Filmomat Darkroom Timer
V04/2023

Exposure Value

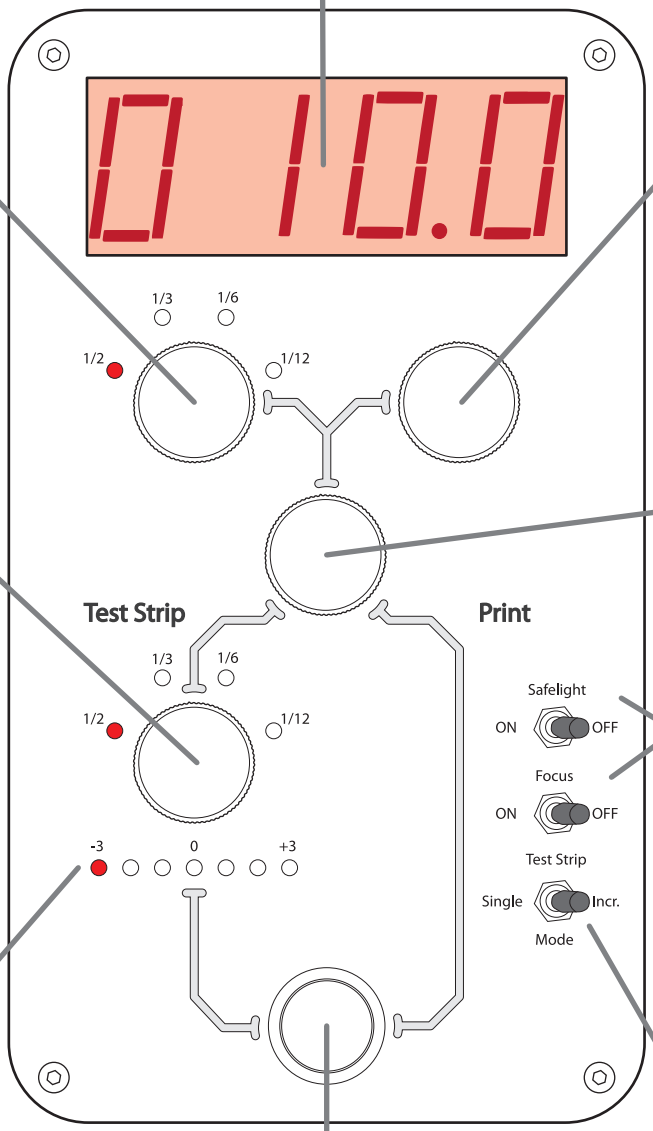
The selected exposure time, which also serves as the base exposure for test strips.

Exposure Interval Selector

Select the f-stop interval by which the exposure value is changed. Choose **1/2** for very rough and **1/12** for very fine adjustments.

Exposure Control Knob

Each detent will increase or decrease the exposure value by the selected f-stop interval.



Test Strip Interval Selector

Select the f-stop interval for the test strip generator. A test strip ranging from **-3** x *Interval* to **+3** x *Interval* around your selected base exposure is generated. **1/2** will result in a test strip with very large graduation. **1/12** will create a test strip with very fine nuances.

Mode Selector

Select between Print mode and Test Strip mode. If Test strip mode is selected, the **-3** LED of the exposure indicator bar is blinking.

Safelight and Focus

Switch the Enlarger or the Safelight ON/OFF manually.

Exposure Indicator Bar

Visual indicator for the current test strip exposure. **0** represents the base exposure value selected on the display. Six test strip segments(ranging from **-3** to **+3**) are generated around this value. The interval between the segments can be selected with the Interval Selector above.
During test strip generation, the blinking LED indicates the current exposure position of the test strip. LEDs which light up constant show already exposed segments of the test strip. Once the test strip is finished, all LEDs blink 3 times.

Test Strip Mode

Switch between Single and Incremental test-strip mode.

Incremental mode: The **-3** exposure is followed by six additive exposures. The test strip has to be (un)covered successively after each exposure.

Single mode: Seven individual exposures are made, each receiving the full exposure time for a final print.

Exposure Button

Starts the exposure. During the exposure, the Enlarger is switched ON and the Safelight is switched OFF. If you are in test strip mode, pressing the button will start the **-3** exposure.
Press and hold the button for >3sec to cancel an exposure or the test strip progress.

Brightness Adjustment: Switch the timer OFF. Press and hold the Exposure Button. Switch on the Timer (keep the button pressed!). You can now change the LED brightness by rotating the Exposure Control Knob. Release the Exposure Button to save the new brightness value.

Designed and Assembled by FILMOMAT in Munich, Germany.

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!! Important safety information !!

- This is an electronic device. Keep the device dry. Never dip the device in any fluid and do not spill fluid over the device!
- The housing of the device must not be opened! **Danger to Life**!
- The timer can provide a maximum power of **1200W at 230V** and only **600W at 110V**. Make sure not to exceed these ratings! These numbers are for enlarger and safelight combined (for example 900W enlarger + 300W safelight = 1200W total).
- The timer can control exposure times of up to 999sec. Not all enlarger lamps are suited for such long exposures and might overheat!
- Never run the device unattended.

Typical workflow to create a print

1. Rough test strip

- Select a base exposure. In this example, we will start with 10 sec.
- Select test strip mode (**-3** LED is blinking).
- Select incremental mode for the test strip.
- Select a test strip interval. If you are unsure about the exposure, start with the largest value (**1/2**) to generate a rough test strip.
- Position the test strip under the enlarger.
- Press the *Exposure button*. The full test strip is now exposed with the **-3** exposure.
- Cover up 1/7 of the test strip. Press the *Exposure button* again. The **-2** exposure is performed.
- Proceed until the whole test strip is exposed.
- Develop and examine the test strip in daylight. Keep in mind: The brightest segment on the test strip is the **-3** exposure. The darkest segment is the **+3** exposure. Your base exposure **0** is in the middle (10sec in our case).
- Check which segments of the test strip represent your desired grey tones best.
- If non of the segments show suitable grey tones, it means the correct exposure is off by at least +/- four times the selected interval (**1/2** in our case, so **2** full stops): Use the *Exposure Interval Selector* to select **1/2**. Use the *Exposure control knob* to change the exposure time by four detents (4 x 1/2 = 2 full stops). Increase time if the segments are too bright, decrease if they are too dark. Then, start the test strip process again to generate a new test strip. *Remember: Instead of increasing/decreasing the exposure time, you can also stop down/up your enlarger lens! This is the beauty of f-stop printing.*

2. Refined test strip and final print:

- Lets assume the desired grey values are between segment **+2** and **+3** of the first test strip. This means we need to increase exposure by 2 or 3 intervals. Our test strip interval was **1/2** stops. Therefore, put the *Exposure Interval Selector* to **1/2** and increase exposure by two detents with the *Exposure control knob*.
- In order to find the exact exposure value, we will now do a second test strip with a finer interval.
- Put the *Test Strip Interval Selector* to **1/3** or **1/6**.
- Create the test strip as explained above.
- Examine the test strip. Check which segment has the correct gray tones. Put the *Exposure Interval Selector* to the interval you just used for the test strip (**1/3** or **1/6**) and dial-in the correct amount of detents according to the test strip.
- Go into *Print Mode*. Put a fresh piece of paper under the enlarger and press the *Exposure button*. You should now have a correct print.