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## **Chapter 2. Recording Basics**

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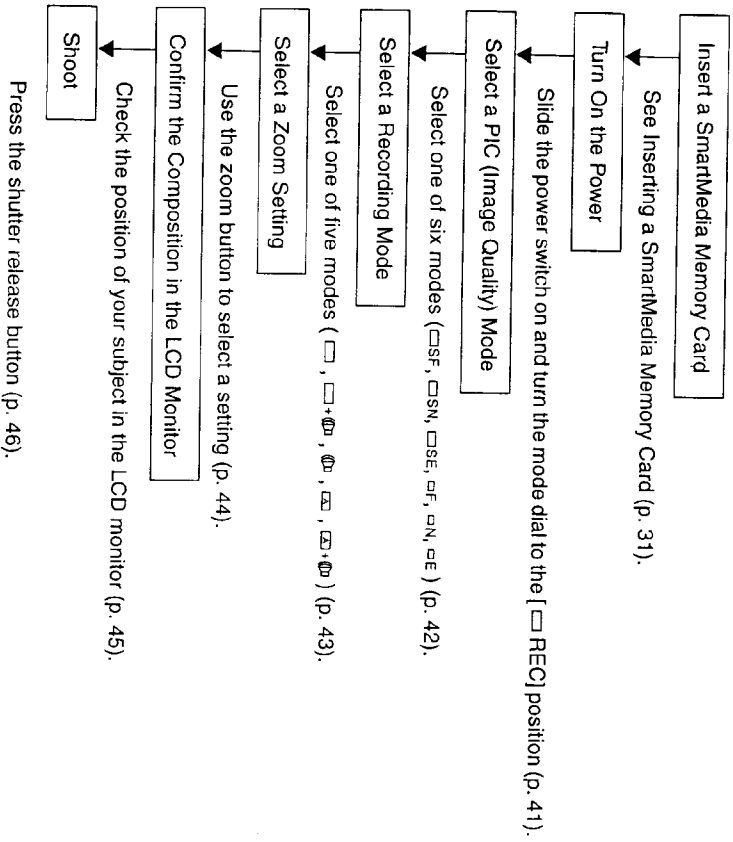
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# Basic Shooting Procedures

This chapter explains the procedures for shooting and composing pictures under normal conditions.

## Procedural Flowchart

These steps should be followed to shoot photographs.

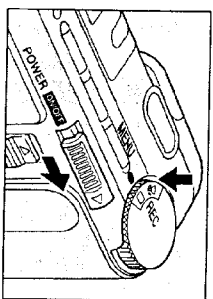


## Turning On the Power

Slide the power switch to turn the power on. Slide it a second time to turn the power off.

- 1 Slide the power on and turn the mode dial to [REC].

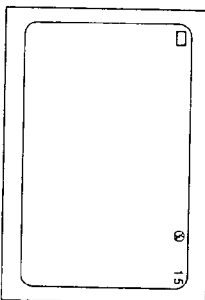
The lens cover will open and the camera will power up.



The LCD monitor will display the recording settings.

### Note:

- If a SmartMedia memory card is not in the camera at startup, the [Insert Card] message will display. Insert a card to proceed.
- Sliding the power switch a second time closes the lens cover and powers down the camera.



### Tips: Auto Power Off

The camera will automatically power down to conserve the battery if left untouched (no buttons or switches manipulated) for approximately 5 minutes. Slide the power switch on to resume use. You can disable the auto power off function (p. 89). The auto power off function is automatically disabled while the camera is powered by an AC adapter.

### Note:

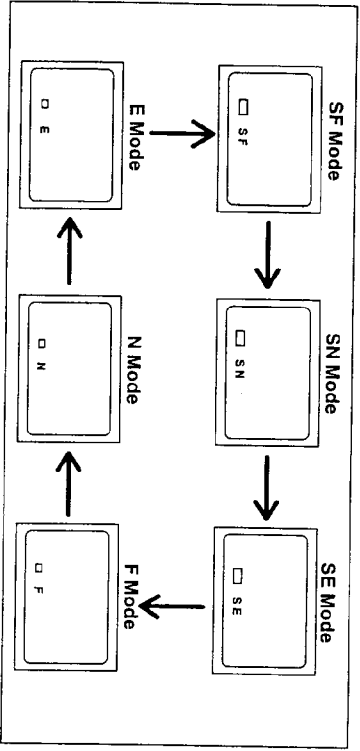
- When the save mode is active, the recording, exposure compensation, white balance, flash, PIC and S mode settings are all saved in their existing states before the camera powers down. See Keep Settings (p. 92).

## Selecting a PIC Mode (Image Quality Selection)

The camera features six image quality modes (PIC modes) to suit your shooting requirements.

### Switching Between PIC Modes

As you change the PIC mode, the following symbols will display in turn on the LCD monitor.

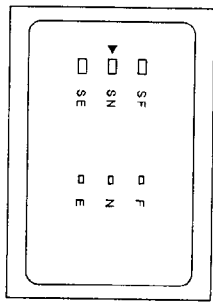


- The number of recordable images will change as you switch between modes.
- The factory default setting is [  SN ].

### Procedures for Selecting a PIC Mode

#### 1 Press the PIC button and select a mode.

Pressing the PIC button displays the settings menu on the LCD monitor. The selected mode changes with each additional press of the PIC button. The selection takes effect approximately 2 seconds after the button is pressed and the display updates the number of recordable pictures available at that setting.



- Note:**
- You can add a Non Compression mode to the options. See Adding PIC Mode Options (N/C Mode) (p. 91).

### Approximate File Size By Mode

PIC Mode	Approx. File Size
SF Mode	616 KB
SN Mode	312 KB
SE Mode	168 KB

PIC Mode	Approx. File Size
F Mode	168 KB
N Mode	88 KB
E Mode	56 KB

- Note:**
- Image sizes are 1280 x 960 pixels (SF/SN/SE) or 640 x 480 pixels (F/N/E).
  - The chart below shows the maximum number of recordable images on a 4 MB SmartMedia memory card if the picture mode is changed.

Image Size	PIC Mode	Approx. No. of Recordable Images
1280 x 960	SF Mode	6
	SN Mode	12
	SE Mode	23
	F Mode	23
	N Mode	45
	E Mode	70
640 x 480	F Mode	23
	N Mode	45
	E Mode	70

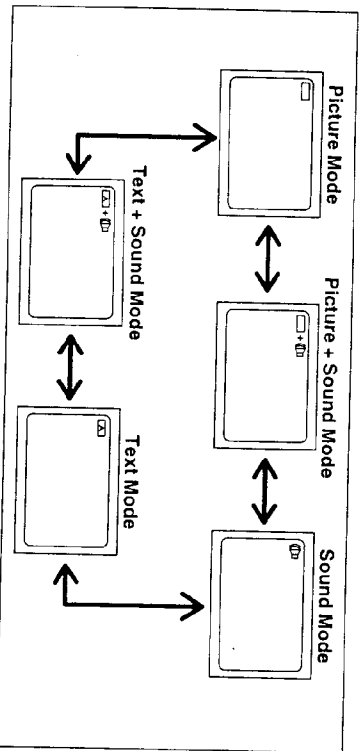
- For the number of recordable images on SmartMedia memory cards of varying capacities with different PIC mode selections, see Recording Capacity (p. 114).
- Activate the save mode to save a picture mode setting. See Keep Settings (p. 92).

## Selecting a Recording Mode

The camera features five image and sound recording modes that can be freely interchanged to suit your shooting requirements.

### Switching between Modes

As you change the recording mode, the following symbols will display in turn on the LCD monitor.



- The number of recordable images and recording time will change as you switch between modes.
- The factory default setting is [  ] picture mode.

## ■ Procedures for Selecting a Recording Mode (Picture Mode Example)

Picture mode is for recording images.

- 1 Turn the mode dial to [REC] and press the menu button.  
The record menu will display.

Note:

- To cancel the operation, press the menu button a second time.

- 2 Slide the zoom button to select the [Recording Model option and press the enter button.

Note:

- To cancel the operation and return to the record menu, press the menu button a second time.

- 3 Slide the zoom button to select the recording mode of your choice and press the menu button.

The recording mode setting will take effect and the LCD monitor will display the record menu with the new recording mode.

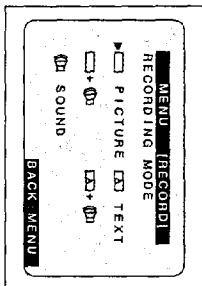
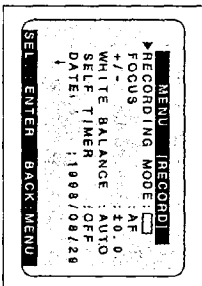
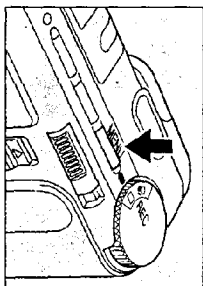
### Other Recording Modes

Picture + Sound Mode (p. 51)

Sound Mode (p. 52)

Text Mode (p. 53)

Text + Sound Mode (p. 54)

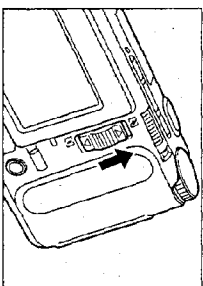


## Selecting a Zoom Setting

You can change the size of a subject in the LCD monitor without moving your own position by adjusting the zoom setting (35-105 millimeters in 35mm-camera format).

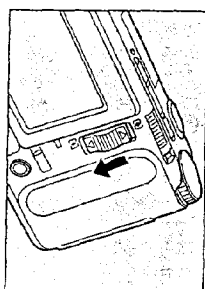
### ■ Zoom In (Telephoto Setting)

- 1 Slide the zoom button up toward the [A] / FWD mark.  
The subject will appear larger and the zoom bar will display in the LCD monitor. Slide the zoom button as required to adjust the picture composition.



### ■ Zoom Out (Wide Angle Setting)

- 1 Slide the zoom button down toward the [L] / REV mark.  
The subject will appear small and the zoom bar will display in the LCD monitor. Slide the zoom button as required to adjust the picture composition.



## How to View Images in the LCD Monitor

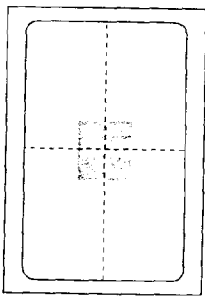
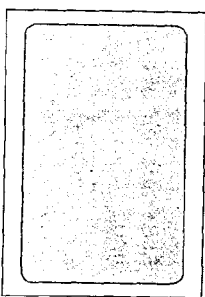
You can view an image in the LCD monitor as you shoot.

### Image Field

Compose your picture within the boundaries of the LCD monitor frame.

### Autofocus Field

The autofocus field is the central portion of the image area used by the camera to determine the focal distance. This corresponds roughly to the area shown on the LCD monitor diagram to the right.



- Note:  
The highlighted area and dotted lines are shown for illustration purposes only and do not appear on the LCD monitor.

## Shooting and Recording (Picture Mode)

The following procedures explain how to shoot standard pictures. To produce good results, hold the camera motionless while shooting.

**Note:**

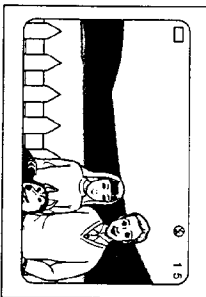
- See *How to Hold the Camera* (p. 36).

### 1 Look into the LCD monitor and aim the camera at your subject.

Turn the mode dial to the macro position for subjects closer than 35 centimeters (14 inches).

**Note:**

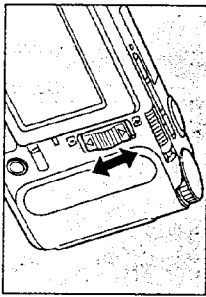
- See *Macro Mode* (p. 69).



### 2 Slide the zoom button to select a zoom setting.

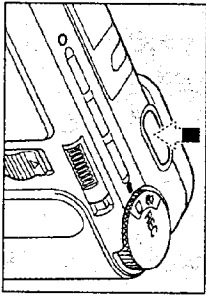
**Note:**

- See *Selecting a Zoom Setting* (p. 44) and *How to View Images in the LCD Monitor* (p. 45).

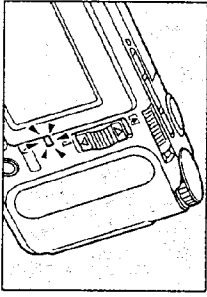


### 3 Press the shutter release button halfway down with your fingertip.

The shutter release button features a two-stage action. Pressing it halfway (first stage) activates the autofocus function. Try to keep the camera as still as possible during this stage to assist with focusing.



When the focus is set, the AF indication LED will light. At this point the focus, exposure and white balance settings will have been set.



**Note:**

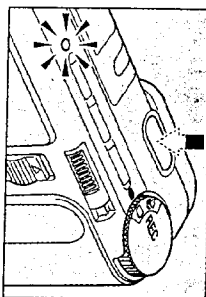
- The AF indication LED flashes when the focus cannot be set. If this occurs, use the focus lock function. See *Focus Lock* (p. 66).
- If the [Slow Shutter] message displays, use the flash or S mode setting to avoid camera shake. See *Changing Flash Settings* (p. 55) and *S Mode* (p. 70).

## Forced or Auto Flash Settings

With the forced flash or auto flash mode active, pressing the shutter release button halfway in low light conditions will light the flash LED.

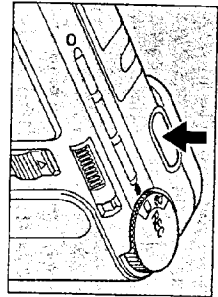
**Note:**

- The flash LED will pulse while the flash is charging and the LCD monitor will momentarily blacken. You will not be able to shoot during this interval.



### 4 Press the shutter release button the remainder of the way down (second stage) without lifting your finger.

A beep will sound and the picture will record. The LCD monitor will show that there is one less recordable picture available.



**Note:**

- The beep will sound several times if the picture fails to record (error). Stop and reshoot the picture.

## How to Stop Recording

You can stop a picture recording in process (the image starts to appear at the top of the LCD monitor) with either of the following two procedures.

Method 1: Slide the power switch. The [Stop Recording] message will display and the recording will stop.

Method 2: Press the menu button. The [Cancel:Enter/Back:Menu] message will display. Press the enter button to stop the recording.

### Tips: Using the Camera for Extended Periods

The camera will automatically power down (auto power off) to conserve the battery if left untouched (no buttons or switches manipulated) for approximately 5 minutes. When you require more time to compose a picture, disable the auto power off function. You are also recommended to have spare batteries at hand or an AC adapter (optional) if you intend to use the camera for extended periods. See *Auto Power Off Settings* (p. 89).

## ■ Focusing on Difficult Subjects

It may be difficult to focus on subjects such as those below.

- Objects with little or no contrast (the sky, white walls, car hoods, etc.)
- Flat two-dimensional objects with only horizontal stripes, without significant protrusions or indentations
- Fast-moving objects
- Dark objects (in dark places)
- Strongly backlit objects and objects struck by strong reflected light
- Flickering objects (fluorescent lights)

When you have difficulty shooting objects such as these, focus on another object at a similar distance and keep your finger on the shutter release button while you re-aim the camera at your target subject.

### Note:

- See Focus Lock (p. 66)

## ■ Aiming the Lens Unit at Yourself

Aiming the lens unit at yourself will have the following effects.

- Your picture will appear with the correct orientation on the LCD monitor.
- Your picture will appear upside down on a TV if connected via the AV interface cable. (The picture will display with the correct orientation if the post-recording image file is accessed.)

### Tips: Display Settings on the LCD Monitor

You can switch between three settings regulating the information shown on the LCD monitor. Press the enter button to switch between the recording mode information, PIC mode information and recordable image information displays. The display will advance through the settings in fixed order each time you press the enter button.

