Leica M System

The fascination of the moment – analog and digital

LEICA M8 new
LEICA M7
LEICA MP
Leica à la carte

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“24 x 36” Leica M photography portfolio

Leica M pictures are unmistakable. They represent a very individual style of photography – they have the power to strike a chord, fascinate and surprise. In 1925 the Leitz company defined the 24 x 36 mm miniature format with the camera developed by Oskar Barnack. Since then, reportage photographers have used their discreet and fast Leica M cameras to shape our view of the world. “24 x 36” is the title of an exhibition of current work by M photographers. This brochure includes some of the images, representing outstanding examples of how Leica cameras can be used to develop a conscious vision and design, to highlight intensive involvement in a theme and to convey personal messages from the heart of everyday life.

The photo galleries on the Internet show you how photography is developing right now with the new digital LEICA M8. The www.leica-camera.com website features a continuously changing selection of exciting new M8 pictures.

PHILIPPE BORDAS (France)
From the series “L’Afrique à Poings Nus”, 1988 – 2000
The title of the work – “Africa with Bared Fists” – indicates what it is all about – sport at grass roots level. Sport as a medium of social advancement. For several years, Philippe Bordas observed, interviewed, photographed and created portraits of young boxers in Kenya and wrestlers in Senegal. The result is not classic reportage, it is a true epic, combining both color and the traditional stylistic device of black and white, and incorporating letters and small drawings as well as diary notes. Bordas’s book of the same name and his exhibition in Paris proudly demonstrate his enthusiasm for the theme. Not to mention being a great example of a new concept in documentary photography.
Cameras : LEICA M4-P, LEICA M6 / Lenses : LEICA SUMMICRON-M 35 mm f/2 ASPH.,
LEICA SUMMICRON-M 50 mm f/2
Courtesy of Philippe Bordas

JOHAN WILLNER (lives in Stockholm)
“Priego de Cordoba”, 1996 (from the “Point Blank” series completed in 2003)
What sets young photographers like Johan Willner apart is their familiarity with the history of the medium. They have definite role models in mind – photographers who show them the way to achieve their own extremely personal and dedicated photographic art. For Johan Willner, it is Robert Frank. More than his imagery, what the Swede aims to emulate is his quest to replace the idea of photographs as documents with complex yet intelligent and subjective visual commentaries. Willner studied at the ICP in New York in 1995/96. His work appeared in exhibitions in Stockholm, Lund and Orléans and, in 2004, he was undoubtedly one of the most notable talents in the portfolio reviews in Madrid (Photo España).
Camera : LEICA M4P / Lens : LEICA SUMMICRON-M 35 mm f/2 ASPH.

ALEX WEBB (1952, San Francisco – lives in Brooklyn/New York)
Outskirts of Tijuana, 1995
In Alex Webb's photographs, it is hot. At least it normally is. The titles of his books bear witness to this. "Hot Light" (1986) was his first. "Under A Grudging Sun" (1989) was his second. His third was called "From The Sunshine State" (1996). Actually, to be more precise what matters to Webb is not heat but the specific character of Southern light – its interplay with hard shadows is the "raw material" for his intensely colored, sometimes downright graphic imagery. A full member of Magnum since 1979, within the agency Webb stands for a newly discovered interest in color that has emerged since the 1970s. Numerous prizes, including the Leica Medal of Excellence in 2000, have constantly reaffirmed the excellence of his photography, which effortlessly bridges the gap between magazines ("GEO", "Life", "Stern") and the gallery.
Camera : LEICA M6 / Lenses : LEICA ELMARIT-M 28 mm f/2.8, LEICA SUMMICRON-M 35 mm f/2 ASPH.
Courtesy of Alex Webb/Magnum Photos

RAGNAR AXELSSON (1958, Iceland – lives in Iceland)
From the “Vanishing Lifestyles” series, 1988 – 2003
He actually works as a photographic reporter for “Morgunbladid”, Iceland’s leading daily newspaper. At the same time, however, Ragnar Axelsson is busy on a long-term documentary project, which saw him gain an “honorable mention” at the Leica Oskar Barnack Prize in 2001. Axelsson has a great interest in lifestyles that are on the verge of dying out in Iceland, and he has taken it upon himself to capture them in pictures. Wherever an assignment for the newspaper takes him in Iceland, Greenland or the Faeroes, he seeks out individuals or groups that represent a culture threatened with extinction. What sets Axelsson’s work apart is its sensitive and clear yet, for an unusual subject, very accessible view of a world that is totally removed from the blanket globalization and harmonization of modern life.
Cameras : LEICA M4-P, LEICA M6 / Lenses : LEICA ELMARIT-M 28 mm f/2.8, LEICA SUMMICRON-M 50 mm f/2
Courtesy of Ragnar Axelsson

ANDREA HOYER (1967 Göttingen – lives in Berlin, Moscow and New York)
From the "Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and the Caucasus" series, 1998 – 2002
Andrea Hoyer was probably the biggest surprise in the photography world in 2003. Until she captivated viewers at that year's Oscar Barnack Prize, nobody had heard of this artist who – almost silently – had completed years of work in black and white. Hoyer's theme was the demise of the former Soviet Union, but not in the sense of reportage dealing with social trends in the midst of new poverty and the nouveau-riche mafia. Instead, Hoyer is interested in visualizing an atmosphere that may be familiar from Andrej Tarkowskij's films. Her imagery is both clear and complex, graphic and rich in references – including almost surreal moments that hark back to the work of Cartier-Bresson.
Camera : LEICA M6/Lenses : 24, 28 and 35 mm
Courtesy of Andrea Hoyer

MATIAS COSTA (1973, Buenos Aires – lives in Madrid)
From the “Water Culture” series, 2003
Matias Costa presented his work to an international audience for the first time in 1999 at the highly regarded Photo España festival, with his reportage shots of street children in Rwanda. It was immediately obvious that he was a notable talent, who knew how to amalgamate a political message with thoroughly modern imagery. It is no surprise that since then Costa has scooped several important awards including the coveted prize for photojournalism at the Vevey festival (Switzerland), which is supported by Leica. His most recent, as yet unpublished, work (in color this time) deals with Hungary’s bathing culture fed by its 1000-plus hot springs. Photographically, this was a demanding theme, as Costa often had to shoot pictures secretly and using available light : classic terrain for the Leica M.
Camera : LEICA M6 TTL / Lenses : LEICA ELMARIT-M 24 mm f/2.8 ASPH., LEICA SUMMICRON-M 35 mm f/2 ASPH.
Courtesy of Matias Costa

The fascination of the moment – analog and digital

Photography is the art of using light to capture an image of the world. Whether it is analog or digital – this basic principle of photography never changes. In 1925, the family company Leitz presented the first successful 35 mm camera. The name Leica (Leitz Camera) became a byword for uncompromising optical and mechanical quality and revolutionized photography with its incredibly compact cameras. Ever since the LEICA M3 was launched in 1954, the world's best photographers have come to rely on the Leica M system. The rangefinder allows the photographer to anticipate how a situation will develop. A Leica M then captures the critical moment immediately, discreetly and quietly. Alex Webb's pictures (Page 4) illustrate how the Leica M can capture the right instant even in rapidly changing scenes. The photographs by Matias Costa (Page 7) show how discreetly an M camera can be used to produce authentic pictures. Alongside the analog MP and M7 models, the digital LEICA M8 is now continuing the success story. It is a professional tool that combines genuine M photography with digital image technology – concentrating on what is essential yet offering uncompromising quality and full system compatibility with the world's best lenses.


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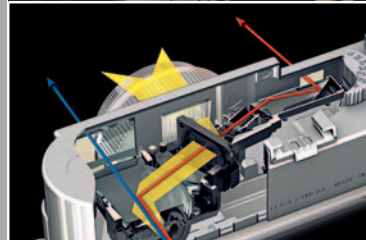
Closer to the critical moment

The rangefinder system allows natural pictures to be taken at the heart of everyday life. The photographer is part of events and uses the rangefinder to frame what he wants to capture – a scene, an atmosphere, a moment. He can also keep an eye on what is going on outside the viewfinder frame. This allows him to anticipate the critical moment and capture it at exactly the right instant – typical of the Leica M. The Magnum photographer Elliott Erwitt said: “With a reflex camera, you create the image in the camera. With the Leica rangefinder, you need to see the picture, recognize it and then frame it.” Leica M pictures convey effortlessness and authenticity because they are composed in advance and captured in the blink of an eye. The photographer can still see his subject during the exposure and even in very difficult available light situations, the bright and high contrast viewfinder allows extremely fast and accurate focusing. Combined with the short shutter delay, the rangefinder principle makes Leica M cameras the fastest in the world.

The rangefinder system is an optical masterpiece, created for cutting edge photography. Unlike with a reflex system, where you have to focus through the lens and the focal length and speed determine the accuracy of the measurement, with the Leica M rangefinder the measuring basis remains constant regardless of the lens. This makes it many times more accurate at short focal lengths. The high-contrast focusing images in the center of the viewfinder field guarantees fast and precise focusing with pinpoint accuracy, even in very poor lighting conditions. The image field selector enables the photographer to simulate the effect of a different focal length and thus to choose the right lens in advance. The six bright line frames always show the exact framing as the automatic parallax compensation automatically adjusts their position depending on the distance setting. All the information that is relevant for achieving a perfect result can be seen in the bright-line frame viewfinder, along with the subject’s surroundings – ideal for spontaneous, inconspicuous photography.




PLAY
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PROTECT
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SET

Compact, discreet, supremely functional

No other professional camera is as compact as a Leica M. As no mirror box is needed, the M8 has a depth of less than 37 mm. The M lenses also benefit from the short distance to the focal plane, making them small and lightweight. The incredible compactness of the M cameras and lenses makes them the ideal equipment for travel and reportage photographers. Mirror vibration and the resulting blurring are not an issue for Leica M users. The inconspicuousness, distinct design and barely audible shutter release are yet more reasons for the unique vibrancy of M pictures. Time and time again, photographers using the M in areas of tension in the world report that they are not perceived as journalists, allowing them to capture scenes that remain beyond the reach of those using other systems. Portraits appear more relaxed as the camera does not cover the photographer's face and he can maintain eye contact with the model. This discretion is made possible by concentrating on what is essential for photography. This philosophy has been consistently implemented on the new LEICA M8, bringing the core values of M photography into the digital world.

Compact and lightweight, the Leica M is an ideal companion. Even a complete set of equipment fits into a single inconspicuous case. This makes it one of the smallest professional camera systems available. A camera with a standard lens fitted is so convenient to carry that you can keep it with you all the time.

Concentrated Every development and enhancement throughout the entire evolution of the Leica M system meets a genuine photographic need. During the design of the digital LEICA M8, all of the features offered by digital technology were tested for relevance. The result is a professional digital rangefinder camera that does not offer everything that is technologically possible but concentrates on what makes sense from a photographic viewpoint. This includes unique functions such as precise control of the exposure using a tonal value histogram, which corresponds to the subject details displayed at every zoom level.

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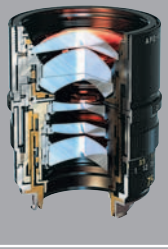
The best lenses produce the best pictures

The design and construction of the extremely compact Leica M lenses concentrate on a single goal : enabling the best possible quality of analog or digital photography. Their unsurpassed performance is due to the fact that Leica engineers devote all their efforts and innovation to finding a clear, straight-line optical solution. This often involves just a few lens elements, as few obstructions as possible to get in the way of the light. This natural design, realized using top quality glass types and state-of-the art production techniques, creates pictures with an unmistakable character. These pictures not only demonstrate the quality of the contrast and resolution, they also show structure, richness of tone and natural expression, even under difficult lighting conditions. Photographers also appreciate a Leica lens's zero backlash and silky smooth focusing. This quality comes from the experience and skill of our optical and precision mechanics experts, who manufacture each individual lens. Unlike indus-trial, mass-produced lenses, every Leica lens meets optimum quality standards that photographers can truly depend on.



The performance of Leica lenses is based on state of the art technologies : aspherical lenses allow an extremely compact construction with maximum performance. So-called floating elements (movable lens groups) ensure excellent reproduction at close range. Apochromatic correction on telephoto lenses guarantees brilliant images with no color fringing. Sophisticated features to suppress reflections improve the contrast and visibility of details in the shadows. The result is that the full capabilities of a Leica lens are always available, even at maximum aperture. With Leica lenses, stopping down is only necessary to increase the depth of field.

Craftsmanship and High Tech The outstanding quality of Leica lenses is not just the result of state of the art technology – the craftsmanship and experience of our precision mechanics and optical specialists is indispensable. For example, the spirals on each lens are individually ground. This results in zero backlash and silky smooth focusing even under extreme temperature conditions – for decades to come.


Leica

Fifty years of compatibility

Back in the 1950s, Leica engineers demonstrated their foresight by creating a timeless standard with the Leica M bayonet. This guarantees system compatibility, even with today's digital M8. Because this standard has been maintained, almost all M lenses can be used on the digital Leica model. However, system compatibility does not mean standing still – it is all about evolution. The new 6 bit-coding means that the LEICA M8 can identify the lens type fitted and use this information to set up subsequent shots. Compatibility does not stop with the bayonet – it also applies to the extensive range of accessories. Even the choice of JPEG and DNG (RAW data format) as the digital image formats on the M8 is designed to ensure image quality, future compatibility and secure archiving of the digital data. More than ever, choosing the M system means choosing lasting values.

Leica is geared up for the future, yet at the same time maintains its principle of system compatibility. The 1954 bayonet and the current 6 bit-coded bayonet were produced decades apart but there is nothing to separate them. The new, extended M bayonet allows all non-coded lenses to be used on the M8. Likewise, the new 6 bit-coded lenses can be used on analog M cameras with no restrictions.

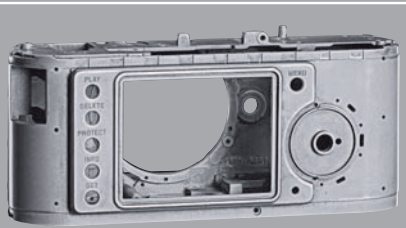
The 1954 Bayonet

The 2006 Bayonet

Not many things last a lifetime. A Leica M often lasts longer

Anyone taking photographs is normally at the heart of life. In the heat or cold, in the rain or dust. The M needs to be durable, reliable and robust under all conceivable conditions. The question of durability is always a top priority in the development of a new M model. This is why only premium materials are used for its body : brass for the top and base plate and a high-strength magnesium alloy for the chassis. The digital technology components are also carefully selected to withstand years of use. Sophisticated production techniques and painstaking assembly guarantee decades of reliable operation, allowing photographers to enjoy their Leica M for as long as possible. For a lifetime in fact, often even by the next generation.

Enduring quality Precision is the yardstick for production of a Leica. And no product leaves the Leica factory before all critical production steps have been rigorously tested. Products that can still be maintained after several decades are a genuine luxury these days, yet the Leica Customer Service department can still maintain and repair every M camera that has ever been produced.



Optimum materials The sturdy top and strong base plate are cut from solid brass blocks using modern methods and are then given a black or silver chrome finish. The enclosed all-metal body is made of a high-strength magnesium alloy to ensure durability in professional use.


M8
LEICA SUMMILUX-M 1:1.4/35 ASPH.
3986906


LEICA CAMERA MADE IN GERMANY
MENU
PLAY
DELETE
PROTECT
INFO
SET

LEICA M8 – The digital M

Many Leica photographers' dreams have now come true : The LEICA M8 has opened up the Leica M system for digital photography. It is a totally new direction. It not only looks like an M model, it faithfully embodies all the advantages of the analog Leica M system to provide sophisticated and creative digital photography. It is the only professional digital camera to use the beneficial rangefinder system, which is discreet, quiet, fast and accurate. And the uncompromising quality criteria of the M system have been applied to the M8 unchanged. Full compatibility with almost all M lenses means that their unique performance can now be used to take digital pictures. The low-noise CCD image sensor with a resolution of 10.3 million pixels has been specially integrated into the compact lens design, ensuring optimum picture quality. The operation and functionality of the digital M concentrate on what is essential. Useful additional functions provided by digital technology complement the proven M concept. The LEICA M8 is the first timeless digital camera "Made in Germany". Excitingly new and yet comfortingly familiar.

A genuine M. No ifs or buts. The LEICA M8.

The compatibility principle
The lenses recognized as the best in the world demonstrate their full capabilities on the LEICA M8. The extremely high resolution of all M system lenses since 1954 make them perfect for digital photography. The M8 quite deliberately has no resolution-reducing moiré filter in front of the sensor to maintain the full performance of the lens.

Maximum resolution
The low-noise CCD image sensor has been consistently optimized for the special features of the M lens system and provides an excellent resolution of 10.3 million pixels. The special sensor adaptation with micro-lens offset prevents problematic vignetting in the corners of the picture. An exceptionally thin cover glass prevents unwanted refraction of light rays striking the sensor obliquely.

Full light efficiency
The highest film speed settings of up to ISO 2500 now allow much more detailed pictures to be taken than was ever possible with analog films. As a result, the M8 opens up a new chapter in the history of available light photography.

Digital and durable
The M8 is designed to deliver professional results over many years. The enclosed all-metal body is made of a high-strength magnesium alloy. The top and base plates are cut from solid brass blocks and then given a black or silver chrome finish. DNG technology is used, as this raw data format is future-proof and guarantees secure long-term archiving.

Precisely focused and intuitive
During development of the M8, there was a consistent attempt to only incorporate those digital options that are relevant from a photographic perspective. It retains the basic range of functions, such as aperture priority and manual focus and combines them with the proven Leica rangefinder principle. A simple and intuitive menu system allows the settings to be changed on the 2.5" monitor by pressing just a few buttons.

Creative photography
The electronically controlled metal blade focal-plane shutter enables shutter speeds of up to 1/8000 second to be achieved. Even in very bright surroundings, the photographer still has total creative freedom thanks to the selective focus feature with open aperture. The high flash synchronization speed of 1/250 second now allows daylight flash photographs to be taken with selective focus.

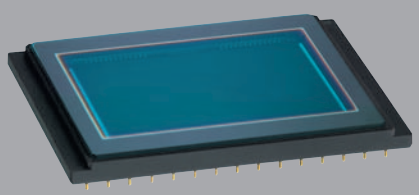
Quiet and discreet
To make cocking the shutter as close to silent as possible, a rubberized silent friction wheel has been placed in the first winding gear stage. A cam disk is used to transfer the force at a constant torque over the entire path of the cocking arm. As a result, the electric motor cocks the shutter almost soundlessly.

LEICA M8 – Outstanding optical performance

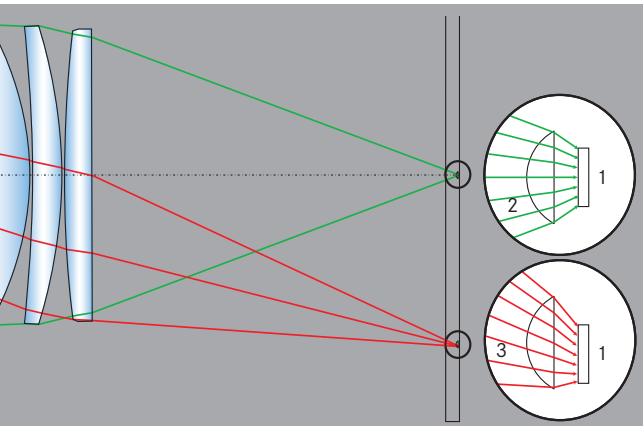
At Leica, image quality is not just a slogan ; it is achieved by optimizing every link in the performance chain. The high-speed Leica M lenses with 6 bit-design actually offer a slight improvement in performance, while the modified sensor, the use of digital negative format (DNG) and the Capture One LE RAW data converter ensure the best possible image quality.

M lenses – 6 bit-coding The lack of a resolution reducing moiré filter in front of the sensor promotes an exceptionally high linear resolution, which the modern Leica M lenses in particular can deliver. Thanks to their outstanding resolution capabilities and the high degree of correction, they are perfect for use with digital technology. The LEICA M8 uses an optical scanner on the camera's bayonet to identify the 6 bit-coding of the current Leica M lenses. This allows the slight vignetting caused by the system to be compensated, further improving the familiar high image quality. The lens type identified is saved in the EXIF data for the image file and the reflector position on modern flash units is adjusted to the image angle depending on the focal length.

Typical Leica : Existing M lenses can be retroactively 6 bit-coded by our Customer Service department.



Modified Sensor CCD technology provides the lowest level of image noise and was therefore chosen for the image sensor in the M8. A high basic speed of ISO 160 extending to a maximum speed setting of ISO 2500 produces pictures with far richer detail than analog films can deliver. A moiré filter, which optically filters out fine image details, was deliberately omitted to utilize the full resolution of the Leica M lenses. Instead, any moiré patterns are eliminated by the camera's signal processor. Because the light towards the edges impinges on the sensor obliquely with Leica M lenses, the thickness of the cover glass has been reduced to just 0.5 mm to prevent unwanted refraction. As a result, the image has uniform brightness right to the edge, there is no vignetting caused by the sensor and the existing Leica M lenses can demonstrate their full capabilities on the digital camera. With its LEICA M8 and LEICA DIGITAL-MODUL-R, Leica is the only manufacturer of digital camera systems to consistently modify existing sensor technology in this way.



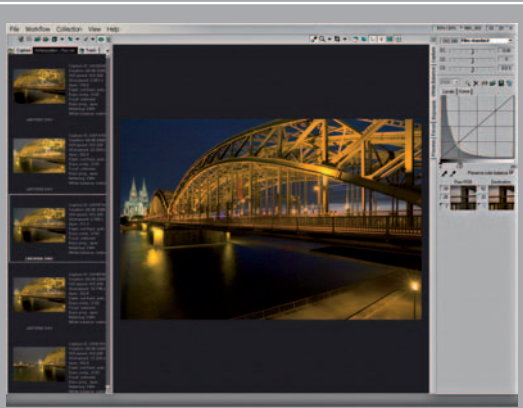
1 Schematic rendition of a pixel

2 Centrally positioned micro-lens in the center of the image sensor

3 Laterally shifted micro-lens near the edge of the image sensor

To increase the light sensitivity of the CCD sensor, **micro lenses** are positioned in front of the pixels. However, light rays impinge on the sensor obliquely towards the edge of the image and it is no longer possible to direct the light onto the pixels with a conventional micro lens structure. For this reason, the LEICA M8 sensor uses a special micro lens structure with lenses moved right to the edges – perfectly tailored to the characteristics of the Leica M lenses. As a result, the image has uniform brightness right to the edge and there is no vignetting caused by the sensor. For the sensor on the LEICA M8, Kodak uses micro lenses with a lower refractive power than those in traditional sensors. This increases the permissible angle for light falling on the onto the pixels obliquely. The benefit of this is that existing Leica M lenses can demonstrate their full capabilities on the digital camera.

Optimum RAW data conversion The professional Capture One LE RAW data converter ensures that the raw data supplied by the CCD sensor and saved in the future-proof Adobe® digital negative format (DNG) is "processed to yield optimum quality". Leica worked in conjunction with the Danish manufacturer Phase One to create the sophisticated camera profiling and the necessary software modifications. The results of this are quality-optimized algorithms for digital color processing, allowing exceptionally low-noise photography with incredible resolution. The development of even ultra fine tonal value nuances from the 16 bit-image supplied by the CCD sensor is comparable with the image quality provided by film professionally developed in a photographic laboratory. The logical functions for adjusting the quality and the well-structured user interface mean that Capture One LE can be used to achieve outstanding results with consummate ease and speed.



Concentrate on the picture. Not on the controls.

The operating concept of the M8 is the result of a great deal of care, many years of experience and an in-depth understanding of how professional photographers work. By concentrating on what is essential, we have made the user interface simple, clear and intuitive. We have deliberately avoided function keys with multiple uses and complex menu structures on the LEICA M8.

Simple, intuitive operation Operation of the digital functions centers on the combined direction pad and dial, which can be used for fast navigation. Pressing the Set key opens the exposure parameter menu on the 2.5" monitor. Here, you can quickly check and adjust the crucial settings : 1. Sensor sensitivity, 2. Exposure compensation, 3. White balance, 4. Data compression and 5. Resolution. There are three blank slots in the memory for profiles, allowing you to retrieve frequently used combinations for specific applications. Pressing the Menu key takes you to the clearly structured system menu, where you can change some of the basic settings that are permanently applied, for example the ECI RGB, Adobe® RGB and sRGB color space options. You can also specify whether you want your pictures to appear on the large display immediately to review them, how long they will be displayed for and whether a tonal value histogram appears.

A display on the left-hand side of the top plate constantly shows the remaining capacity of the SD card and the lithium-ion battery. This elementary photographic information is thus available at a glance at all times.

Sensor cleaning The LEICA M8 has a special function for manually cleaning the sensor. When you select the corresponding option in the menu and press the shutter release, the shutter remains open while cleaning is in progress. The low depth of the M camera makes the sensor more easily accessible than on digital reflex cameras, for example.

Excellent protection The battery and the SD card slot are located under the base plate, which is cut from solid brass and provides effective protection from dust and moisture.

Tonal value histogram As a professional digital camera, the LEICA M8 provides an RGB tonal value histogram. This can be called up at any time to check the exposure of saved pictures and can also be combined with the automatic review function. Another useful feature is the additional marking of overexposed sections of an image – known as the clipping warning. The particular ad-vantage of this is that these two control tools are constantly updated constantly updated when zooming in on the LCD display, allowing the quality of even the finest image details to be assessed. Pressing the Info function key displays all of the photographic settings from the quick menu and additional meta-information saved with the image file – this enables you to completely evaluate a picture as soon as you have taken it.

Aperture priority mode The LEICA M8 has an aperture priority mode with a choice of two delay times of 2 and 12 seconds.

Remote control The LEICA M8 is supplied with special software that allows the camera to be controlled remotely for scientific work or in a photographic studio. With LEICA DIGITAL CAPTURE the camera can be operated from a computer via a USB connection and the image data can be saved directly onto hard disk. The software can send all settings in the exposure parameter menu, e. g. sensitivity and resolution, to the camera.

New creativity: Flash with the M8

The state of the art metal blade focal-plane shutter enables flash sync speed of up to 1/250 sec to be achieved. The new M-TTL flash technology with pre-flash for flash metering opens up new creative possibilities in composition and flash exposure.

Innovative M-TTL flash technology The unique feature of the new flash technology is that a pre-flash for flash metering is fired immediately before the actual exposure. TTL measurement of the light reflected by the surfaces of the subject determines the exact power required from the main flash. The seamless addition of the flash intensity to the available light results in flash photographs that retain the natural lighting mood.

Automatic fill-in flash for available light photography The auto slow sync function allows you to use aperture priority mode in conjunction with the flash technology. It ensures that the image background is balanced even if the intensity of the ambient light should change. An appropriate metered amount of fill-in flash is emitted to provide correct exposure. Depending on the photographer's experience or the intended effect, various maximum exposure times can be set for aperture priority. This can be done manually or – when using 6 bit-coded lenses – automatically using the rule of thumb 1/focal length in seconds.

Simon Wheatley

“I found that when I started unsing M-series cameras, photography suddenly became very simple... And I welcome the arrival of this simplicity to the digital age.”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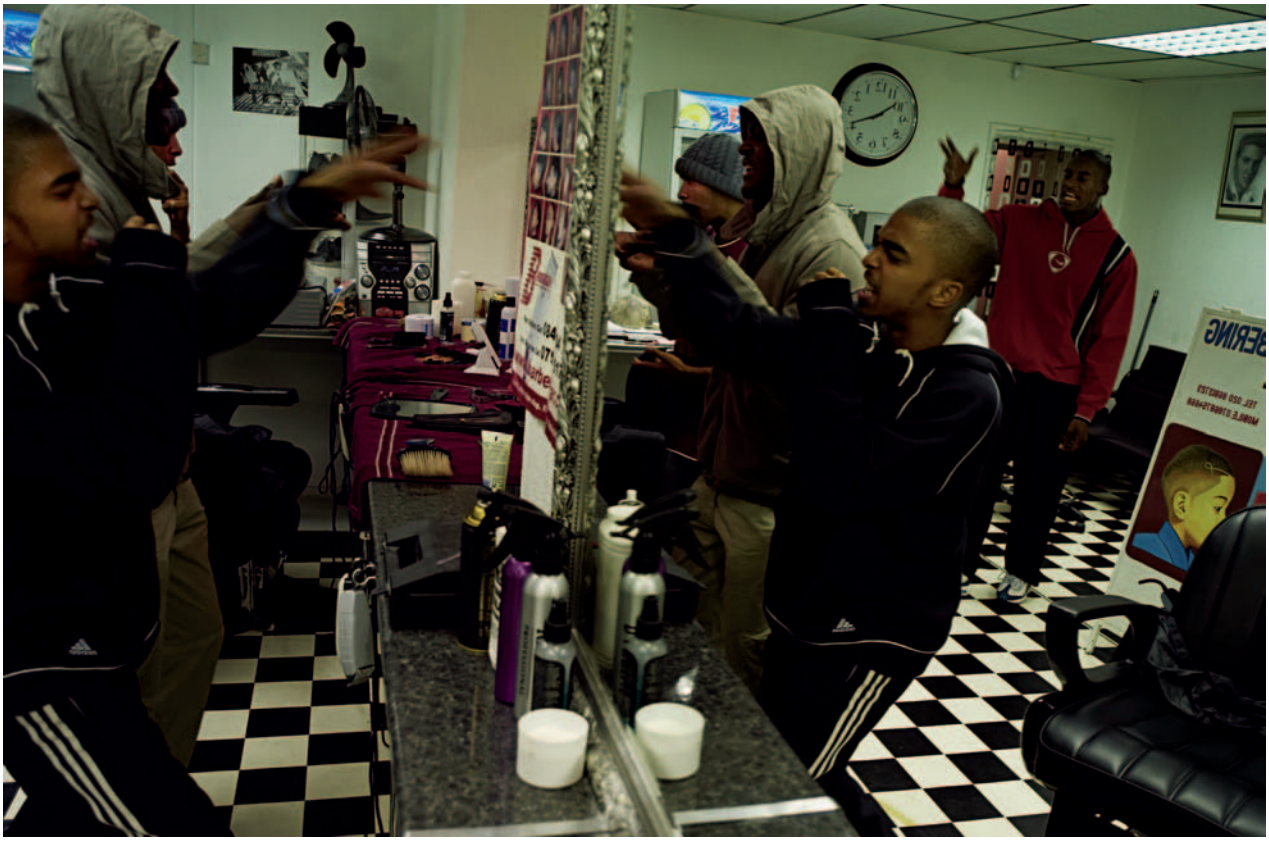


CAN'T
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STRONGBOW

Simon Wheatley

Simon Wheatley was born 1970 in Singapore, where he spent his childhood. Moving to England as a teenager, he graduated from Manchester University in 1993 with a degree in American and Latin American Studies. It was in Budapest, while working as an English teacher, that he began to take photography seriously, intrigued by the social confusion result-ing from the transition from communism to capitalism. In recent years his work has focused on marginalized urban areas, and he is currently completing a book about the inner-city youth in London. He became a nominee member of Magnum Photos in June 2005.

LEICA M7 – The fascination of classic M photography

Classics are works that transcend the present. But they are never adapted, merely reinterpreted for the requirements of a changing world. The analog LEICA M7 is just such a classic. Silver halide photography with a Leica M has a unique appeal : the transparent process of exposing the film and the chemical processing of the same piece of material create an emotional relationship with the subject and with the camera itself. The concentration when taking photographs, the anticipation of the tangible pictures and the outstanding results are the key to the analog M cameras' success. The LEICA M7 has a convenient, continuously variable aperture priority mode with an exposure lock via the shutter release. This allows you to focus easily, compose quickly and concentrate completely on taking the photograph. TTL flash exposure metering ensures that flash photographs are exposed correctly. A synchronization speed of up to 1/1000 second and flash synchronization with the second shutter curtain provide huge scope for creativity. The film speed can either be set manually or automatically (DX coding). The viewfinder displays make taking photographs easier. A unique system enables the LEICA M7 viewfinder to clearly indicate all the required information – even in difficult lighting conditions.

Show life-size

LEICA M7. The modern classic

Work more accurately

The legendary Leica cloth focal plane shutter used on all analog M cameras has been comprehensively revised for the M7 and controls exposure times electronically with almost no noise – indispensable when using aperture priority. The most frequently used shutter speeds – 1/60 second and 1/125 second – even work without a battery.

Creative flash

When used in conjunction with a specially equipped flash unit, the M7 can trigger the flash to coincide with the second shutter curtain. The advantage of this is that it gives a more natural image, for example for very long exposures with a fill-in flash. In addition to the standard 1/50 second flash sync speed, with special Metz flash units the M7 can use a flash synchronization speed of up to 1/1000 second.

Avoid bad exposures

On the LEICA M7, the film speed can either be set manually or automatically (DX coding). This rules out annoying bad exposures caused by incorrect ISO settings. For exposure compensation in aperture priority mode, there is an override of ±2 f-stops.

Straight to work
Ergonomically positioned right next to the shutter release, the ON/OFF switch turns on the LEICA M7's electronic features and locks the shutter release when the camera is off.

Always in the picture
A system unique to rangefinder cameras displays all relevant information clearly in the LEICA M7's viewfinder – the shutter speed set by the aperture priority mode, over or underexposure indication when using manual settings, readiness of the flash unit and warnings if the battery is almost discharged.

Aperture priority mode
As an alternative to familiar manual exposure adjustment – which is still available on the camera – the LEICA M7 offers a convenient continuously variable aperture priority mode with exposure lock via the shutter release.

The LEICA M7 – The convenient M

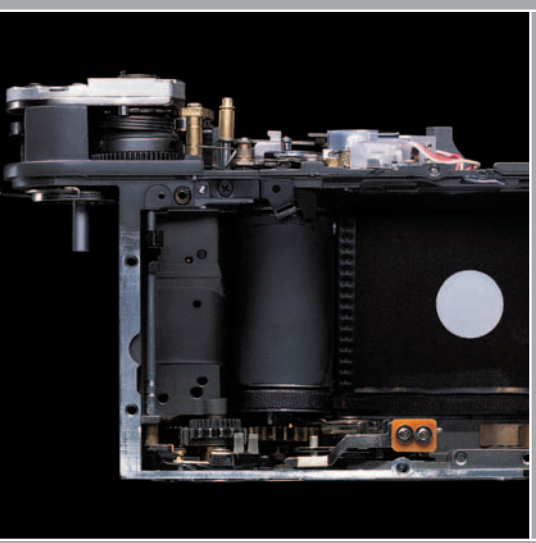
Speed and convenience, absolute reliability in every situation, emergency operation without battery, use of premium materials, stable value, longevity, precision of all optical and mechanical components – these are all characteristic features of the LEICA M7, the alternative to the fully mechanical LEICA MP.

The rangefinder system is an optical masterpiece, created for cutting edge photography. Unlike with a reflex system, where the focal length and speed determine the accuracy of the measurement, with the Leica M rangefinder the measuring basis remains constant regardless of the lens. This makes it many times more accurate at short focal lengths. In addition, a special range finding method guarantees fast and precise focusing with pinpoint accuracy, even in very poor lighting conditions. In order to achieve maximum contrast and brightness, all optical components and the viewfinder window have a complex multi-layer coating. All the information relevant for a perfect result and the subject's surroundings can be seen clearly in the bright-line frame viewfinder – ideal for spontaneous, inconspicuous photography. The standard LEICA M7 comes with universal viewfinder magnification of 0.72 x. Alternatively, the Leica à la carte range also includes a 0.58 x wide-angle version suitable for users wearing glasses and a 0.85 x telephoto version.

Exposure metering Back light, spotlighting or side lighting all provide different colors, levels of brightness and contrast levels – a challenge that the M7 overcomes effortlessly. Its selective through-the-lens exposure metering function is activated by lightly pressing the shutter release. A photodiode then uses a focusing lens to measure the light reflected by a white metering spot on the shutter curtain. This selective exposure metering works with absolute precision and its incredibly high sensitivity means that it can even be used in candlelight. Combined with the continuously variable aperture priority mode, perfectly exposed pictures can be achieved under all conditions with no problem.

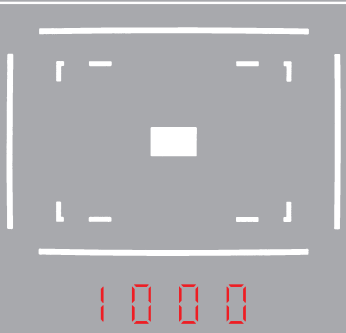
The mechanical system is unbeatable when it comes to reliability and precision. Only high quality materials are used : the top plate of the M7 is cut from solid brass using modern methods. The body is made of a lightweight yet extremely strong magnesium alloy. In any situation and in the most demanding of conditions, the LEICA M7 works quickly, easily and above all quietly – it does not have any noisy pivoting mirrors or automatic diaphragm mechanisms. The shutter is therefore much quieter than is usual on reflex cameras. The chrome finished quick-change bayonet and the few buttons and switches are just as durable and robust as the camera itself. They are ergonomically positioned and practically designed, allowing them to be used even when wearing gloves. A raised mounting index that can be felt allows Leica lenses to be changed in the dark. They can also be stored without protective caps as there are no protruding pins, levers or electronic contacts that could be damaged.

Aperture priority mode Faster, more convenient, more reliable. In addition to the familiar manual exposure adjustment, the LEICA M7 features a continuously variable aperture priority mode. After preselecting the lens aperture, the electronic function determines the ideal shutter speed for correct exposure fully automatically, even for very long exposures of up to 32 seconds. Exposure lock via the shutter release allows the required exposure for a specific point to be retained. The exposure compensation (override) over or underexposes single pictures or a whole series of shots by ±2 EV if required.



Shutter The Leica M's unique cloth focal plane shutter is legendary. While retaining all of its advantages, for the M7 it has been completely revised and fitted with electronic exposure time control. The relatively slow movement of the two shutter curtains makes the camera exceptionally quiet and the shutter release is gentle and free of vibration. Two mechanically controlled exposure times of 1/60 second and 1/125 second ensure that the LEICA M7 can still be used even if the battery fails. The extremely short shutter delay makes the analog M cameras the fastest in the world.

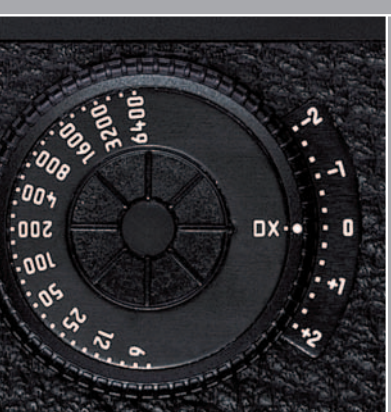
Viewfinder displays The automatic shutter speed appears as an LED display in the lower section of the LEICA M7's large and bright rangefinder, while in manual mode the familiar light balance readouts are used. For very long exposures, the remaining exposure time is displayed in the viewfinder while for timed exposures (B) the seconds count upwards. The brightness of the display automatically adjusts to the surroundings, which ensures optimum visibility even in glaring sunlight and prevents dazzling from the display in available light situations.



The LEICA M7 in detail

ON/OFF switch Ergonomically positioned right next to the shutter release, it is used to start up the camera's electronic features. For the first two seconds after switching on, the speed of the loaded film is automatically shown in the viewfinder display. In the OFF position, it locks the shutter release, preventing unwanted exposures.

Flash In addition to TTL (through the lens) flash exposure metering, the LEICA M7 features two more specialist technologies – a fill-in flash, useful in many situations to brighten a subject in daylight and HSS (high-speed synchronization) with shutter speeds of up to 1/1000 second. In this case, the exposure and flash are set manually. To obtain a more natural image at very long exposures with the fill-in flash, the flash on the LEICA M7 can be fired to coincide with the second shutter curtain. These functions are available in conjunction with specially equipped Metz flash units.



DX coding The LEICA M7 features automatic film speed setting, finally making accidental bad exposures caused by incorrect ISO settings a thing of the past. Of course, the film speed can also be entered manually if preferred.

LEICA MP. Mechanical precision. And nothing else.

Nowadays, the monitor screen on a digital camera is the most popular way of looking at the world around us. Often unnoticed by users, this can result in alienation from the subject, as it is the artificial image of the subject that they look at, not the subject itself. Things are very different with the LEICA MP. The act of taking a photograph becomes the vivid and direct experience it originally was, making rangefinder photography a new, exciting and sensual experience in our world of digital imagery. Both optically and technically, the Leica MP has been reduced to what is absolutely essential. As a purely mechanical alternative to the LEICA M7, which with its electronically controlled shutter and aperture priority mode offers greater convenience and more features, the LEICA MP is intuitive to operate and leaves all decisions and settings to the photographer. It is the very essence of precision mechanics, and its development and production are the result of nearly 75 years of experience in manufacturing mechanical rangefinder cameras. This masterpiece opens up a world of memorable experiences from the moment you pick it up. It offers more than just a short-term thrill – this is a camera for a lifetime.

Show life-size

LEICA MP – The tool

Durable

The LEICA MP is designed for longevity and to maintain its value. That is why we only use selected materials and employ sophisticated production methods. Prior to its launch, the LEICA MP proved its solidity in numerous laboratory and field tests. In icy cold conditions where no camera relying on batteries would be able to work. Over a number of shutter release cycles that hardly any other camera could withstand. As a result, Leica offers an exceptionally long warranty of five years for registered owners who purchase their MP from an authorized Leica dealer.

Discreet

Because so many professionals love the red Leica logo, but discreetly mask it on their camera, we have done without this identification mark altogether on the LEICA MP. We think it is enough for connoisseurs and owners to be able to identify a Leica by its classic appearance. The Leica lettering on the top plate is sufficient.

Individual

The LEICA MP is available with two different surface designs : silver chrome finish or black lacquer. And if the black lacquer starts to reveal a glimpse of the plain brass at some of the corners and edges after long use, the photographer knows that he has shared plenty of experiences with his camera.

Concentrated precision

Photography is writing with light, and photography with the LEICA M means writing expressively even when little light is available. This is down to the high contrast lenses that provide their full power even with an open aperture, pinpoint focusing with the Leica rangefinder and the vibration-free shutter release provided by the cloth focal plane shutter. With the LEICA MP, difficult lighting conditions can be overcome effectively because the camera does not attempt to think for itself – it simply uses its selective exposure metering to deliver precise, transparent data that helps the photographer to make the right choices.

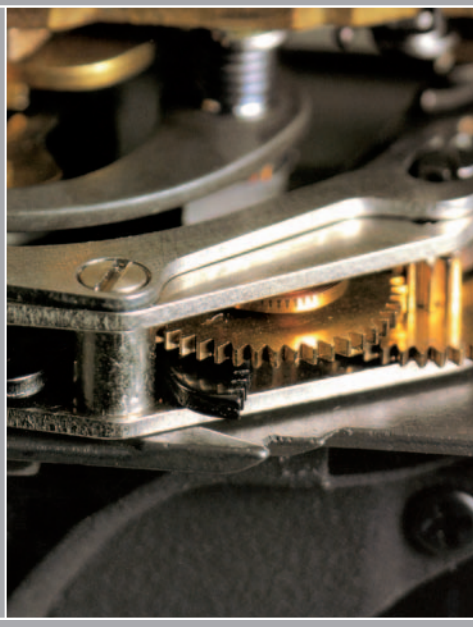
Masterful minimalism

The LEICA MP has such an uncompromising design that you can always depend on it. The sturdy body stands up to any kind of use. All controls are made completely of metal. It relies on the photographer's ability, not on batteries. They are only needed for exposure metering. In fact, anyone who can estimate the shutter speed and aperture for themselves can do without electronic features altogether.

The LEICA MP in detail

The rangefinder on the LEICA MP is an optical masterpiece made up of more than 150 high precision parts. It has been constantly developed and perfected over the decades. The viewfinder image always retains the same size and brightness, unlike with reflex cameras, where the focal length and speed of the lens determine the viewing image's appearance. The photographer is immediately encouraged to compose the picture in his head first and then to try and capture it with the viewfinder frame. The viewfinder displays are limited to exposure readouts that are clearly visible under all light conditions and can be used to set the exposure extremely precisely and intuitively – the perfect way to achieve reliable results. The standard LEICA MP comes with universal viewfinder magnification of 0.72 x. Alternatively, the Leica à la carte range also includes a 0.58 x wide-angle version suitable for users wearing glasses and a 0.85 x telephoto version.

Mechanics The LEICA MP is made exclusively of high quality materials. The top and base plates are cut from solid brass using modern methods. For silver cameras, the surface is initially copper plated, nickel plated and then given an extremely durable fine matt shiny chrome finish. For black lacquer parts, experienced lacquerers apply an even, faultless layer of a modern artificial resin lacquer with excellent adhesion. The body is made of a lightweight yet extremely durable magnesium alloy. The chromium plated quick-change bayonet and the all-metal controls are also made of brass and have a sealed surface. The leather trim on the LEICA MP is made of a proven, practical and wear-resistant plastic material that lends the camera its timeless and inconspicuous look.



Shutter The principle behind the LEICA MP's cloth focal plane shutter goes directly back to Oskar Barnack's invention in 1913. At its heart are two curtains made of rubberized cotton cloth, a material that is both lightproof and exceptionally durable and flexible. The width of the slit – and thus the shutter speed – is controlled purely mechanically using high precision levers and cams, most of which are made of hardened, ground and polished steel. Slow shutter speeds are controlled by a barely audible arrest mechanism, which for decades has been made for Leica lovingly and with great attention to detail by a manufacturer in the Black Forest. The low initial tension and the relatively slow movement of the two shutter curtains that results from this make the camera exceptionally quiet, while the shutter release is gentle and free of vibration. The LEICA MP has a uniquely short shutter delay, making it and the LEICA M7 the fastest professional system cameras in the world.

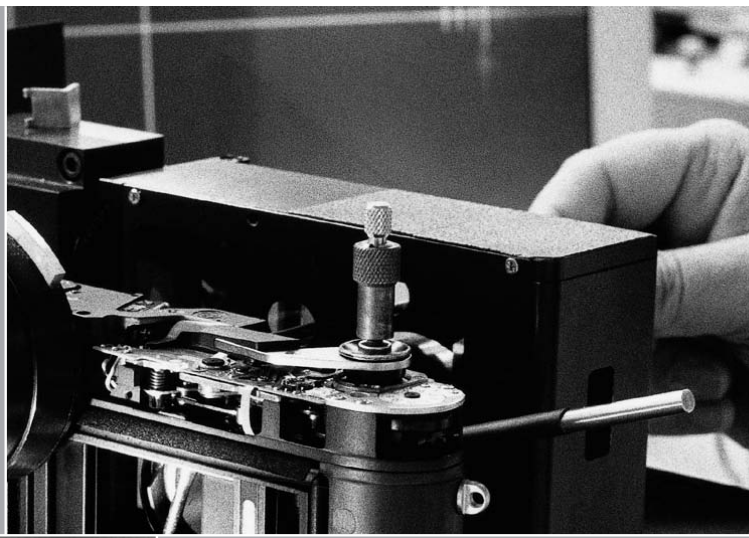
Leica à la carte – Unique, handcrafted models

All Leica M cameras share certain key features: performance, precision and reliability. However, the appearance of the analog M7 and MP cameras is uniquely changeable and even some of the technical details can be adapted for each photographer's individual profile to give a totally personalized Leica M camera. Fine materials, forms and colors allied to a variety of variable components and functional details open up almost unlimited scope for individual design – from a totally inconspicuous professional camera to an extravagant eye catching version. This is only possible with the expert individual handcrafting that only Leica's traditional manufacturing can provide. For example, each type of leather with a different structure and density is optimally adapted to the camera, split to a thickness of 0.8 mm and fitted to the camera by hand. From the assembly of the individual components through to the final quality inspection, every detail of the 1,300 components that make up every LEICA M7 and MP is lovingly created to meet the customer's requirements – à la carte. By people who love the Leica M as much as you do.

Show life-size

Masterpieces by experienced specialists

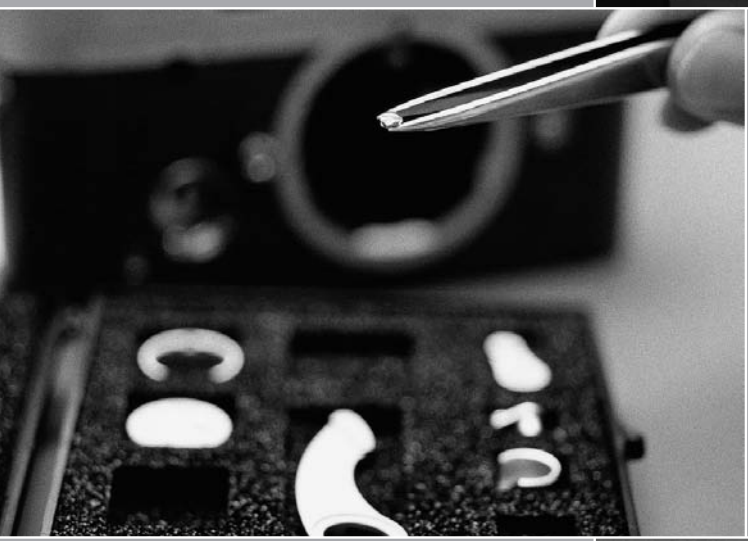
Adjusting the rangefinder Experienced specialists employ precisely defined processes to ensure that the rangefinder, the viewfinder frame and the viewfinder displays are accurately calibrated.



Fitting the top plate The top plate is made of 1 mm thick brass and protects all the parts underneath it, even from very heavy loads.

Cutting the leather The leather is punched out with high precision tools, individually adapted to each type of leather.

Final shutter speed testing Every function of each Leica à la carte model is tested again after final assembly.



Fitting the surface-mounted parts The controls are fitted in a classic or functional style, as requested.

Laying out the engraving The engraving on Leica à la carte cameras is carefully laid out by an experienced craftsman using lacquer.

Your Leica – Purely individual

You can now choose a LEICA MP or M7 that is totally different from the standard look and choose the features that meet your own functional, aesthetic and practical requirements. It starts with the color of the top plate and your choice of trim from a range of naturally tanned leather types. Camera cases and carrying straps are available in matching leather. You can choose the viewfinder frame that best suits your preferred lenses and even the viewfinder magnification is up to you : choose from the universal 0.72 x magnification, the 0.58 x wide-angle version suitable for users wearing glasses or the 0.85 x telephoto version. When it comes to the controls,

M7, silver chrome finish, folding advance lever

MP, silver chrome finish, traditional controls

MP with angled rewind button, nappa racing green

M7 in smooth red calf leather with logo

MP with straight rewind button, black chrome finish, MP leather

M7, vulcanite, no logo

you can opt for more robust or faster models depending on your needs. Meanwhile, personal engravings such as signatures, drawings or family coats of arms make your Leica totally distinctive. With more than 4,000 possible combinations, even unusual requests can be met. Make your dreams a reality. Do you want an unusual look or a discreet appearance? What fits best for you? Whether you are a professional photographer or a collector, you will find your ideal camera here. Examine, feel and choose the individual components at your Leica dealer. Or play around with the different configurations beforehand with our Internet configurator at www.leica-a-la-carte.com

Individual viewfinder frame here the 50mm frame in the 3 different viewfinder magnifications.

0.58

0.72

0.85

M7, engraved like M3, black lacquer

MP with individual engraving, silver chrome finish

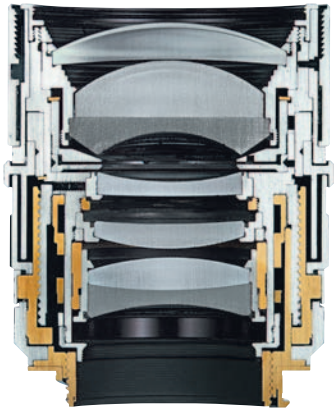
One more reason not to wait : The LEICA M7 entry set.

An attractive set that makes your choice easier and provides you with an introduction to the professional world of Leica. It includes a black LEICA M7 and the LEICA SUMMICRON-M 50 mm f/2 lens and allows you to take your first easy steps into the M system. Your first camera is made just for you and has all the benefits of an initial purchase.

The LEICA M7 and the fast standard focal length of the LEICA SUMMICRON-M 50 mm f/2 are a combination that can be used almost anywhere. The lens features outstanding image quality even at the very fastest settings. This compact and handy set is a reliable companion for any situation. The LEICA M7 entry set is avail-able at an attractive price from your Leica dealer.

Leica M lenses are considered by many professional photographers to be the best in the world and captivate users with their incredibly compact form. Lens design consistently follows the principle of achieving maximum optical performance at full aperture with minimum dimensions. This enables photographers to make creative use of selective focus at the widest apertures. Leica allows light to take a relatively simple route through the lens. This often calls for special types of glass that are difficult to work with and other manufacturers shy away from. But the extra effort certainly pays off with our small, lightweight lenses that contain just a small number of elements. Thanks to their high resolution and the extraordinarily high level of correction, almost all Leica M lenses produced since 1954, particularly the modern ones, are suitable for use on a digital camera. Each individual lens is precision ground and meticulously polished. The focusing helicoid is ground by hand with a great deal of feeling and guarantees silky smooth focusing with zero backlash – in a temperature range from -20 °C to +60 °C. We have built up our expertise over decades and the use of high-tech coating systems, aspherical technology (ASPH) and apochromatic correction (APO) are just some of the secrets of Leica's manufacturing in Solms. Manual lens centering ensures ultra-sharp pictures right into the corners and the final complete inspection confirms the outstanding quality. Photographers can rely on this for every individual Leica M lens.

Aspherical lenses (ASPH)
Leica uses aspherical lenses (ASPH) to improve image quality. They have a surface that deviates from the normal spherical shape and are extremely expensive to manufacture. However, they provide the very best results yet have a compact design.



Apochromatic correction (APO)
Leica utilizes apochromatic correction (APO) for telephoto lenses to ensure that the color spectrum from a point on the subject is brought to an exact point on the image. This ensures optimum sharpness across the entire image field, even at full aperture.

Wide-angle lenses

New LEICA TRI-ELMAR-M 1:4/16-18-21 mm ASPH.

An impressive image angle of 107° offers perfect Leica M quality for 16 mm ultra wide-angle photography. Minimal distortion even with the 16 mm setting makes it ideal for demanding architecture photography. On the M8, it acts as a 21–28 mm lens with extreme wide-angle perspectives. Two aspherical lenses make it exceptionally compact. Also features internal focusing using the floating element principle for high quality in the close-up range. Brilliant depth of field from 0.33 m for hyperfocal photography. Value for money set with the M universal wide-angle viewfinder.

LEICA ELMARIT-M 21 mm f/2.8 ASPH.

Uniform sharpness and low distortion across the entire image field at full aperture. Perfect for dramatic effects with a monumental foreground, strongly receding background and a distant horizon.

LEICA SUMMILUX-M 35 mm f/1.4 ASPH

An extremely compact, fast and high contrast wide-angle lens with an image quality at full aperture that is unique among compact 35 mm lenses.

LEICA SUMMICRON-M 35 mm f/2 ASPH

With superb sharpness, excellent contrast and outstanding resolution across the entire focusing range, this versatile all-round lens is one of the world's leading high-speed wide-angle lenses. Also available in silver chrome finish.

LEICA ELMARIT-M
24 mm f/2.8 ASPH.

Ideal for dynamic shots showing the subject in its surroundings. Extremely high contrast even at full aperture. Excellent brightness and plasticity even for close-ups.

LEICA SUMMICRON-M
28 mm f/2

Ultra-fast wide-angle lens. Highly recommended for available light photography and reportage work. Uncompromising image quality and high contrast even at full aperture.

New LEICA ELMARIT-M
28mm f/2.8 ASPH.

The new high-speed design is the most compact M lens. The use of an aspherical lens provides optimum image quality with a weight of just 180 g. In the close-up range from 0.7m it is practically free of distortion and only protrudes slightly into the viewfinder field. On the M8, it achieves the same results as a 35 mm-equivalent – ideal for reportage work.

The naming of the M lenses

Elmar-M

The economical alternative : These lenses are perfect for photographic applications where a higher depth of field is permitted or even desired. The initial aperture of f/4 means that only a few individual lens elements are required in the construction. This results in the most compact of all Leica M lenses, providing perfect image quality. The Tri-Elmar-M lenses are the epitome of compactness, combining three useful fixed focal lengths in a single compact lens body.

Elmarit-M

The universal f/2.8 lens : The initial aperture is excellent for wide-angle lenses such as the LEICA ELMARIT-M 21 mm f/2.8 ASPH. Despite an aperture of f/2.8, we have gone to great lengths to ensure that the Elmarit-M lenses retain compact dimensions. In terms of size, weight and performance, this range of lenses is a universal solution when excellent image quality and high speed are required.

Summicron-M

High-speed f/2 lens : Doubling the light value to f/2 makes the Summicron-M series perfect for available light and portrait photography. The outstanding optical performance allows creative photography using selective focus and is ideal for use in difficult lighting conditions.

Summilux-M

The king of f/1.4 lenses. This lens series is the right choice when maximum optical performance is needed in extreme light situations. The LEICA SUMMILUX-M 75 mm f/1.4 is the best lens for portraits where the subject needs to be “separated” from the background due to a low depth of field. The 35 mm and 50 mm lenses provide reportage photographers with tools whose performance have made them a benchmark for these focal lengths.

Standard lenses

LEICA NOCTILUX-M
50 mm f/1

This ultra-fast lens produces excellent shots even in conditions of sparse light. The extremely shallow depth of field at f/1 allows the foreground details to be clearly distinguished from the background as in portraits. The Noctilux is almost free of flare, even at full aperture, and clearly captures very fine structures.

LEICA SUMMILUX-M
50 mm f/1.4 ASPH

Even at full aperture and at the limit of the close-up range, this new lens delivers high-contrast shots with crisply defined fine structures. This is made possible by the first ever use of a floating element in the Leica M system. Its properties make this lens particularly well qualified for expressive available light shots. Also available in silver chrome finish.

LEICA SUMMICRON-M
50 mm f/2

There is no doubt that this handy, universal lens is one of the very best high-speed standard focal length lenses available. Its image quality is outstanding, even at full aperture. Also available in silver chrome finish.

Telephoto lenses

LEICA SUMMILUX-M
75 mm f/1.4

Extremely fast for its focal length, this lens is perfect for available light photography, whether it be portraits, reportage or the enormous differences in brightness at concerts or the theatre.

LEICA APO-SUMMICRON-M
75 mm f/2 ASPH

For universal use, this compact lens has excellent image quality with a natural perspective and realistic reproduction of every detail, for close-ups or long-range shots, at full aperture or stopped down. Ideal for lifelike available light portraits and accentuated details in reportage.

LEICA APO-SUMMICRON-M
90 mm f/2 ASPH

A lens that is practically unrivalled in its class. Its high speed allows relatively fast shutter speeds which, among other things, helps to prevent blurring in snapshots taken from a distance.

LEICA ELMAR-M
50 mm f/2.8

This is the universal lens of choice when compact size and low weight are more important than the highest speed. It is slim, handy and has an outstanding optical system. Also available in silver chrome finish.

LEICA TRI-ELMAR-M
28-35-50 mm f/4 ASPH

The Tri-Elmar has two aspherical lenses and combines optimum optical performance with the option of switching between three typical M system focal lengths in an instant. The precise mechanism ensures that the focus remains constant. Light and compact, the Tri-Elmar is an ideal travelling companion.

LEICA ELMARIT-M
90 mm f/2.8

Excellent contrast and sharpness even at full aperture make this compact universal lens weighing just 400 g (14 oz) the ideal companion when travelling. Also available in silver chrome finish.

LEICA APO-TELYT-M
135 mm f/3.4

A completely convincing telephoto lens with outstanding Leica APO quality. Resolution, contrast and sharpness are perfect at any aperture setting. Its handy design, low weight and ease of use are further points in its favor. Not recommended for LEICA M8 due to equivalent focal length of 180 mm.

Macro lens

LEICA MACRO ELMAR-M
90 mm f/4

With the LEICA MACRO ADAPTER-M, this lens allows you to take macro shots up to a scale of 1:3. Without the adapter, it can be used as a compact 90mm telephoto lens. When retracted, it is no larger than a 50 mm lens. Its versatility makes it particularly suitable for travel photography. Also available in silver chrome finish.

Accessories

Accessories perfectly coordinated with the Leica M cameras make photography even more enjoyable.

Ever ready case holds an M8 with lens up to 60 mm in diameter and 70 mm in length from the bayonet mount. Rotating lower section allows easy opening of M8 base plate for quick battery or memory card replacement. Cushioning protects the display. Black nappa calf leather.
Order no. 14 872 M8

Ever ready case M à la carte in Leica à la carte leather types, matching any individually produced M à la carte camera. Secure protection for an MP or M7 with one of the following lenses : 21 mm f/2.8 without lens hood, 24 mm f/2.8 without lens hood, 28 mm f/2 with or without lens hood, 35 mm f/1.4 without lens hood, 35 mm f/2 with or without lens hood, 50 mm f/2.8 extended, 50 mm f/1.4, 50 mm f/2, 90 mm f/4 retracted.
Naturally tanned leather, cognac **Order no. 14 857**, Nappa racing green **Order no. 14 858**,
Box red calf leather **Order no. 14 859**, Dark brown calf leather **Order no. 14 860**,
Lizard look, black **Order no. 14 861**, Ostrich look, black **Order no. 14 862**,
Ostrich look, chestnut **Order no. 14 863**, Nappa bordeaux **Order no. 14 864**,
Blue calf leather **Order no. 14 865** M7 MP

Ever ready case M with standard front holds a Leica M camera without LEICAMETER, Motor M or Winder M and with one of the following lenses : 21 mm f/2.8 without lens hood, 24 mm f/2.8 without lens hood, 28 mm f/2 without lens hood, 35 mm f/1.4 without lens hood, 35 mm f/2 with or without lens hood, 50 mm f/2.8 extended, 50 mm f/1.4, 50 mm f/2, 90 mm f/4 retracted.
Black nappa calf leather **Order no. 14 870** M7 MP

Ever ready case M with large front Also holds Leica M camera without LEICAMETER, Motor M or Winder M and with one of the following lenses : 21 mm f/2.8 with or without lens hood, 24 mm f/2.8 with or without lens hood, 28 mm f/2 with or without lens hood, 35 mm f/1.4 with or without lens hood, 35 mm f/2 with or without lens hood, 50 mm f/2.8 extended, 50 mm f/1.4, 50 mm f/2, 75 mm f/1.4, 75 mm f/2, 28–35–50 mm f/4, 90 mm f/2, 90 mm f/2.8, 90 mm f/4 extended. Black nappa calf leather **Order no. 14 871** M7 MP

Neoprene case M black, with practical hand strap. Can be used as an ever ready case and as a base in emergencies. Reliably protects the camera and has practical Velcro fasteners and two spaces for memory cards. With small front, holds a Leica M camera with a lens up to 65 mm in diameter and 60 mm in length Order no. 14 867, with large front, holds a Leica M camera with a lens up to 65 mm in diameter and 80 mm in length **Order no. 14 868** M8 | M7 | MP

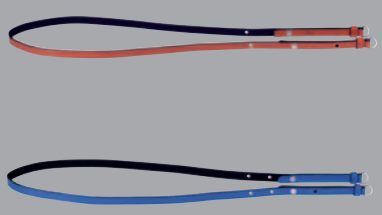
“Billingham” combination case The most flexible case for your Leica M equipment, it holds either two M cameras and two lenses or one camera and three lenses. It provides easy and compact transportation for large lenses or with a LEICAVIT-M or LEICA MOTOR-M fitted. A zipped compartment also provides space for a LEICA SF 24D flash and for films and other accessories. Waterproof canvas. Black Order no. 14 854, khaki **Order no. 14 855** M8 | M7 | MP

Ever ready case for M with LEICAVIT-M Holds a LEICA MP with rewind crank and all other analog M cameras with a LEICAVIT-M fitted. Durable saddle leather **Order no. 14 856**
M7 | MP

Protector Protects the camera body in tough conditions and improves the ergonomics when holding the camera. With a gap for the 2.5" display on the LEICA M8. Black nappa calf leather. **Order no. 14 869** M8

Camera carrying strap à la carte in traditional narrow design in all Leica à la carte leather types, matching individually produced Leica à la carte cameras : Black saddle leather **Order no. 14 453**, Naturally tanned leather cognac **Order no. 14 454**, Nappa racing green **Order no. 14 456**, Box red calf leather **Order no. 14 457**, Dark brown calf leather **Order no. 14 458**, Lizard look, black **Order no. 14 465**, Ostrich look, black **Order no. 14 466**, Ostrich look chestnut **Order no. 14 467**, Nappa bordeaux **Order no. 14 468**, Blue calf leather **Order no. 14 469**

M8 | M7 | MP



Wide camera carrying strap in black saddle leather. Wide neck section provides optimum comfort when carrying, non-slip due to micro-velvet on inside. **Order no. 14 455**

M8 | M7 | MP

Hand grip M8 Improved comfort when holding the camera for a long period or when using heavier, higher-speed lenses. Silver Order no. 14 472, black **Order no. 14 471** M8

Hand grip M For secure and comfortable holding of all analog Leica M cameras (except LEICA M5) ; with central tripod thread. **Order no. 14 405** M7 | MP

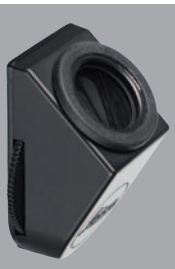
LEICAVIT-M Compact, mechanical quick wind that is attached in place of the base plate and provides a handy extension to an analog LEICA M camera. The LEICAVIT-M is available in black lacquer or with black or silver chrome finish and can be used with all LEICA MP, M7, M6TTL, M6, M4-P and M4-2 models. Black lacquer **Order no. 14 009**, Black chrome finish **Order no. 14 450**, Silver chrome finish **Order no. 14 008** M7 | MP

LEICA MOTOR M Extremely compact and handy battery-powered motor drive for analog M cameras. **Attach to camera** Fitted in place of camera base plate and mechanically coupled to camera. **Exposure frequency** Choice of 1.5 or maximum of 3 frames per second. **Shutter release** Using camera shutter release. **Motor and gear train** Specially designed DC motor with extremely low noise friction drive and additional noise reduction at an exposure frequency of 1.5 fps. **Power supply** Two 3 V lithium batteries, type 123 A, housed in the ergonomically designed grip. **Capacity** (under Leica testing conditions) Minimum 100 36-exposure films at 20 °C. **Housing** High grade fiberglass-reinforced molded material, brass (next to camera), aluminum (battery housing), steel (chassis). **Tripod thread** A 1/4 x 20 inch centrally located under lens axis. **Dimensions** (W x H x D) 138 x 78 (with hand grip) / 18.5 (to bottom edge of camera) x 5 mm. **Weight** Approx. 225 g (without batteries). **Order no. 14 408** (Not suitable for use with lenses with viewfinder attachment)
M7 | MP

Rewind crank The rewind crank is an accessory that allows fast and convenient rewinding when attached to a straight rewind knob (for M7 in Leica à la carte range). It is available in black or silver and can be attached to the rewind button with a small screw. A small screwdriver is included. Silver **Order no. 14 437**, black **Order no. 14 438** M7 | MP

Universal wide-angle viewfinder M Only Leica offers a universally compatible and compact viewfinder in this performance class. It allows the new LEICA TRI-ELMAR-M 16-18-21 mm f/4 ASPH. to be used on analog M7 and MP models and on the digital M8 with extended focal length. The viewfinder enables the exact trimming for the five Leica M focal lengths of 16, 18, 21, 24 and 28 mm to be determined. The parallax compensation allows the trimming to be adapted for any focusing range. The use of an aspherical lens and a lens with apochromatic correction results in exceptionally low stray light sensitivity combined with high resolution and brilliance. Includes spirit level for exact camera alignment. Diopter compensation from -3 to +3 possible using optional correction lenses. **Order no. 12 011** M8 | M7 | MP

Viewfinder for 21/24/28 mm lenses with leather pouch. This viewfinder can be used to show the framing on the 21 mm, 24 mm or 28 mm wide-angle lenses. For viewing without glasses, the LEICA M correction lenses can be screwed into the viewfinder eyepiece. Black chrome finish **Order no. 12 013**
M8 | M7 | MP



Angle finder M with leather pouch. The angle finder for all LEICA M cameras (except the first M3 series produced in 1954) extends the range of uses of the Leica M system. It shows a laterally correct, right-side up circular section of the center of the viewfinder image, approx. 8.7 mm in size, and with its 45° angled and freely rotating sight makes it easier to assess the subject in all situations where the photographer does not want to hold the camera in front of his eyes, e. g. reproductions. When used for close-ups of subjects close to the ground with the LEICA MACRO-ELMAR-M 90 mm f/4, it allows a much more comfortable body position.
Order no. 12 531 M8 | M7 | MP

LEICA VIEWFINDER MAGNIFIER M 1.25 x with leather pouch and securing chain. Makes picture composition considerably easier when using focal lengths above 50 mm. Particularly with the Leica M system's 75 to 135 mm telephoto lenses, the significantly larger visible viewfinder image allows better identification of subject details within the relevant image field frame.
Order no. 12 004 M8 | M7 | MP

Correction lenses M The LEICA M correction lenses can be screwed into the viewfinder eyepiece for viewing without glasses.
+0,5 **Order no. 14 350**, + 1,0 **Order no. 14 351** , + 1,5 **Order no. 14 352**, + 2,0 **Order no. 14 353**, + 3,0 **Order no. 14 354**,
- 0,5 **Order no. 14 355**, - 1,0 **Order no. 14 356**, - 1,5 **Order no. 14 357**, - 2,0 **Order no. 14 358**, - 3,0 **Order no. 14 359**
M8 | M7 | MP

LEICA MACRO-ADAPTER-M An accessory for the LEICA MACRO-ELMAR-M 90 mm f/4 that expands the focusing range from 0.7 7m (scale 1:6.7) up to the close-up distance of 0.5 m (scale 1:3) with a minimum object field of 72 x 108 mm. It transfers the position of the rangefinder on the lens to the camera while a viewfinder attachment corrects the parallax error between the viewfinder and the lens. The adapter is attached to the camera and the lens with the underside facing upwards. A second distance and depth of field scale for the close-up range is engraved on the lens. Black anodized finish **Order no. 14 409** M8 | M7 | MP

Lens holder M To be fitted onto the camera base plate ; creates a compact set of photographic equipment with two lenses.
Order no. 14 404 M7 | MP

Flash LEICA SF 24D with 2 diffuser screens (wide angle and telephoto diffuser screens), velvet pouch. **Connection** TTL flash exposure metering with LEICA M7 and M6 TTL, aperture priority mode with all Leica R and M models with center contact, can be used on cameras without center contact using a standard flash adapter cable / center contact, GNC (Guide Number Control) for cameras with GNC function (CM, CM Zoom, Digilux 2). **Guide number** 24 (with telephoto screen for 85 mm). **Functions** Exposure variable by ±3 f-stops, illumination angle from 35 mm, with wide angle diffuser screen from 24 mm or with telephoto screen from 85 mm, 6 automatic apertures in A mode : 2.0/2.8/4.0/5.6/8/11. **Displays** All settings and corrections are shown in illuminated LCD display, flash confirm-ation in viewfinder on LEICA R8/R9, LEICA M7 and LEICA M6 TTL and on flash unit. **Film speed** in M/TTL/GNC mode from ISO 12/12° to ISO 3200/36°, in A mode from ISO 25/15° to ISO 800/30°. **Power supply** Two 3 V lithium batteries, type 123 A, allowing rapid exposure series. **Dimensions** (W x H x D) 66 x 109 x 40 mm. **Weight** Approx. 180 g (without batteries).
Order no. 14 444 M8 | M7 | MP

Cable release, 25 cm long with set screw.
Order no. 14 067 M8 | M7 | MP

Cable release, 50 cm long with set screw.
Order no. 14 076 M8 | M7 | MP

Tabletop tripod with three folding legs, tripod thread A 1/4, DIN 4503 (1/4").
Order no. 14 100 M8 | M7 | MP

Large ball and socket head with A 1/4 DIN 4503 (1/4") tripod thread.
Order no. 14 110 M8 | M7 | MP

Battery Powerful rechargeable lithium ion battery, specially designed for the specific properties of the M8. Continuous monitoring of relevant battery data (e.g. temperature, remaining capacity) guarantees reliable and convenient operation. Prevents damage caused by short circuits. Rated voltage 3.7 V, Capacity 1900 mAh. **Order no. 14 464** M8

Battery charger Lithium ion charger, can be used almost worldwide either in a car (12-24 V) or at mains voltages of 100-240 V due to the interchangeable connector system. It uses a special interface to communicate with the battery in use and can detect different battery statuses. A totally discharged battery is pulse charged to reactivate it without losing its capacity. Temperature monitoring and pulsed float charging are among the other measures used to maintain the capacity of the lithium ion battery.
Order no. 14 463 M8

Technical Data LEICA M8

Camera	**LEICA M8**	**silver**	**black**
Order no.		10 702	10 701
Camera Type	Compact digital viewfinder/rangefinder system camera for professional usage with Leica M lenses. Micro-processor controlled metal-blade slotted shutter.		
Image sensor	Low-noise CCD sensor specially tailored to the requirements of the M lens system. Pixels : 10.3 million. Dimensions : 18 mm x 27 mm. Extension factor : 1.33 x. Aspect ratio 3:2. **Moiré-Filter** no, full utilization of lens performance. Moiré detection and elimination in digital signal processing.		
Sensor sensitivity range	Manual setting from ISO 160/23° to ISO 2500/35°		
Viewfinder	**Viewfinder principle** Large light bright line frame viewfinder/rangefinder with automatic parallax compensation. Viewfinder lens optimal visibility of all bright line frames whatever the lighting situation. **Eyepiece** Coordinated to -0.5 dpt. Correction lenses available from –3 to +3 dpt. **Image field limiter** By activating two bright lines each : for 24 and 35 mm/28 and 90 mm/50 and 75 mm. Automatic Automatic activation when lens is screwed in. With the **image field selector** each pair of the bright lines can be activated manually, so simulating each focal length. **Parallax compensation** The horizontal and vertical difference between the viewfinder and the lens is automatically compensated according to the focusing distance used, i.e. the viewfinder bright-line frame automatically aligns with the subject detail recorded by the lens. **Magnification** 0.68 x (with all lenses). **Large basis range finder** Combination of split and superimposed image range finder shown as a bright field in the centre of the viewfinder image. Effective measurement basis 47.1 mm (mechanical measurement basis 69.25 mm x viewfinder enlargement 0.68 x).		
Lenses	**Lens connection** Leica M bayonet with additional optical scanning device for the identification of all 6 bit-coded lenses. **Lens system** Current 6 bit-coded Leica M lenses with a focal length of 16–90 mm. Almost all Leica M lenses with a focal length of 21–90 mm manufactured from **1954** can also be used without 6 bit-coding. 6 bit-retrofitting possible for virtually all lenses. **6 bit-functions** Lens-dependent reduction of system-specific vignetting. Identification of picture file with lens information to simplify digital archiving. Coordination of flash reflector with motor zoom flash units. Auto slow sync function with automatic mode.		
Exposure control	**Automatic mode (Auto)** Automatic determination of correct shutter speed with manual aperture preselection with relevant viewfinder display. **Manual exposure** Independent selection of shutter speed and aperture – camera exposure check visible via LED light balance shown in the viewfinder.		
Picture-taking modes	Picture-taking modes **S** Single frame picture-taking, for one shutter release whenever shutter is pressed **C** Continuous shooting with 2 pictures per second and 10 picture in series. **Automatic release mode** Selectable with either 2 s and 12 s visualization of delay time via one of the LEDs visible from front of camera in viewfinder window.		
Controls / display elements	**Front of housing** Lens release ; image field selector **Top of housing** Main switch and shutter release ; shutter speed setting dial, status LCD display : indication of number of frames remaining and residual battery capacity. **Rear of housing** 2.5" color monitor, setting ring for navigation in menu and magnifier function in 4 levels ; 4 x direction buttons for navigation in menu and in image details, Menu button, Play button, Delete button, Protect button, Info button **Bottom of housing** Locking base plate protects the battery and SD memory card from dust and moisture.		
Color monitor	2.5" bright LC display with a resolution of approx. 230,000 pixels for image reproduction and menu selection. Brightness control in 5 levels. Control options after picture-taking : General quality evaluation of exposure control via RGB tone value histogram with identification of light image details without detailing (can also be used with zoom-in), control of sharpness of focus, display of quality parameters selected and display of lens focal length used (with current 6 bit-coded lenses). Image view sizes : 9 thumbnails, 4 thumbnails, single frame display as well as magnification in four levels up to 1 pixel to 1 pixel view.		
Picture parameters menu / Main menu	Pressing the Set button allows the following parameters relevant to the picture to be changed and selected : User profile, Sensor sensitivity, Manual exposure compensation, White balance, data format, picture resolu-tion. **Main menu** Pressing the Menu button allows settings such as color monitor contrast or selection of color space to be made in the Main menu. **Menu languages** German, English, French, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Chinese.		
Picture resolution	DNG : 3916 x 2634 pixels (10.31 MP), JPG : 3936 x 2630 pixels (10.35 MP), 2952 x 1972 pixels (5.8 MP) 1968 x 1315 pixels (2.6 MP), 1312 x 876 pixels (1.15 MP).		
Data formats	DNG™ (Digital Negative Format not specific to any camera manufacturer), 2 different highly compressed JPEG levels **DNG™ file information** 16 bit-color resolution, 10.2 MB file size per picture		
Storage medium	SD cards up to 4 GB The following Internet page includes a list of SD memory cards fully compatible with the LEICA M8 : www.leica-camera.us/photography/m_system/m8		
White balance	Automatic, 6 presettings, manual white balance, color temperature input from 2,000 K to 13,100 K.		

Color spaces	Adobe®RGB, sRGB, ECI RGB.
Viewfinder display	LED symbol for flash status, four-digit seven-segment LED display with dots above and below (display brightness always adjusted to ambient brightness) for : display of automatically determined exposure time with automatic mode, indication of use of metered value storage, warning of exposure compensation, warning that metering range is overshot or undershot with automatic mode and display for counting down exposure times longer than 2 s, warning about capacity when SD card is full. LED light balance with two triangular LEDs and one center circular LED as an aid when setting exposure manually.
	LED light balance with two triangular LEDs and one center circular LED for adjusting exposure ◗ Underexposure by at least one aperture stop. ◗● Underexposure by 1/2 aperture stop. ● Correct exposure. ●◖ Overexposure by 1/2 aperture stop. ◖ Overexposure by at least one aperture stop. Triangular LEDs give the direction of rotation of the aperture setting ring and for the shutter speed setting dial to adjust the exposure. LEDs flash as a warning when metering range is overshot or undershot.
Metering	TTL metering heavily center-weighted with preset working aperture. **Measurement principle** Measured by light reflected by a white blade in the middle of the metal-blade slotted shutter. **Metering range** EV 0 to EV 20 at room temperature 20° C, aperture 1.0 and ISO 160/23°. **Measurement cell** Silicon photo diode with collection lens, positioned at center lower edge, on bottom of camera.
Flash exposure metering and control	
Principle of M-TTL Flash technology	An extremely short metering preflash activated immediately before the picture is taken is used to measure the output light required for the exposure.
Connection	M-TTL Guide Number Control with metering preflash via accessory shoe SCA 3502 (from version M4) or with flash LEICA SF24D.
Flash sync time	Fast 1/250 s provides for creative open aperture photography even with bright ambient light. Manual flash sync times from B (bulb) to 1/250 s **Automatic mode** Auto slow sync: automated extension of longest flash exposure time to rule of thumb 1/focal length in seconds. (only with 6 bit-coded lenses). Selection of long flash sync times e.g. up to 1/8 s for balanced flash with available light shots with automatic mode.
Time of synchronization	Can be switched to either first or second shutter curtain (with appropriate flash unit, e.g. LEICA SF24D or when using SCA-3502 adapter).
Flash exposure compensation	±3 1/3 EV in 1/3 EV stages adjustable at SCA-3501/3502 adapter. With LEICA SF 24D ±3 EV in 1/3 EV stages or 0 to –3 EV in 1 EV stages adjustable with computer control.
Shutter and shutter release	
Shutter	Micro-processor controlled metal-blade slotted shutter with vertical movement.
Shutter speeds	In automatic mode **(A)** steplessly from 32 s to 1/8000 s. Using manual setting 4 s to 1/8000 s in half steps. **B** for long exposures of any duration.
Activation of shutter	Shutter action optimized for minimum noise. Driven by an electric motor with friction gear in first speed-increasing gear stage and a cam for homogeneous torque during entire activation process.
Release	Three-stage activation depending on pressure level : 1. Switch-on of camera electronics and activation of metering, 2. Metered value storage (with automatic mode), 3. Shutter release (standard thread for cable release included).
Power supply	Lithium-ion rechargeable battery with 3.7 V and 1900 mAh.
Computer interface	5-pin standardized mini USB port for fast USB 2.0 data transfer to computer on left side of housing. With LEICA DIGITAL CAPTURE camera can be software-controlled via USB 2.0 connection.
Camera housing	**Material** Closed solid metal housing made of a highly stable magnesium alloy for long-lasting professional usage. Black synthetic leather covering. Cover plate and base cover milled from solid brass and silver or black chrome-plated. **Tripod bushing** DIN4503 – A1/4 (1/4") at center of base cover.
Dimensions (W x H x D)	approx. 139 x 80 x 37 mm
Weight without battery	approx. 545 g
Scope of supply	Carrying strap with anti-slip guard (14 312), camera cover for M bayonet (14 195), lithium ion battery (14 464), charger incl. car and 3 mains plug adapters (Euro, UK, USA) (14 463), USB connecting lead, operating manual, software CD Capture One LE, software CD with LEICA DIGITAL CAPTURE and operating manual; warranty card.

Technical Data LEICA M7/LEICA MP

Camera	LEICA M7	silver	black	LEICA MP	silver	black
Order no.		10 503	10 504		10 301	10 302
Camera type	Compact 35 mm rangefinder system camera with electronically controlled shutter and two mechanically controlled shutter speeds.			Compact 35 mm rangefinder system camera with mechanically controlled shutter.		
Lenses	Leica M bayonet mount. **Lens system** Leica M lenses from 21–135 mm.					
Viewfinder	**Viewfinder principle** Large, bright line frame viewfinder with automatic parallax compensation. Viewfinder optical system with reduced stray light sensitivity and optimum visibility of all bright line frames. **Eyepiece** Calibrated to –0.5 dpt. Correction lenses from –3 to +3 diopter available. Bright line frames activated in pairs : for 28 and 90 mm, 35 and 135 mm or 50 and 75 mm. Automatically displayed when the lens is mounted. The preview selector can be used to display each of the pairs of frames. Alternative bright line frame configurations are available as part of the Leica a la carte range.* **Parallax compensation** The horizontal and vertical difference between the viewfinder and the lens is automatically compensated in line with the current distance setting, i.e. the bright line frame in the viewfinder automatically covers the section of the subject that will be captured by the lens. **Correlation between viewfinder and film images** At the shortest possible distance setting for each focal length, the bright line frame size corresponds to an image size of approx. 23 x 35 mm. When set to infinity, depending on the focal length between 9 % (28 mm) and 23 % (135 mm) more is captured by the film than is shown in the corresponding bright line frame. **Magnification** 0.72 x (for all lenses). Alternative viewfinder magnifications of 0.85 x and 0.58 x are available as part of the Leica a la carte range.* **Wide-base rangefinder** Split and superposed-image ranger finder displayed as a bright field in the centre of the viewfinder image. Effective measuring basis 49.9 mm (mechanical measuring basis 69.25 mm x viewfinder magnification 0.72 x). For the alternative viewfinder magnifications of 0.85 x and 0.58 x available as part of the Leica a la carte range, it is 58.9 mm (mechanical measuring basis 69.25 mm x viewfinder magnification 0.85 x) and 40.2 mm (mechanical measuring basis 69.25 mm x viewfinder magnification 0.58 x) respectively.					
Exposure metering	Exposure metering through the lens (TTL), selectively with working aperture. **Metering principle** The light reflected by a metering spot in the center of the first shutter curtain. The metering spot has a diameter of 12 mm and thus corresponds to approx. 13 % of the full film format or approx. 2/3 of the short side of the applicable bright line frame in the viewfinder. **Metering range** (for ISO 100/21°) From 0.03 to 125000 cd/m2 at room temperature, normal humidity and f/1.0. For ISO 100/21° this corresponds to EV-2 to 20 or f/1 and 4 s (B setting on LEICA MP) to f/32 and 1/1000 s. Flashing of the left-hand triangular LED in the viewfinder indicates that the brightness reflected is below the metering range. **Metering cell** Silicon photodiode with focusing lens to the top left behind the bayonet.					
Exposure control	Choice of automatic control of shutter speed – with corresponding digital display – with manual aperture selection (automatic mode) or manual shutter speed and aperture setting with adjustment using LED light balance.			Manual shutter speed and aperture setting and adjustment using LED light balance.		
Film speed range	Choice of automatic setting from ISO 25/15° to ISO 5000/38° for DX coded films or manual setting from ISO 6/9° to ISO 6400/39°. Setting an additional exposure compensation (± 2 EV) allows speeds of ISO 1.5/3° to ISO 25000/45° to be used.			Manual setting from ISO 6/9 to ISO 6400/39°.		
Viewfinder displays (at lower edge)	LED symbol for flash status, four-digit, seven segment LED digital display with points above and below (display brightness adapted to outside brightness) for: Film speed information, exposure correction warnings, automatically set shutter speed in automatic mode, indication of use of stored exposure setting, indication of brightness readings above or below the metering range in automatic mode and progress of shutter speeds slower than 2s.			LED symbol for battery status.		
	LED light balance with two triangular LEDs and a central circular LED to adjust the exposure (on LEICA M7 for manual setting only). ◗ Underexposure of at least one stop ◗● Underexposure of 1/2 stop ● Correct exposure ●◖ Overexposure of 1/2 stop ◖ Overexposure of at least one stop Triangular LEDs give the required direction to rotate the aperture dial and (on LEICA M7 only) the shutter speed dial to adjust the exposure. The LEDs flash to warn that the brightness reading is above or below the metering range.					

Camera	LEICA M7	silver	black	LEICA MP	silver	black
Order no.		10 503	10 504		10 301	10 302
Flash exposure metering and control						
Flash unit connection	Using accessory hotshoe with center contacts or standard flash connector socket.			Using accessory hotshoe with center contact and/or standard flash connector socket.		
Flash synchronisation speed	ϟ = 1/50 s ; slower shutter speeds can be used (with manual setting only on LEICA M7).					
	Automatic setting in **AUTO** mode; faster shutter speeds (1/250 s, 1/500 s, 1/1000 s) available with manual setting if the connected flash unit has the "High Speed Synchronisation" function and an SCA-3502 adapter is used.					
Synchronisation time	Optionally with 1st or 2nd shutter curtain (with appropriate flash unit and SCA-3502 adapter)			With 1st shutter curtain.		
Exposure metering/ metering characteristics	(With SCA-3501/3502 adapter or SCA-3000 standard flash unit, e.g. LEICA SF 20 / SF 24D) TTL control with center-weighted integral metering.			Separate computer control of flash unit or guide number calculation and manual setting of required aperture.		
Metering cell	Silicon photodiode with focusing lens at lower right behind bayonet.			–		
Film speed range for TTL flash exposure metering	ISO 12/12° to 3200/36°			–		
Flash exposure compensation	± 3 1/3 EV in 1/3 EV increments on SCA-3501/3502 adapter.			–		
	On LEICA SF 20/SF 24D, ± 3 EV in 1/3 EV increments or from 0 to –3 EV in 1EV increments with computer control.					
Displays in flash mode	Ready: Constant illumination of flash symbol LED in viewfinder. Confirmation: Continued illumination or brief rapid flashing of LED after exposure. Underexposure indicated by LED temporarily going out.			On LEICA SF 20/SF 24D, ± 3 EV in 1/3 EV increments or from 0 to –3 EV in 1 EV increments with computer control.		
Shutter and shutter release				–		
Shutter	Rubberized cloth focal plane shutter with horizontal movement ; extremely quiet					
	Electronically controlled with two mechanically controlled shutter speeds, 1/60 s and 1/125 s.			Mechanically controlled		
Shutter speeds	In automatic mode (AUTO) continuous from 32 s to 1/1000 s. With manual setting 4 s to 1/1000 s in whole increments.			From 1 s to 1/1000 s in whole increments.		
	B for very long exposures of any duration, ϟ (1/50 s) for flash synchronisation.					
Shutter release	Three stage: Power up – Exposure value storage (in automatic mode) – Release			Two stage : Power up (activate exposure meter) – Release		
	Standard thread for cable release integrated.			Standard thread for cable release integrated.		
Film transport	**Loading** Manual film loading after opening base plate and rear panel. **Advance** Manually with quick wind lever or LEICAVIT M or motorized using LEICA MOTOR M, LEICA WINDER-M, LEICA WINDER M4-P or LEICA WINDER M4-2 (from serial no. 10350). **Rewind** Manually with extending rewind button (on LEICA MP, rewind crank available as part of Leica a la carte range and attachable rewind crank available as an accessory) or rewind crank (LEICA M7) after turning **R** lever on front of camera. **Frame counter** On top of camera. Automatic reset after removing base plate.					
Camera body	**Material** Enclosed all metal body with hinged rear panel. Brass top and base plate. **MP** Silver chrome finish or black lacquered. **M7** Silver or black chrome finish. All variations are available for both cameras as part of the Leica a la carte range. **Tripod thread** A 1/4 (1/4") DIN in base plate.					

Technische Daten LEICA MP/LEICA M7

Camera	LEICA M7	silver	black	LEICA MP	silver	black
Order no.		10 503	10 504		10 301	10 302
Power supply	6 V from 2 lithium cells, type DL 1/3 N. Battery monitoring by flashing of LEDs in digital display or light balance or by illumination of **bc** display or all LEDs going out.			(Only necessary for exposure metering and display) 3V from 2 silver oxide button cells, type PX 76 / SR 44 or from 1 lithium cell, type DL 1/3 N. Battery monitoring by illumination of battery warning display with light balance LEDs (1st level), light balance LEDs going out (2nd level) or all LEDs going out.		
Dimensions (W x H x D)	Approx. 138 mm x 79,5 mm x 38 mm			Approx. 138 mm x 77 mm x 38 mm		
Weight (without batteries)	Approx. 610 g			Approx. 585 g		
Items supplied	Carrying strap with non-slip pad (14 312), camera cover with M bayonet (14 195), flash contact shoe connector (14 348) and batteries.					

*For the possible combinations, the bright line frames (pairs) displayed in each case and further details of the equipment options in the Leica a la carte range, please refer to our homepage: www.leica-a-la-carte.com

“24 x 36” Leica M photography portfolio

BRUCE GILDEN (1946, Brooklyn/New York – lives in New York City)
From the “Go” series, 1995–2000
Although he is now a regular member of the Magnum agency, Bruce Gilden is anything but a traditional reportage photographer. His role models could be William Klein or Diane Arbus. There is no doubt that Gilden was inspired by Leon Levinstein, whose interest in people and unusual physiognomy he shares. Gilden looks for his subjects in everyday urban life, and he sometimes attempts to further increase the visual radicalism of bizarre situations by combining daylight and flash lighting. “Go”, his series about petty criminals, prostitutes and Mafiosi taken in Japan between 1995 and 2000 (see “Leica World” 2/2001) is certainly Gilden’s best work of this type to date.
Camera : LEICA M6/Lens : LEICA ELMARIT-M 28 mm f/2.8
Courtesy of Bruce Gilden / Magnum Photos

JEFF MERMELSTEIN (1957 New Brunswick/New Jersey – lives in Brooklyn/New York)
From the “Side Walk” series, 1987–1999
Jeff Mermelstein, winner of the coveted 1999 European Publishers’ Award is someone who represents a whole new generation of documentary photographers. They are no longer satisfied with simply documenting reality. When they set out to find pictures – preferably in an urban setting – they do so with a distinct and more or less rigid concept in mind and with an uncompromising style that is at odds with the great exponents of the craft. In Mermelstein’s case, these could be Leon Levinstein or Garry Winogrand. Except that Mermelstein works exclusively in color and resolutely emphasizes the theater of everyday life, with all its comedy and tragedy. In his most recent book “No title here” (2003), Mermelstein is once again a subtle chronicler of everyday surrealism.
Camera : LEICA M 6/Lens : LEICA SUMMICRON-M 35 mm f/2 ASPH.
Courtesy of Jeff Mermelstein

BERND ARNOLD (1961, Cologne – lives in Cologne)
From the "Power and Ritual" series, 1986–2004
Saying that traditional analog photography records superficial aspects of the visual world with incredible precision is no doubt correct in a purely physical sense. However, it fails to highlight the boundaries of a kind of photographic art that claims to take a look "behind the scenes". This is precisely what concerns the Cologne-based photographer Bernd Arnold, who concentrates on those areas of life where deliberate spectacle and dedicated donning of a mask is to some extent part of the "Conditio sine qua non". Although his initial interest was in the rites and rituals of the Catholic Church, Arnold soon expanded his scope to the fields of politics and the media and – by creating black and white photographs that are rich in both intelligence and atmosphere – he demonstrated just how critical documentary photography can be these days.
Camera : LEICA M6/Lenses : LEICA ELMARIT-M 28 mm f/2.8, LEICA SUMMICRON-M 35 mm f/2 ASPH.
Courtesy of Bernd Arnold

TOMASZ TOMASZEWSKI (1953 Warsaw – lives in Warsaw)
From the “Gypsies – different people just like us” series, 2000–2001
The theme is nothing new: Joseph Koudelka, Ljalja Kuznetsova and Gianni Berengo Gardin have already dealt in detail with the issue of gypsies or, more correctly, Romanies. What sets Tomasz Tomaszewski apart from those people is that he works in color. And, in his work that began in 2000 – backed by a commission from “National Geographic” magazine – the photographer’s ambitious aim was nothing less than to describe and capture the global culture of the Sinti and Romany people. Tomaszewski says “My aim was to use pictures to tell the story of a stateless people who manage to develop a vital and unique community wherever they settle.”
Cameras : LEICA M6, LEICA M7/Lenses : LEICA SUMMICRON-M 28mm f/2 ASPH.,
LEICA SUMMILUX-M 35mm f/1.4 ASPH., LEICA APO-SUMMICRON-M 90mm f/2 ASPH.
Courtesy of Tomasz Tomaszewski

www.leica-camera.com

In all Leica product areas the focus falls on man and his perceptions. The range on offer is rounded off by numerous cultural activities, photography competitions, trips and seminars as well as technical Customer Service. Further information is available on the Internet or from your specialist dealer.

Leica M system Professional combined viewfinder/rangefinder system that concentrates on photographically relevant functions – with no-compromise optical and mechanical quality. Photographers who want to give free rein to their creativity can choose between 18 fast and compact high-performance lenses as well as two analog and one digital camera model. Ideal for the different sectors of photojournalism, available-light and author photography.

Leica R system Together with the high-performance lenses and the LEICA DIGITAL-MODULE-R, the single-lens reflex camera LEICA R9 is the world's first 35 mm camera system that can be used for analog or digital capture. It is an intuitive and expandable system that retains its value, delivers top-quality pictures and offers creative freedom.

Leica D system Brand-new but still classic : The Leica D system combines state-of-the-art technology with a unique use of forms and intuitive photographic handling from Leica. The LEICA DIGILUX 3 forms the basis for the D system, the first single-lens reflex system from Leica solely geared to digital photography.

Leica compact cameras Leica's handy compact cameras in the C-Lux, D-Lux and V-Lux ranges impress users with their optical performance, user-friendliness and clear lines. Modern digital technology and the tried and tested concepts underpinning analog photo-g-raphy are a winning combination.

Leica projectors Leica Pradovit projectors are the logical solution for high-quality slide presentation. With their unsurpassed definition and impressive detail rendering they are sure to satisfy the discerning user.

Leica binoculars and rangefinders The high performance optical tools produced by Leica for nature watching and hunting are designed to enhance the user's natural powers of perception in even the toughest conditions. The innovative binoculars and rangefinders from Leica are the ideal companions for even the most demanding professionals.

Leica spotting scopes Leica's high performance spotting scopes bring faraway objects or extremely fine details breathtakingly close in images of vivid contrast and true-to-life color. Ten models in different vaiants and a wide choice of interchangeable eyepieces plus innovative digiscoping solutions cater for the needs of every user.

my point of view

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