Agfa B2 or PB20 film. These sizes are standard and are easily obtainable. *Make sure that the film you buy is centermarked for 12 exposures.* (Your Argus camera makes 12 $2\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ inch pictures on a standard eight exposure roll). There is a wide selection of film speeds available in this size, ranging from the fine grain Eastman Panatomic X or Agfa Finopan film up to the Eastman Plus X or Agfa Superpan Supreme Film. For indoor use or where high shutter speeds are required outdoors, Eastman Super XX or Agfa Ultra-Speed Panchromatic Film are recommended. For normal outdoor use, and particularly

for beginners, Eastman Verichrome or Agfa Plenachrome film will be found most satisfactory. (The exposure table furnished in this booklet is designed for use with Plenachrome or Verichrome film).

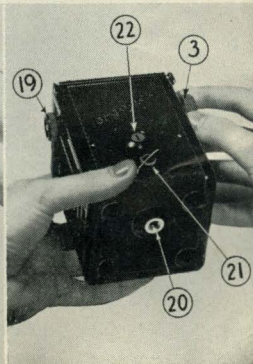
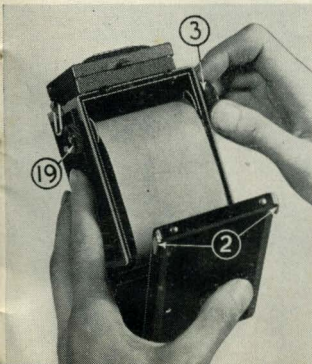
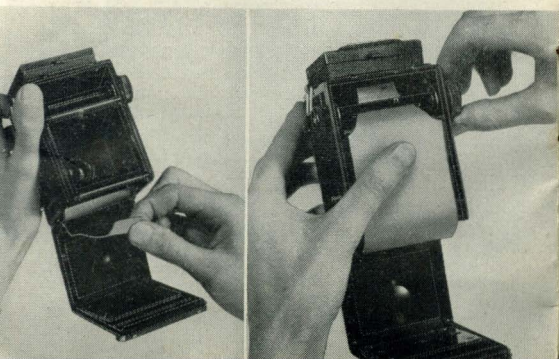
Always load your camera in subdued light. Open the back of the camera by depressing the two releases (2) and pulling outward on the back. With the camera open, be sure that the empty film spool is in the top compartment. If it is not, insert it there by pulling outward on the film winding knob No. 3, giving it a quarter of a turn to lock it in the "out" position. With the left hand, pull out on the spool retaining knob (19) and while holding it, insert the spool with the slotted end to the right. Release the spool retaining knob, allowing it to snap back into position, and turn the film winding knob (3) another quarter of a turn allowing it to snap back into position. Be sure that it returns completely to its original position. Turn the empty film spool

FIGURE 8

FIGURE 9

FIGURE 10

FIGURE 11



until the slot is up. Proceed to load the camera by inserting the full roll of film in the bottom compartment, as shown in Figure 8.

Grasp the end of the film as shown in Figure 8, pull the film up and across the two rollers and insert the end of the film in the slot of the upper spool, Figure 9. Give the film winding knob (3) one or two turns as shown in Figure 10 to make sure the film is secured to the spool.

Snap the back of the camera shut making certain that it is securely locked. Depress the film window flap (21) and holding it open as shown in Figure 11, begin winding until the warning dots or hands on the back of the film begin to appear in the film window (22). Wind slowly and carefully until the No. 1 appears in the film window. Remove the thumb from the film window flap knob (21) allowing it to snap into closed position. You are now ready to make your first exposure, after which the winding procedure should be repeated, turning slowly until the No. 2 appears in the film window. Develop the habit of immediately winding the film after each exposure, in order to prevent double exposure. Remember also that your film will give you twelve exposures on an eight exposure roll.

When you have taken all twelve pictures, continue to wind the film until the paper trailer is completely wound on to the upper spool. The exposed film may be removed from the camera as described above.

			Before		10 A.M. to 2 P.M.	
			Shutter Speed	Stop	Shutter Speed	Stop
1/75 second shutter speed may be had by setting the shutter speed dial mid-between 1/50 and 1/100			1/50	f:6.3	1/25	f:12.7
			1/25	f:6.3	1/50	f:6.3
			1/25	f:4.5	1/25	f:6.3
			1/50	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
			1/25	f:4.5	1/50	f:4.5
			1/10	f:4.5	1/25	f:4.5
Shaded Locations	Summer	Clear	1/50	f:6.3	1/100	f:6.3
		Overcast	1/75	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
		Very Dull	1/50	f:4.5	1/75	f:4.5
	Winter	Clear	1/50	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
		Overcast	1/25	f:4.5	1/50	f:4.5
		Very Dull	1/10	f:4.5	1/25	f:4.5
Portraits	Summer	Clear	1/50	f:6.3	1/100	f:6.3
		Overcast	1/75	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
		Very Dull	1/50	f:4.5	1/75	f:4.5
	Winter	Clear	1/50	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
		Overcast	1/25	f:4.5	1/50	f:4.5
		Very Dull	1/10	f:4.5	1/25	f:4.5
Street Scenes Snapshots Groups in open	Summer	Clear	1/100	f:6.3	1/50	f:12.7
		Overcast	1/50	f:6.3	1/100	f:6.3
		Very Dull	1/75	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
	Winter	Clear	1/50	f:6.3	1/100	f:6.3
		Overcast	1/75	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
		Very Dull	1/50	f:4.5	1/75	f:4.5
Distant Landscapes	Summer	Clear	1/50	f:12.7	1/50	f:18
		Overcast	1/100	f:6.3	1/50	f:12.7
		Very Dull	1/50	f:6.3	1/100	f:6.3
	Winter	Clear	1/100	f:6.3	1/50	f:12.7
		Overcast	1/50	f:6.3	1/100	f:6.3
		Very Dull	1/75	f:4.5	1/50	f:6.3
Marine views and Snow Scenes	Summer	Clear	1/100	f:18	1/200	f:18
		Overcast	1/100	f:12.7	1/200	f:12.7
		Very Dull	1/200	f:6.3	1/75	f:12.7
	Winter	Clear	1/100	f:12.7	1/200	f:12.7
		Overcast	1/200	f:6.3	1/75	f:12.7
		Very Dull	1/100	f:6.3	1/200	f:6.3
Sports shots in open	Summer	Clear	1/200	f:4.5	1/200	f:6.3
		Overcast	1/100	f:4.5	1/200	f:4.5
		Very Dull	1/50	f:4.5	1/100	f:4.5
	Winter	Clear	1/100	f:4.5	1/200	f:4.5
		Overcast	1/75	f:4.5	1/100	f:4.5
		Very Dull	1/50	f:4.5	1/75	f:4.5

Indoor exposures may be made with two No. 1 photoflood lamps in reflectors 4 feet from subject exposing 1/50 second f4.5.

S# 0754981



To protect your Argoflex from dust, weather, and accidental damage, and for convenience in carrying, this attractive brown leather carrying case is available. The handy case is beautifully made of genuine top grain cow-hide, 4 oz. leather and is equipped with a shoulder strap of regulation length. The price is \$5.00. Part No. CE50. Ask to see it at your dealer.

Also available for your Argoflex is a 6 in. cable release (Part No. E51) a valuable accessory for time exposures and a convenience for all camera work. Price 40c

GUARANTEE AND SERVICE POLICY

Argus cameras are guaranteed against defective material and workmanship for ninety days after shipment. The camera should be returned to the factory with transportation charges prepaid. The defect will be promptly corrected and the camera returned prepaid.

To assure Argus owners of low upkeep costs, after expiration of above guarantee, the factory will inspect and re-adjust any Model E Argoflex camera shipped to them prepaid and return it to the owner prepaid for the sum of \$3.50. This policy is effective for one year from date of purchase and applies only to cameras sent directly to the factory by the owner. This does not cover replacement of cameras broken through misuse or cameras which have been abused.

**INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
CORPORATION**

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