

CANON EF

TYPE: 35mm eye-level single-lens reflex.
LENS: 50mm f/1.4 S.S.C. Canon FD in interchangeable breech-lock mount, apertures to f/16, focusing to 18 in.

SHUTTER: Metal-blade Copal-Square S focal-plane with mechanically-timed speeds from 1/2 to 1/1000 sec., electronically-timed speeds from 1 to 30 sec., X sync.

VIEWING: Non-interchangeable eye-level prism with central microprism, fine-focusing collar.

OTHER FEATURES: Fully automatic (you set shutter speed, camera selects aperture), single silicon cell above eyepiece

reads center-weighted area of focusing screen for automatic-exposure control, manual override, shutter speeds and apertures visible in the finder, exposure hold button, high and low-light warning signals, provision for multiple exposures, hot flash shoe, automatic first-frame positioning, long exposure and battery-check diode, self-timer, preview lever.

PRICE: With 50mm f/1.4 lens, \$645; with 50mm f/1.8 lens, \$580.

MANUFACTURER: Canon Camera K.K., Tokyo, Japan.

IMPORTER: Canon USA Inc., 10 Nevada

Dr., Lake Success, N.Y. 11040.

PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS: 6 in. wide, 3 3/4 in. high, 3 3/4 in. deep. **WEIGHT:** 2 lb. 6 oz.

Undoubtedly, the Canon EF is made and finished to a higher standard than most automatic SLR's—the very same standard as the Canon F-1.

Canon had no intention of producing a me-too automatic. To the basic so-called shutter-speed-preferred range from 1/2 to 1/1000 sec., they have added an additional range of electronically-timed shutter speeds from 1 sec. to 30 sec., have substituted a fast-acting single low-light-reading silicon cell in place of the traditional pair of CdS cells. By locating it above the eyepiece, they've made it less prone to inflated readings caused by extraneous light.

The operation of the automatic-exposure control is simplicity itself. Looking into the finder, you select the shutter speed by turning the shutter-speed disc, and the needle on the right-hand aperture scale selects the proper aperture for a center-weighted reading. All Canon FD lenses can be used automatically on the EF camera. Earlier FL lenses must be metered at the working aperture, however.

In terms of accuracy, the Canon EF did very well. As measured on our Kyuritsu equipment, meter readings through the finder were generally within one-third f-stop of a measured source throughout the range. Our extensive field tests made on color transparency film showed excellent automatic-exposure results. Of course, none of this would have been possible without an extremely accurate shutter—perhaps the best adjusted Copal-Square shutter we've ever tested. Accuracy was generally within 10 percent of measured speeds with only the 1/500 and 1/1000 sec. slightly over that.

For special exposure situations where you wish to "hold" a reading, there is an exposure-hold button between the meter prism and the rewind knob.

The EF's top-mounted hot shoe accepts the special Canon Automatic Tuning electronic flash units which provide automatic flash exposure. A switch at the back of the camera shifts exposure from normal to CAT flash, Canon's autoflash system.

Producing double exposures couldn't be much easier. The hub of the combined meter on-off switch, shutter button and wind-lever lock at the back of the camera has a small button which, when pressed, allows you to recock the shutter with the rapid-wind lever while the film and frame counter remain stationary.

Gold stars go to the writers of the EF's instruction book, one of the few we've seen for an automatic camera that clearly sets forth in chart form the exact apertures and shutter speeds available in the auto-exposure mode for all film ASA indexes. Nevertheless, we would have preferred to see this coupling range information somewhere in or on the camera itself.

