

Metz® Mecablitz 44AF-2

Claudio Di Veroli® User Manual v.1.1 Sep. 2016

1. FEATURES, BATTERIES, MOUNTING

Swivel head angle

- 0°, 45°, 60°, 75°, 90°.

The numbers are on the head axle, but are dark grey, illegible!

Security

- **Never touch the flash contacts!**
- **After a series of 20 full-power flashes, let the unit pause for at least 3 min.**

Olympus/Panasonic specific features

- Flash-ready indication in camera display
- Automatic flash-sync camera shutter speed control
- TTL with measuring preflash
- Manual flash exposure control for TTL
- Automatic fill-in flash control
- 1st and 2nd curtain sync (set camera to Slow Sync)
- Automatic Flash Zoom control via TTL
- Red-eye pre-flash
- Camera wake-up wakes-up the flash
- NO Slave mode: pressing SL sets SLave mode, but it does not work with the Panasonic cameras.
- ... and more features depending on the camera model

Batteries suitable

Do not use other battery types! Do not mix battery types!

- Size AA, Alkaline 1.5V (alkaline-manganese type IEC LR6)
- Size AA, NiMH 1.2 V (nickel-metal-hydride IEC HR6)
- Size AA, Li 1.5 V (lithium IEC FR6)

All my rechargeables are OK!

Use only new rechargeables or it may need 1-2 minutes to be ready!

4x €9

Remove batteries when storing the unit for a long time

Switch the flash at least once for 10 min. every three months for capacitor maintenance

Mounting the flash on the camera

- Switch off the flash and the camera
- Ensure the **knurled nut** is turned right/up fully: the **locking pin** retracts
- Slide the **flash foot** fully into the **hot shoe**
- Turn the **knurled nut** left/down clamping the flash in place

Removing the flash from the camera

- Switch off the flash and the camera
- Turn the **knurled nut** right/up fully
- Slide the **flash foot** fully out from **hot shoe**

Batteries replacement

- Remove the flash from the camera (see above)
- Slide the **battery cover** downwards
- Replace the batteries
- Slide the battery cover upwards (it automatically presses down the batteries)

2. LED DISPLAY, FIRING

Switch on/standby/off and the button+light

- Switch on: press the  button **The unit reverts to the last operating mode, shown by its LED**
The camera's display  (Flash Off) sign turns into  (Forced Flash) or any other mode selected
- Ready: the  light turns green when flash is ready to fire **No sign in the camera's display**
- Set flash temporarily off: in the camera's Q.MENU select the Flash,  and select  Flash Off
- Flash zoom (24-105mm): automatic following the camera's zoom **Modes TTL & Manual flash only**
Reflector not pivoted (no swivel) only
- AF beam: if camera focus is set to AFS, in dark light the flash LEDs in 1/8 output, to help camera focus
This mostly prevents the camera's AF lamp from lighting, and allows a much faster focus
- TTL exposure: **Correct:** after the shot the  light turns red for 3 sec.
Incorrect: after the shot the  light stays off **Use a larger aperture or ISO**
- Standby/Shutdown auto: with no use, after 10 min. the  light flashes red, after 1 hour shuts down
- Wake-up: press any flash button or SH in the camera.
- Switch off: press the  button—for about 2 sec.—until all the LEDs go off

TTL flash mode

- Press the **TTL button**
- In the camera, focus with half-shutter: in the display the flash sign turns red
- Fully depress the shutter: a preflash lets camera measure & a full flash fires for the picture
- The camera automatically controls the flash output (see Correct/Incorrect exposure above)
- If the picture was too light/dark, change camera's **flash intensity control (not the aperture!)**

Manual flash mode

After the shot the  light does not turn red

- Press the **M button** and press it again to cycle 1/1, 1/2, 1/8 and 1/32 output **This setting is saved**
- In the camera, focus with half-shutter: in the display the flash sign turns red

Shutter speed and exposure with camera modes

Modes TTL & Manual flash

- Mode  : Speed 1/60". Camera sets the aperture automatically
- Mode  : Speed 1/60". User sets the aperture, using the rear dial 
- Mode  : User sets any speed $\lt \gt$ 1/60", using the rear dial  **With bright ambient light, a high speed & open aperture allow either freezing a moving subject or limiting depth of field**
- Mode  : User sets any speed $\lt \gt$ 1/60" and any exposure, pressing **Fn1 ** & using the rear dial  **With different speeds > 1/60" the pictures are slightly (but visibly) over/under-exposed**

Video beam

- Press the **LED button** and press it again to cycle 1/1, 1/2, 1/8 and 1/32 output. **This setting is saved**

Test flash

- Press the **TTL button** for 1.5 sec.: the  light stays green & the flash stays in TTL mode

Slave mode

- Position the unit away from the camera. Have the camera and its own flash ready to fire.
- Press the **SL button**. Front red light blinks.
- FZ300: Menu-Rec-Flash: (1) Wireless: ON. (2) Wireless Channel: 1CH.
(3) Wireless Setup - A Group: TTL or Manual (not Auto).

Wide-angle diffuser (Manual p.115)

When the wide-angle diffuser is deployed, there is no flash zoom

- Meant for wide-angle < 24mm, is not needed in the FZ300, but it helps making the flash milder

Reflector card (Manual p.120)

- With reflector tilted up for "bounce" flash, this card adds more light forward and reduces red-eye.