

Nikon
Autofocus Speedlight

SB-25

Instruction Manual

FOREWORD

Thank you for purchasing the Nikon Autofocus Speedlight SB-25. Used with Nikon's newest SLRs (F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-601M/N6000, F-401x/N5005, F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s), it offers you the most advanced and complete system for automatic flash photography available.

To get the maximum performance from your new SB-25, be sure to take time to read the instruction manual carefully.

For Effective Use of This Manual

Using this manual is simple. Read the pages with shaded index tabs indicating your camera name. These index tabs lead you to all of the information you need to learn about using the SB-25 with your camera.

The SB-25 and today's newest Nikon models offer exceptionally high performance. They include more features than ever before, all of which can help you make great pictures.

Because there are so many features, the instruction manual is extensive, and may seem a little intimidating. We urge you, however, to thoroughly read the manuals before you begin using the SB-25. That way you will be fully familiar with the features and the way they work.

For the convenience of latest Nikon SLR users, the SB-25 offers automatic adjustment functions when used with certain lenses. Automatic operations is detailed beside manual operation in shaded boxes with  mark.

By becoming thoroughly familiar with the SB-25, you will be able to use its advanced features more effectively and enjoy great results from the very beginning.

The Nikon N90, N8008, N8008s, N6006, N6000, N5005, N4004 and N4004s are sold exclusively in the U.S.A. The Nikon N2020 and N2000 are sold exclusively in the U.S.A. and Canada.

F90-Series/N90 Users

F4-Series, F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s Users

F-601/N6006 and F-601m/N6000 Users

F-401x/N5005 Users

F-501/N2020 and F-301/N2000 Users

F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s Users

FA, FE2, FG and Nikonos V Users

F3-Series, F2-Series, FM2 and FG-20 Users

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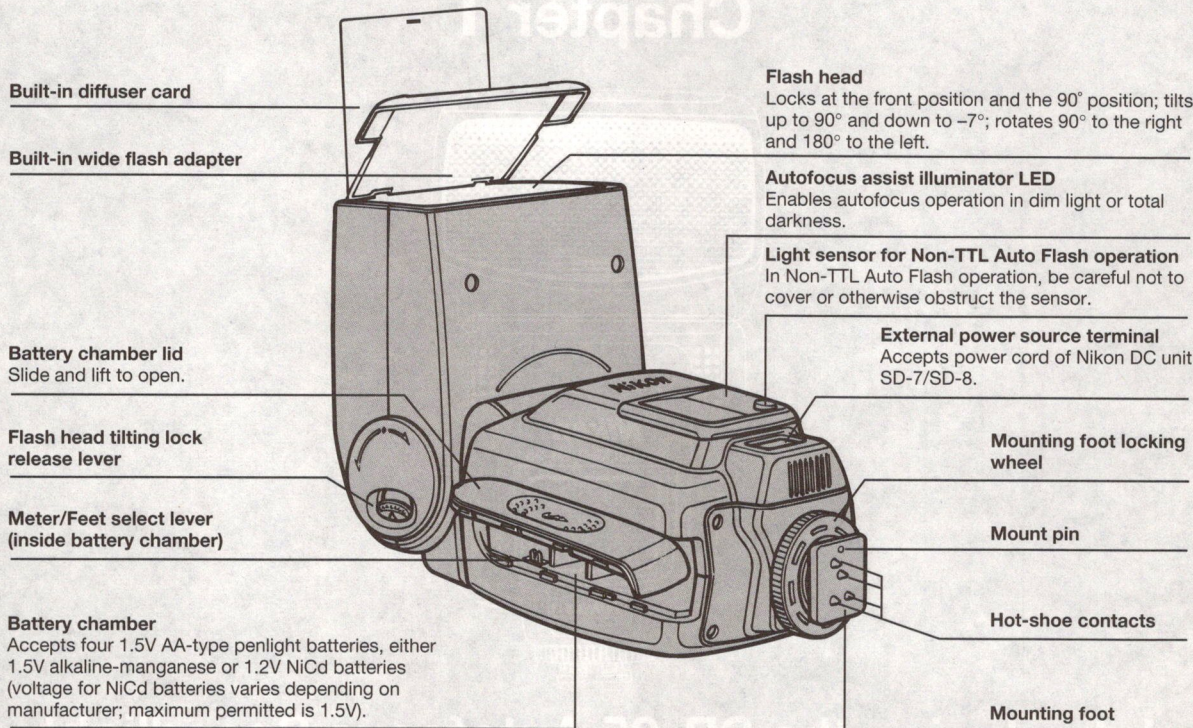
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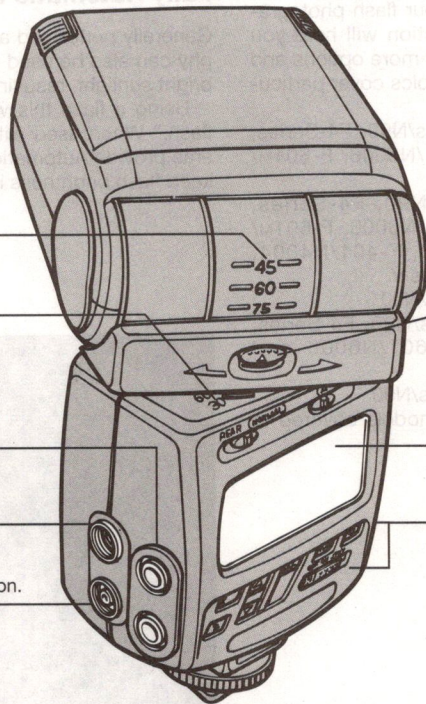
Chapter 1



Introducing the SB-25 Autofocus Speedlight

Nomenclature





Tilting angle scale

Rotating angle scale

Terminal cover

Keep terminal covered when not in use.

TTL multiple flash terminal

For TTL-exposure-control multiple flash operation.

Sync/multiple flash terminal

For manual-exposure multiple flash operation.

**Flash head rotating
lock release lever**

LCD panel

See page 26.

Control buttons

See page 26.

Main Features/Functions — SB-25's Flash Capabilities

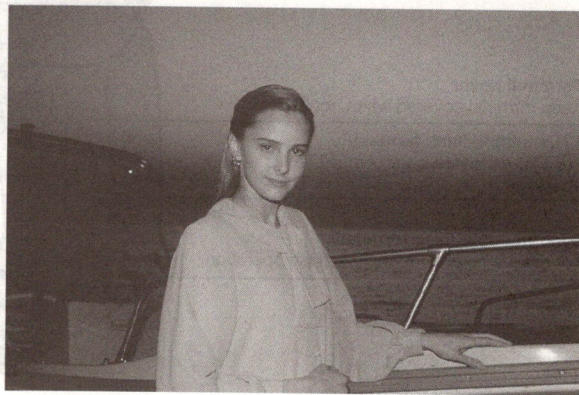
The SB-25 is a most versatile Speedlight which offers variety of convenient features to enhance your flash photography. To understand these features/function will help you operate the SB-25 easily, therefore, enjoy more options and creative possibilities. Each of following topics cover particular Nikon SLR models:

- **Fully Automatic Fill Flash:** F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-601M/N6000 and F-401x/N5005
- **Standard TTL Flash:** F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-601M/N6000, F-501/N2020, F-301/N2000, F-401/N4004, F-401s/N4004s, FA, FE2, FG and Nikonos V
- **FP High-Speed Sync Flash:** F90-Series/N90
- **Rear-Curtain Sync Flash:** F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000
- **Red-Eye Reduction Control:** F90-Series/N90
- **Repeating Flash:** All the Nikon SLR models covered in this manual

Fully Automatic Fill Flash

Generally performed at night or in dim light, flash photography can also be used to reduce shadows in pictures shot in bright sunlight, resulting in a pleasing, more natural effect.

Using a flash this way, with ambient light, is called "fill-flash." When used with the SB-25, many Nikon SLR cameras provide Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash, to automatically keep flash brightness in balance with the ambient light.



Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash

Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash

Thanks to a computer-controlled exposure meter (multi-segment sensor) and TTL (through-the-lens) sensor, shutter speed, aperture, and even flash output can be automatically controlled to keep both subject and background in correct exposure.

In **Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash**, the camera's Matrix Metering System (i.e., multi-segment sensors) determines the correct exposure based on ambient light. Flash output is then controlled with the center-bottom-weighted TTL sensor which monitors light reflection from the film surface and regulates timing to terminate output in realtime with flash illumination. This way, flash illumination brightens the scene (mainly foreground subject), but does not overpower the ambient light exposure (background).

The result is brighter shadows, sharper details and more vivid colors. Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash operates in virtually all light conditions within the camera's metering range and available synchronized shutter speeds. Operation is fast and automatic, while it allows manual operation for exposure compensation techniques to vary fill-flash effects.

Center-Weighted Fill-Flash operates when you switch the metering system to Center-Weighted. This metering system measures the entire scene and emphasizes its reading on the center area. By pointing the center-weighted area at different parts of the scene, you can choose which brightness level you want for basic available-light exposure.

By selecting Spot Metering System, **Spot Fill-Flash** operates in a similar manner as Center-Weighted Fill-Flash, although the meter reads a narrower center area, or "spot."

“TTL Multi-Sensor” Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash with F90-Series/N90

After you depress the shutter release button and prior to the shutter being activated, the SB-25 fires a series of nearly invisible preflash, or Monitor Preflash.

These preflash are detected by the F90-Series/N90's TTL multi-sensor, analyzed for brightness and contrast, then integrated with distance information from the lens (D-type Nikkor) and other exposure control information for a balanced fill-flash exposure.

3D Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash can be performed with any built-in metering system, and is most effectively used to achieve correct exposure in scenes that include:

- A mirror, white wall or other surface with extremely high reflectivity
- Obstacle(s) in front of subject you wish to avoid
- Sunlight
- Subject against an “infinite” background (empty sky, clouds, etc.)

With non-D-type AF or AI-P Nikkor lenses, **Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash** will be performed. Although the TTL multi-sensor does not process distance information, the advanced sensor system generally provides superior results to Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash.



3D Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash photography: particularly effective for subject standing against a shiny object.

Main Features/Functions

Standard TTL Flash

It is possible to manually select a flash compensation level instead of having the computer do it automatically. Simply press the SB-25's **M** button to cancel Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash.

The camera's computer-controlled TTL flash sensor detects the total amount of light passing through the lens and reflected from the film surface. The system controls flash output so that the combination of ambient light and flash illumination will result in a correct exposure.

Under bright-light conditions, the flash is automatically controlled to provide less light; under dim light conditions, it will produce more light.

This system is not designed to automatically provide a balance between flash and ambient light; it is limited to efficient operation in dim-light conditions and is not recommended for use in very bright lighting conditions. This system does not directly link the ambient light meter and the flash's TTL meter.

FP High-Speed Sync Flash

The SB-25 is capable of flash synchronization at shutter speeds of 1/250 sec. or faster when used with the new F90-Series/N90. Unlike other flash synchronization methods, the flash consecutively emits light at an extremely rapid cycle and exposure begins with the opening of the front (first) curtain and ends with the closing of the rear (second) curtain.

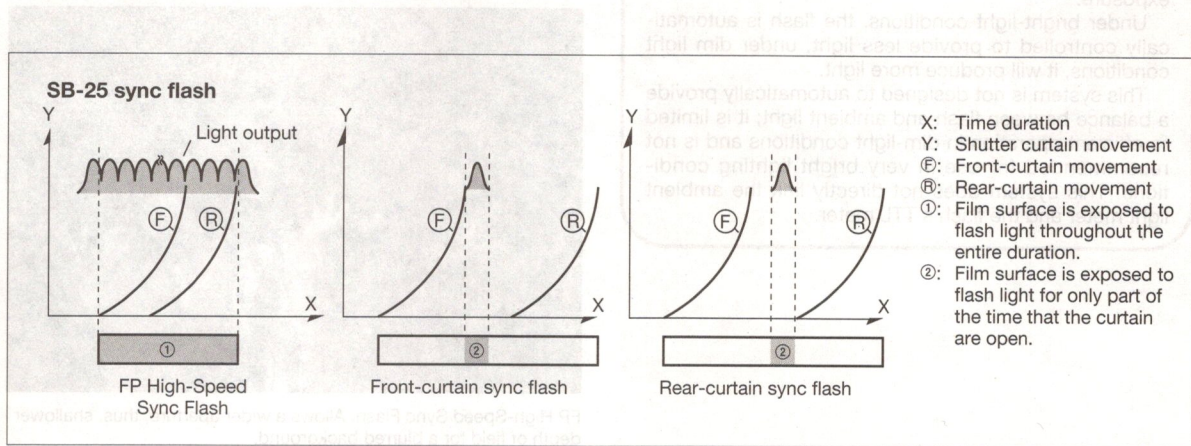


FP High-Speed Sync Flash: Allows a wider aperture, thus, shallower depth of field for a blurred background.

FP High-Speed Sync Flash

The combination of high shutter-speed range and flash sync capability provides you with more options for flash photography in day-light conditions. It enables you to use a wider aperture to blur the subject's background (create a shallow depth of field), light up shadowed areas in outdoor photography, or even create light flow for fast moving subjects.

FP high-speed sync flash is only available in the SB-25's Manual flash mode when using the F90-Series/N90. For details, see "FP High-Speed Sync Flash — Flash Photography At Higher Shutter Speeds" on page 98.

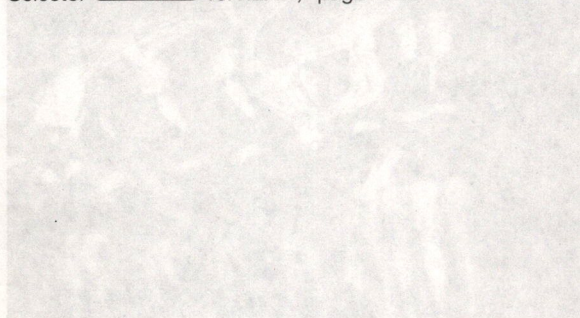


Rear-Curtain Sync Flash

In “normal” flash synchronization, the flash fires at an early stage of exposure (i.e., front-curtain sync). At slow shutter speeds with a moving subject, this results in unnatural light patterns.

For more natural lighting, use Rear-Curtain Sync. With this method, the flash fires at a later stage of the exposure, just before the rear, or second, shutter curtain starts to close (i.e., rear-curtain sync), turning available light into a stream of light that follows the flash-illuminated moving subject. Rear-Curtain Sync is available with the F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006 and F-601M/ N6000.

For more details, see “Rear-Curtain Sync Flash — For Natural Light Flow,” page 105 and “Flash Sync Mode Selector **NORMAL** vs. **REAR**,” page 135.



A slow shutter speed could create light flow from a moving subject. Rear-Curtain Sync Flash catches him/her with natural-looking light stream.

Red-Eye Reduction Control

"Red eye" effect occurs in flash photography when flash pictures are taken in dim surroundings where the subject's eye pupils will be dilated (opened very wide). Light from the camera's flash reflects off the interior of the eye through the wide-open pupil and back into the camera's lens; the result in the photo appears as bright red eyes.

The SB-25 fires three consecutive flash prior to the main flash. This causes the subject's pupils to constrict (become smaller), reducing the appearance of red-eye.

The F90-Series/N90 offers this exclusive Red-Eye Reduction Control to control preflash, for use in any flash mode, except Repeating Flash mode. For more details and setting operation, see page 104, and the camera's instruction manual.

Red-eye effect can also be controlled by the angle at which light strikes the subject and is reflected back to the camera's lens. For further details, see "Red Eye," page 134.

Repeating Flash

When used with any Nikon SLR, the SB-25 is capable of strobo-effect multiple flash exposure at up to 160 flash per frame; it also allows control of the amount of flash light output. Operation becomes simple once you learn how to match the number and speed of flash to your desired shutter speed.

For details, see "Repeating Flash  Mode — For Multiple Exposure," pages 90 to 95.



Repeating flash mode offers "strobe effect," multiple exposure on a single frame.

SB-25 Feature Comparison: Flash Operations Available with Your Camera

For details regarding your camera, see pages:

1) 33 to 39. 2) 40 to 47. 3) 48 to 56. 4) 57 to 63.

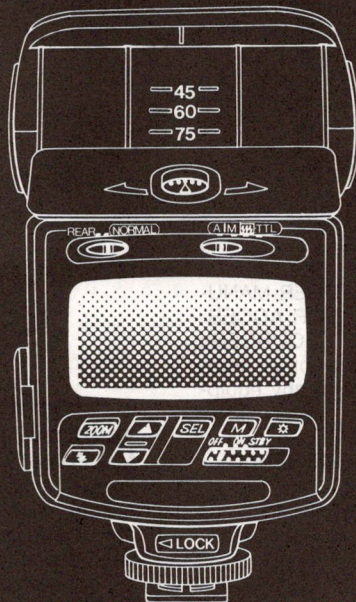
5) 64 to 69. 6) 70 to 75. 7) 76 to 79.

	See pages	F90-Series/N90	F4-Series	F-801/N8008	F-801s/N8008s	F-601/N6006	F-601m/N6000	F-401x/N5005	F-301/N2020	F-401/N4000	F-401s/N4004s	FA	FE2	FG	Nikonos V	F3-Series	F2-Series	FM2	FG-20
TTL Auto Flash	32 – 79																		
3D Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash		X ¹⁾																	
Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash		X ¹⁾																	
Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash			X ²⁾	X ²⁾	X ²⁾	X ³⁾	X ³⁾	X ⁴⁾											
Center-Weighted Fill-Flash		X ¹⁾	X ²⁾	X ²⁾	X ²⁾	X ³⁾	X ³⁾	X ⁴⁾											
Spot Fill-Flash		X ¹⁾			X ²⁾	X ³⁾													
Programmed TTL Auto Flash								X ⁵⁾	X ⁵⁾	X ⁶⁾	X ⁶⁾								
Standard TTL Flash		X ¹⁾	X ²⁾	X ²⁾	X ²⁾	X ³⁾	X ³⁾	X ⁵⁾	X ⁵⁾	X ⁶⁾	X ⁶⁾	X ⁷⁾	X ⁷⁾	X ⁷⁾	X ⁷⁾				
Non-TTL Auto Flash	80 – 83	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Manual Flash	84 – 89	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Repeating Flash (strobe effect)	90 – 95	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
FP High-Speed Sync Flash	98 – 103	X																	
Red-Eye Reduction Control	104	X																	
Rear-Curtain Sync Flash	105	X	X	X	X	X	X												
Flash Exposure Compensation	106 – 107	X	X	X	X	X	X												
Open Flash Button (test firing)	110	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Built-in Wide Flash Adapter	111	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Zoom-Lock Capability	112 – 113	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
AF Assist LED	114 – 115	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X							
Standby Position (power switch)	116 – 117	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Bounce Flash (built-in diffuser card)	119 – 123	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Close-up Photography (TTL Auto Flash)	124 – 125	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X						
Multiple Flash Photography	126 – 132	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

28-25 Feature Comparison: Flash Operations Available with Your Camera

For details regarding your camera, see pages:
 (1) 28 to 29, (2) 30 to 31, (3) 32 to 33, (4) 34 to 35, (5) 36 to 37, (6) 38 to 39, (7) 40 to 41, (8) 42 to 43, (9) 44 to 45, (10) 46 to 47, (11) 48 to 49, (12) 50 to 51, (13) 52 to 53, (14) 54 to 55, (15) 56 to 57, (16) 58 to 59, (17) 60 to 61, (18) 62 to 63, (19) 64 to 65, (20) 66 to 67, (21) 68 to 69, (22) 70 to 71, (23) 72 to 73, (24) 74 to 75, (25) 76 to 77, (26) 78 to 79, (27) 80 to 81, (28) 82 to 83, (29) 84 to 85, (30) 86 to 87, (31) 88 to 89, (32) 90 to 91, (33) 92 to 93, (34) 94 to 95, (35) 96 to 97, (36) 98 to 99, (37) 100 to 101, (38) 102 to 103, (39) 104 to 105, (40) 106 to 107, (41) 108 to 109, (42) 110 to 111, (43) 112 to 113, (44) 114 to 115, (45) 116 to 117, (46) 118 to 119, (47) 120 to 121, (48) 122 to 123, (49) 124 to 125, (50) 126 to 127, (51) 128 to 129, (52) 130 to 131, (53) 132 to 133, (54) 134 to 135, (55) 136 to 137, (56) 138 to 139, (57) 140 to 141, (58) 142 to 143, (59) 144 to 145, (60) 146 to 147, (61) 148 to 149, (62) 150 to 151, (63) 152 to 153, (64) 154 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Chapter 2



Before Flash Shooting

WARNING — TO AVOID INJURY

- DO NOT FIRE FLASH NEAR THE EYES: Firing the flash light very close to any person's eyes can injure the retina, thereby weakening eyesight or causing blindness.
- DO NOT TOUCH THE FLASH HEAD WHEN FIRING THE SB-25: The flash head generates significant heat during normal operation, which may cause burns. Also, when using the flash, keep delicate materials away from the flash head.

CAUTION — TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO THE SB-25 SPEEDLIGHT

- DO NOT MIX OR USE THE SB-25 WITH OTHER MANUFACTURER'S CAMERAS, FLASH UNITS, OR ACCESSORIES (INCLUDING EXTERNAL POWER SOURCES): Nikon is not responsible for malfunctions or other problems resulting from use of this product with any equipment other than Nikon brand products.

PROPER CARE AND STORAGE OF THE SB-25 SPEEDLIGHT

- SEE PAGES 136 AND 137, "Tips on Speedlight Care."

BATTERIES: CARE AND CAUTION

- SEE PAGE 138, "About Batteries."

Getting Started — SB-25 Set-Up

This section introduces preparations for using the SB-25, such as installing batteries, attaching flash unit to your camera, and finally, turning the unit on. Follow these steps in order, especially when using for the first time. This section should serve as a practical guide for later reference.

ABNORMAL LC (LIQUID CRYSTAL) DISPLAY AND MALFUNCTIONING

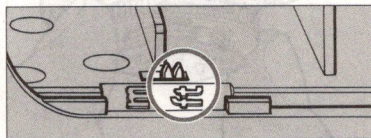
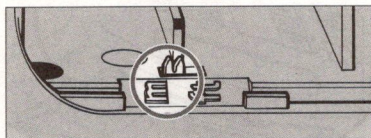
In certain cases, due to normal characteristics of the built-in microcomputer, the speedlight may not operate or an abnormal display may appear, even with fresh, properly installed batteries.

If this occurs, turn off flash and remove the batteries, then reinstall batteries and turn the power on. This should properly reset the computer.

Selecting Measurement System, Meters or Feet

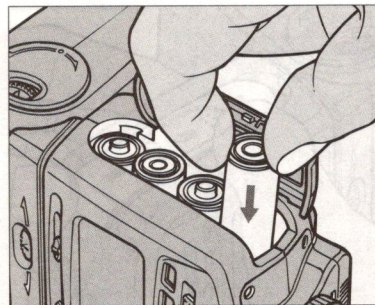


- 1** Slide the battery chamber cover in the ► direction and lift to open.



- 2** Slide the meter/feet lever (small switch in the mouth of the chamber) to select desired indication (m or ft.); this will appear in the LCD panel while the speedlight is in use. The lever is preset to meters (m) when shipped from the factory.

Installing Batteries

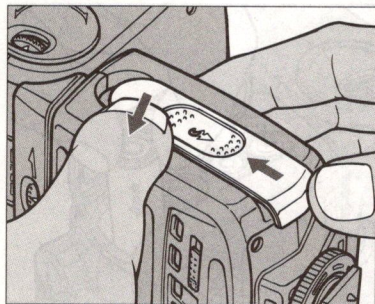


- 3** Load four 1.5V AA-type penlight alkaline-manganese or 1.2V NiCd batteries into the battery chamber. Be sure to follow the $-1.5V+$ indication inside the chamber to ensure the batteries are properly loaded.

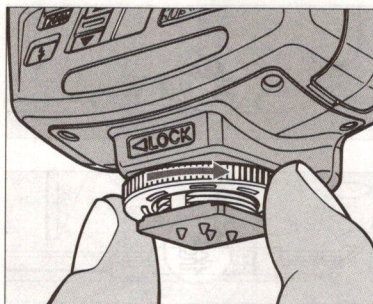
For Nikon F8 Series users:
The SB-25 can only be mounted on an F8 Series camera that uses a DE-2 or DE-3 finder. Be sure to attach Flash Unit Coupler AS-4 or AS-7 to the camera's accessory shoe before mounting the SB-25 on the camera.

Using an external power source

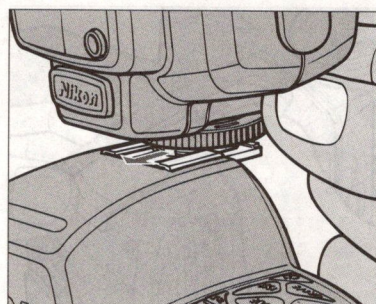
For an external power source, use optional Nikon DC Unit SD-7 or SD-8. For battery information, see page 138.



- 4** Close the battery chamber lid, then slide cover to close.



- 5** Turn the SB-25's mounting foot locking wheel to the loosened position as far as it goes, without forcing.

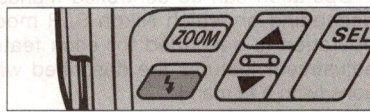
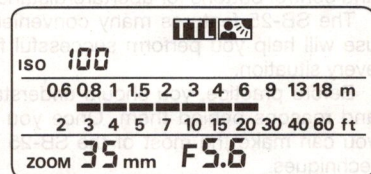
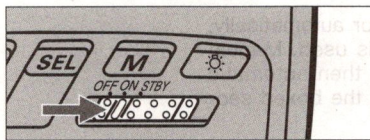
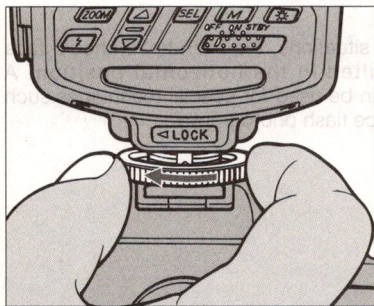


- 6** Slide the mounting foot forward onto the camera's accessory shoe as far as it goes.

For Nikon F3 Series users

The SB-25 can only be mounted on an F3 Series camera that uses a DE-2 or DE-3 finder. Be sure to attach Flash Unit Coupler AS-4 or AS-7 to the camera's accessory shoe before mounting the SB-25 on the camera.

Checking Battery Power



- 7** Tighten the locking wheel, taking care not to over-tighten.

- 8** Set power switch to STBY (standby position) or ON to turn on the speedlight.

If batteries are properly installed/power is sufficient, ready-light will come on, and LCD indications will appear.

Precaution for Nikon F90-Series/N90 users

As the locking wheel is tightened, the SB-25 is firmly attached to the accessory shoe with the mount pin. Be extra careful that the locking wheel is completely loosened before removing the flash unit from the camera or it may cause damage to both units.

Replace batteries with a fresh set:

With alkaline-manganese batteries — replace if ready-light takes more than 30 sec. to light up.

With NiCd batteries — remove if ready-light takes more than 10 sec. to light up.

Adjustment Functions — Using LCD Panel and Built-in Functions

Tilting/rotating flash head, built-in zoom head, LCD panel and control buttons for aperture/distance computation...

The SB-25 features many convenient functions. Proper use will help you perform successful flash photography in every situation.

Before practice, you should understand the adjustments and reasons behind them. Once you have learned them, you can make the most of the SB-25 for all kinds of flash techniques.

Operation can be controlled manually or automatically, depending on which Nikon SLR model is used. Manual operation is described for each feature, then automatic adjustment features are described within the boxed sections (with a  mark).

Before proceeding:

-  ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.
-  TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

Adjusting Flash Head To Horizontal/Front Position

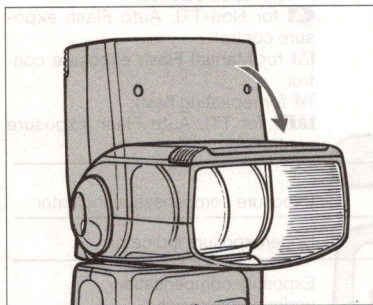
In “normal” shooting situations, the flash head should face straight forward, tilted in the horizontal position. A tilted/rotated head can be used for special techniques such as close-ups or bounce flash photography.

Tilting/Rotating flash head to a position other than horizontal and straight forward

Downward-tilted flash head (-7° position) is used for taking pictures of subjects at a distance of less than 1.5m (approx. 5 ft.). When the head is set at this position, the distance indicator bars  blink.

An upward-tilted and/or rotated flash head is used for **bounce flash photography**. When the head is set this way, the distance indicator bars  do not appear, to show the distance indication function is not available.

See “Diffusing Light — To Soften Harsh Shadows,” pages 119 to 123, for information on bounce flash photography.

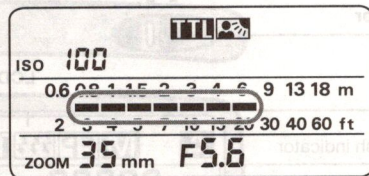


- 1** Tilt the flash head to the horizontal, until it click-stops.

The flash head locks both at the horizontal, facing straight-forward (0° degree), and at the vertical, facing straight-up (90° degrees).

To release from the locked position, slide the lock release lever in the ► direction, then, while holding the lever, tilt the flash head.

- 2** Adjust the flash head so it faces straight forward — check that it is not rotated to the right or left.
To unlock from the forward position, slide the lock release lever in ▲ direction, then, while holding the lever, rotate flash head to either the right or left.



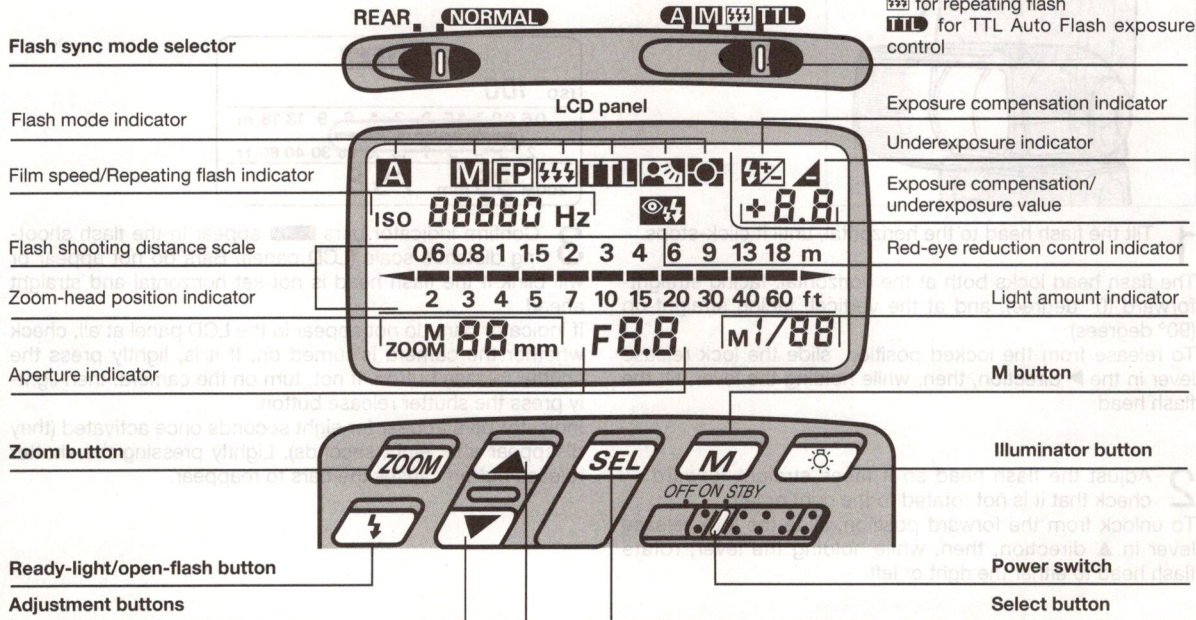
- 3** Confirm indicator bars ■ appear in the flash shooting distance scale (LCD panel). Bars do not appear or will blink if the flash head is not set horizontal and straight ahead.

If indicator bars do not appear in the LCD panel at all, check whether the camera is turned on. If it is, lightly press the shutter release button. If not, turn on the camera, then lightly press the shutter release button.

Indicator bars appear for eight seconds once activated (they disappear after eight seconds). Lightly pressing the shutter release button causes the bars to reappear.

Using LCD Panel For Shooting-Distance Computation

Note: All LCD (liquid crystal display) figures and marks do not appear simultaneously, as shown below. They are shown together for ease of explanation.



Adjustment Functions

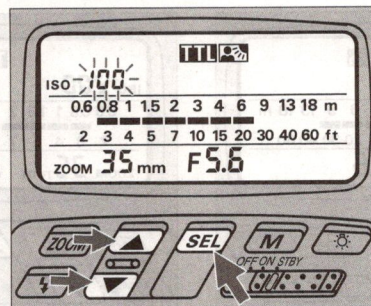
Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)

Confirming flash shooting distance is an indispensable step for successful flash photography. The SB-25 can be used to compute the appropriate distance range.

An appropriate flash shooting distance is determined using the following variables:

- ISO FILM SPEED IN USE
- APERTURE VALUE
- ZOOM-HEAD POSITION

Indicator bars  will appear to show a proper shooting distance range only after all those variables have been set in the LCD panel.



- 1 Push **SEL** button so a film speed number starts blinking beside the **ISO** indication in the LCD panel.
- 2 Press adjustment button  or  to set the film speed.



Automatic ISO film speed adjustment: F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s

No manual adjustment is required with these camera models, because ISO speed of film in use is automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel.

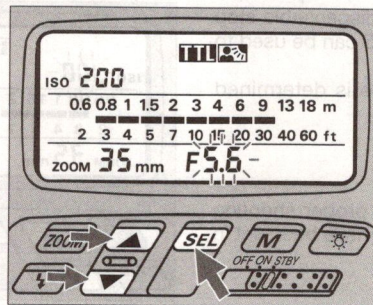
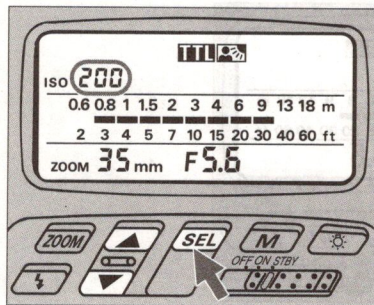
When a film is not installed in the camera, ISO 100 is indicated.

If no indication shows in the LCD panel, lightly press the camera's shutter release button.

Operation in Repeating Flash Mode

Setting of ISO film speed is not required. The *repeating flash indicator* appears in the place of the film speed indicator. For details, see pages 90 to 95.

Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)



3 When the desired number appears, press **SEL** button to complete setting. The indication will stop blinking.

The film-speed indicator blinks during adjustment, and stops blinking after eight seconds unless an adjustment is made with an adjustment button. The last blinking number is automatically set in this case.

1 Push **SEL** button so an aperture value number starts blinking beside the **F** indication in the LCD panel.

2 Press adjustment button or to set the aperture value.

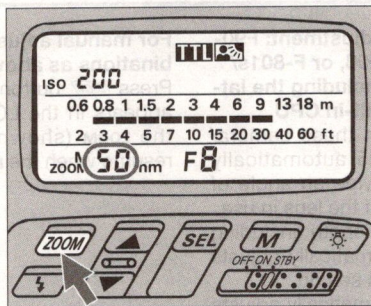
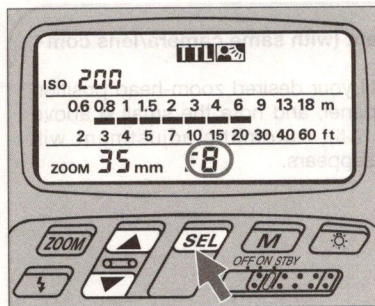
When camera is in programmed auto or shutter-priority exposure mode, be sure to use an aperture indicated in the camera's viewfinder (a "controlled aperture").

In general, first set the aperture on the camera, then use the same value for the SB-25.

Automatic aperture adjustment: F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008 or F-801s/N8008s used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

No manual adjustment is required with these camera/lens combinations, because the controlled aperture is automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel (except in Non-TTL Auto Flash mode).

Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)



3 When the desired number appears, press **SEL** button to complete the setting. The indication will stop blinking.

The aperture-value indicator blinks during adjustment, and stops blinking after eight seconds unless an adjustment is made with an adjustment button. The last blinking figure is automatically set in this case.

Press the **ZOOM** button until the number in the LCD panel shows the focal length of the lens in use or shorter.

When using a zoom lens other than AF Zoom Nikkor, set the shortest focal length of the lens to determine the zoom-head position that covers the full zoom length range.

Also, refer to page 139 on "Angle of coverage," an angle which flash light can cover in a zoom-head position.



Automatic zoom-head position adjustment: F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, or F-801s/N8008s used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

No manual adjustment is required with these camera/lens combinations, because the SB-25 automatically adjusts the zoom-head position to provide an angle of coverage that matches the focal length of the lens in use.

With an AF Nikkor lens of fixed focal length (including the latest D-Type), the zoom head automatically adjusts to the closest available wider focal length setting.

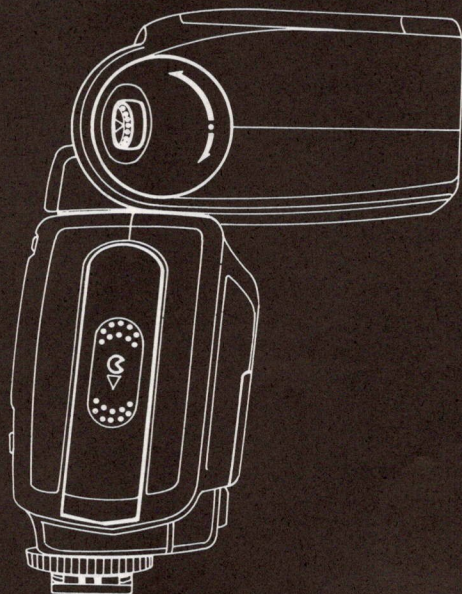
With a zoom lens, the zoom head automatically adjusts within the limits of the available coverage (from 24mm to 85mm).

You must set zoom-head position manually when using your camera with other lenses or to select a specifically desired position.

For manual adjustment (with same camera/lens combinations as above)

Press **⏏** button until your desired zoom-head position appears in the LCD panel, and note the small **m** above the **zoom** (shown as **zoom**). Automatic adjustment will resume when the **m** disappears.

Chapter 3



Shooting Practice and Flash Mode

TTL Auto Flash Mode — Fill-Flash with Automatically Compensated Flash Output

In TTL Auto Flash mode, the SB-25 Speedlight can be used for just about any shooting situation, from bright scenes to dim lights. For precisely controlled exposures in wider brightness ranges or more complex conditions, you can use fill-flash techniques with automatic operation and/or advanced user-controlled options.

The SB-25's TTL Auto Flash mode offers even more flash applications and options, such as flash synchronization with slow shutter speeds (slow sync flash), bounce flash and creative close-up photography.

Even simple snap shots can be taken with a sophisticated touch. By setting the SB-25 to TTL Auto flash mode, you can enjoy flash photography that is simple, yet the most advanced available.

Using this flash mode with your camera

The SB-25 works in different ways, depending on which camera it is used with. TTL Auto Flash mode, in particular, offers several noteworthy features that vary from one model to another. Be sure to read "Fully Automatic Fill-In Flash," pages 10 through 13, to become familiar with these SB-25 capabilities.

Use the following chart to locate pages relevant to your camera model and the flash operation you wish to use.

TTL Auto Flash  Mode:	See pages
<i>For N90/F90 Users</i>	33 — 39
<i>For F4-Series, F-801/N8008, and F-801s/N800s Users</i>	40 — 47
<i>For F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 Users</i>	48 — 56
<i>For F-401x/N5005 Users</i>	57 — 63
<i>For F-501/N2020 and F-301/N2000 Users</i>	64 — 69
<i>For F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s Users</i>	70 — 75
<i>For FA, FE2, FG and Nikonos V users</i>	76 — 79

For F3-Series, F2-Series, FM2 and FG-20 users

No information is provided for these models in this section, because they do not function in TTL Auto Flash mode.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F90-Series/N90 Users

Choosing A Flash Method

The SB-25 enables you to choose between Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash and Standard TTL Flash.

For Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash, you can switch between 3D Multi-Sensor Balanced, Multi-Sensor Balanced, Center-Weighted and Spot Fill-Flash, depending on lens in use and camera metering system.

Or use the SB-25's  button to cancel Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash and choose Standard TTL Flash.

Use the following chart to confirm available flash operations and learn the relationship between lenses and camera mode settings.

Flash Methods in TTL Auto Flash Mode

-  3D Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)
-  Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)
-  Center-Weighted Fill Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)
-  Spot Fill Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)
-  Standard TTL Flash

Flash Methods: F90-Series/N90 Settings and Lenses

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	Camera's Metering System		
		Matrix	Center-Weighted	Spot
D-Type Nikkor Lenses	Programmed auto (P, Ps) ⁴⁾	3D Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash		
	Shutter-priority auto (S)			
	Aperture-priority auto (A)			
	Manual (M)			
AF Nikkor lenses ²⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (P, Ps) ⁴⁾	Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash		
	Shutter-priority auto (S)			
	Aperture-priority auto (A)			
	Manual (M)			
Other lenses ³⁾	Aperture-Priority auto (A) ⁵⁾	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash	Spot Fill-Flash	
	Manual (M)			

- 1) Suitable lenses and use depend on camera; see instruction manual for information.
- 2) Except D-Type and lenses for F3AF
- 3) You can not use the Ps mode as the shutter locks.
- 4) Only 3D Multi-Sensor Balanced or Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash can be performed; Standard TTL Flash is not available and the  button cannot be used.
- 5) Exposure mode (P or S) automatically shifts to aperture-priority auto (A), and the mode indication blinks in the camera's LCD panel; set desired aperture manually.

Set Up and Practice

Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash methods (3D Multi-Sensor Balanced, Multi-Sensor Balanced, Center-Weighted, or Spot Fill-Flash) are available, but depend on the lens in use and camera metering system selected.

Or, you can use the SB-25's  button to cancel an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash and to choose Standard TTL Flash.

Check with the charts on page 33 and make sure which flash is available and appropriate before actual shooting.

Some operations can be controlled automatically when the camera is used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU. In other cases, operate manually.

The following instructions describe a situation where you are using either a D-type Nikkor to operate 3D Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash, or an AF Nikkor (except for F3AF) or AI-P lens to operate Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash. With other lenses, Center-Weighted or Spot Fill-Flash will be performed.

Before proceeding:

X ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

X TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

X USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

X USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.



Automatic aperture/zoom-head adjustment:

AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

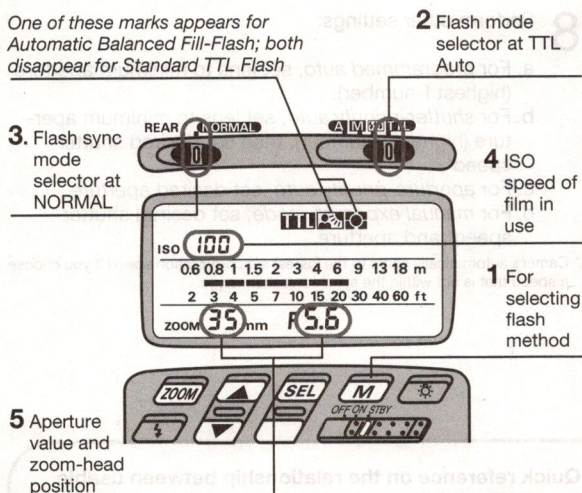
The aperture and zoom-head position in use are automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel.

For other lenses, set manually according to the shooting situation. See "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 and 29, and "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 and 30.

TTL Auto Flash **TTL** Mode: For F90-Series/N90 Users

Setting Up SB-25

One of these marks appears for Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash; both disappear for Standard TTL Flash



5 Aperture value and zoom-head position

2 Flash mode selector at TTL Auto

4 ISO speed of film in use

1 For selecting flash method

1 Press the **M** button.

To perform **3D Multi-Sensor Balanced** or **Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash**, confirm **3D** appears in the LCD panel. To perform **Center-Weighted** or **Spot Fill-Flash**, confirm **2** appears.

To perform **Standard TTL Flash**, press the **M** button so that both **3D** and **2** disappears.

2 Choose **TTL** (flash mode selector). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

3 Choose **NORMAL** position (flash sync selector). **REAR** position is used for Rear-Curtain Sync Flash (see page 105).

4 Confirm the ISO film speed has been set and appears in the SB-25's LCD panel (automatic ISO film speed adjustment). If not shown in the LCD panel, lightly press the camera's shutter release button.

5 Confirm the aperture value chosen on the camera and zoom-head position have been set and appear in the SB-25's LCD panel (automatic aperture/zoom-head adjustment).

Setting Up Your Camera

6 Select one of the following exposure modes:

- Programmed auto (P or Ps)
- Shutter-priority auto (S)
- Aperture-priority auto (A)
- Manual exposure mode (M)

7 Select a metering system:

- Matrix metering system
- Center-Weighted metering system
- Spot metering system

8 Perform other settings:

- For *programmed auto*, set lens to minimum aperture (highest f-number).
- For *shutter-priority auto*, set lens to minimum aperture (highest f-number), then set desired shutter speed*.
- For *aperture-priority auto*, set desired aperture.
- For *manual exposure mode*, set desired shutter speed* and aperture.

* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.

Selecting an exposure-metering system on the F90-Series/N90 camera

Either 3D Multi-Sensor Balanced or Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash will operate regardless of exposure meter system chosen, when the camera is used with a D-type Nikkor, an AF Nikkor (except for F3AF) or an AI-P lens.

Choose a meter to measure background exposure that most effectively meets the photo requirements you wish to achieve.

Quick reference on the relationship between usable apertures and flash shooting distance

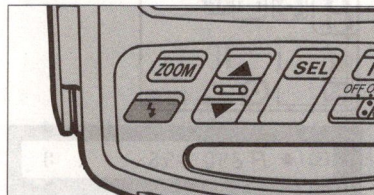
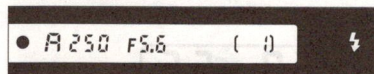
Use the table on page 142 in this instruction manual.



10 Confirm shooting distance.

Check whether subject falls within the range shown by the shooting distance indicator bars  in the SB-25's LCD panel.

If not, move closer to subject or select a wide aperture (in aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode). Then, repeat steps 9 and 10.



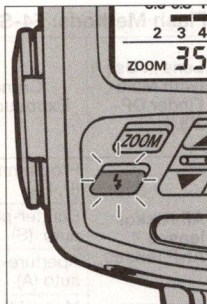
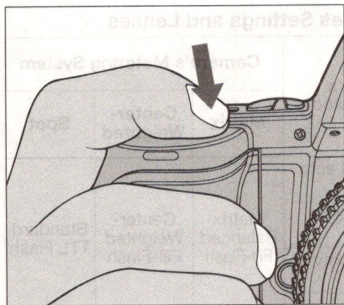
11 Confirm ready-light has come on and subject is in focus.

Confirm ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .

Check whether subject is in focus by using the in-focus indicator  in the camera's viewfinder.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F90-Series/N90 Users

Firing Flash



12 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

13 Recheck ready-light and to see if it is blinking.

If ready-light blinks for a few seconds after shooting, the flash has fired at its maximum output but the light may have been insufficient.

Then, reconfirm shooting distance and, if necessary, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (in aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode) to compensate underexposure.

Underexposure indication

When subject may have been underexposed,  mark and amount of underexposure (for example, -2.0) appear in the SB-25's LCD panel after firing.

To compensate underexposure in the above example, you might consider using an aperture at least 2 f/stops wider, or move closer to subject.

 button to resume indication

The underexposure indication lasts only three seconds. Use the  button to recall the indication last shown in the LCD panel.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F4-Series, F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s Users

Choosing A Flash Method

The SB-25 enables you to choose between Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash or Standard TTL Flash (there are some exceptions with F4-Series cameras).

You can switch between Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash methods (Matrix Balanced, Center-Weighted, or Spot Fill-Flash), depending on the combination of camera (its metering system) and lens in use.

Or, you can use the SB-25's  button to cancel Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash and to choose Standard TTL Flash.

Use the following chart to confirm available flash operations and learn the relationship between lenses and camera mode settings.

Flash Methods in TTL Auto Flash Mode

 Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)

 Center-Weighted Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)

 Spot Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)

 Standard TTL Flash

Flash Methods: F4-Series Settings and Lenses

Lens in Use ¹⁾ (with Multi-Finder DP-20) ²⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	Camera's Metering System		
		Matrix	Center-Weighted	Spot
AF Nikkor lenses ³⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (P, P _H)	Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash	Standard TTL Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)			
	Aperture-priority auto (A)			
AF Teleconverter/ AF Nikkor lenses for F3AF/AI-type Nikkor lenses (including AI-S)	Manual (M)	Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash	Standard TTL Flash
	Aperture-priority auto (A) ⁴⁾			
Other lenses	Programmed auto (P, P _H)	Standard TTL Flash	Standard TTL Flash	Standard TTL Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)			
	Aperture-priority auto (A)			
	Manual (M)			

Flash Methods: F-801/N8008 Settings and Lenses

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	Camera's Metering System	
		Matrix	Center-Weighted
AF Nikkor lenses ³⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (P _D , P, P ^H)	Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)		
	Aperture-priority auto (A)		
	Manual (M)		
Other lenses	Aperture-priority auto (A) ⁵⁾	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash ⁶⁾	
	Manual (M)		

- 1) Suitable lenses and use depend on the camera; see instruction manual for information.
- 2) With AE Action Finder DA-20, Center-Weighted Fill-Flash and Standard TTL Flash can be used. With Waist-Level Finder DW-20 and 6x High-Magnification Finder DW-21, because Matrix and Center-Weighted metering systems cannot be used, only Standard TTL Flash can be used.
- 3) Includes the latest D-type Nikkor lenses, but excludes AF lenses for F3 Series cameras.

Flash Methods: F-801s/N8008s Settings and Lenses

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	Camera's Metering System		
		Matrix	Center-Weighted	Spot
AF Nikkor lenses ³⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (Pb, P, P ^H)	Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash	Spot Fill-Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)			
	Aperture-priority auto (A)			
	Manual (M)			
Other lenses	Aperture-priority auto (A) ⁵⁾	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash ⁶⁾	Spot Fill-Flash	
	Manual (M)			

- 4) Exposure mode (P, P_H or S) automatically shifts to aperture-priority auto (A). Set desired aperture manually.
- 5) Exposure mode (P_D, P, P_H, or S) automatically shifts to aperture-priority auto (A), shown by the blinking mode indication in the camera's LCD panel. Set desired aperture manually.
- 6) Matrix metering system automatically shifts to Center-Weighted, as shown by the blinking indication in the camera's LCD panel. Only Center-Weighted Fill-Flash is available.

Set Up and Practice

Choose an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash method (Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash, Center-Weighted Fill-Flash, or Spot Fill Flash, or use the SB-25's **[M]** button to cancel the Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash method and choose Standard TTL Flash.

Your choice will vary according to your combination of camera (its metering system) and lens in use.

Check the charts on pages 40 and 41 make sure of which flash is available and appropriate before actual shooting.

Some operations can be controlled automatically when the camera uses an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU. In other cases, operate manually.

Note that the following instructions describe a situation where you are using either a D-type Nikkor, an AF Nikkor (except for F3AF) or an AI-P lens.

Before proceeding:

X ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

X TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

X USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

X USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.

Automatic zoom-head/aperture adjustment: AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

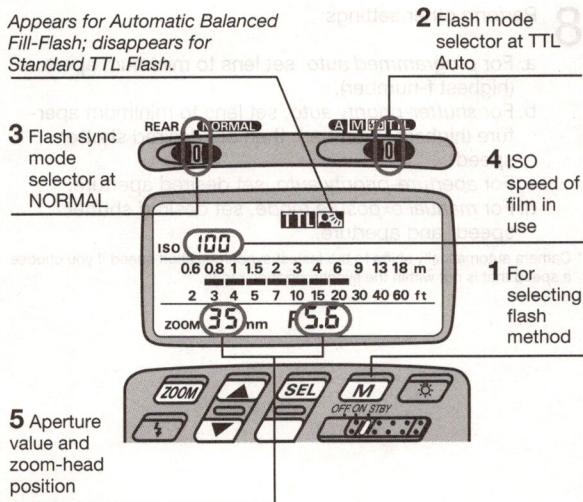
The aperture and zoom-head position in use are automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel.

For other lenses, set manually according to the shooting situation. See "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 and 29, and "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 and 30.

TTL Auto Flash **TTL** Mode: For F4-Series, F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s Users

Setting Up SB-25

Appears for Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash; disappears for Standard TTL Flash.



1 Press the **M** button.

To perform Automatic Balanced Fill Flash (either Matrix Balanced, Center-Weighted or Spot Fill-Flash), confirm  appears in the LCD panel.

To perform Standard TTL Flash, press the button so that  disappears.

2 Choose **TTL** (flash mode selector position). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

3 Choose **NORMAL** position (flash sync mode selector).

REAR position is used for Rear-Curtain Sync Flash (see page 105).

4 Confirm the ISO film speed has been set and appears in the SB-25's LCD panel (automatic ISO film speed adjustment).

ISO speed of the film in use is automatically set. If not shown in the LCD panel, lightly press the camera's shutter release button.

5 Confirm the aperture value chosen on the camera and zoom-head position have been set and appear in the SB-25's LCD panel (automatic aperture/zoom-head adjustment).

Setting Up Your Camera

6 Select one of the following exposure modes:

- Programmed auto (either P, PH, PH⁺ or Pb)
- Shutter-priority auto (S)
- Aperture-priority auto (A)
- Manual (M)

7 Select a metering system:

- Matrix metering system to perform **Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash**.
- Center-Weighted metering system to perform **Center-Weighted Fill-Flash**.
- With the F-801s/N8008s, Spot metering system to perform **Spot Fill Flash**.
- Any metering system can be chosen to perform **Standard TTL Flash**.

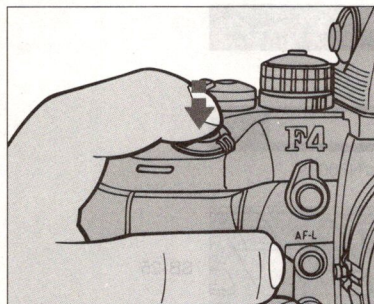
8 Perform other settings:

- For *programmed auto*, set lens to minimum aperture (highest f-number).
- For *shutter-priority auto*, set lens to minimum aperture (highest f-number), then set desired shutter speed*.
- For *aperture-priority auto*, set desired aperture.
- For *manual exposure mode*, set desired shutter speed* and aperture.

* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.

TTL Auto Flash **III** Mode: For F4-Series, F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s Users

Confirming Settings



F4-Series



F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s

9 Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button.

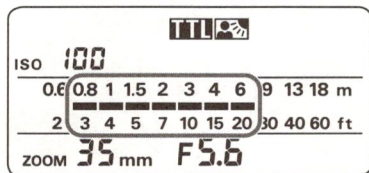
Use AE-L (Auto Exposure Lock) on the camera to capture exact exposure information for your picture composition (except when in manual exposure mode).

Confirm controlled aperture and check that the shutter speed falls between 1/60 sec. and 1/250 sec. With F-801/N8008 or F-801s/N8008s, these also appear in the camera's LCD panel.

The aperture in use (shown in the viewfinder) and shooting distance indicator bars  appear in the SB-25's LCD panel.

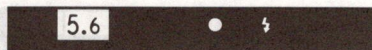

Overexposure warning (background exposure)

For overexposure alert, HI appears (together with lens' minimum aperture for the F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s) in the position that indicates the camera's shutter speed.

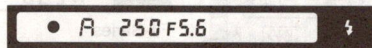


10 Confirm shooting distance.

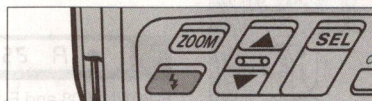
Check whether subject falls within the range shown by the shooting distance indicator bars  in the SB-25's LCD panel. If not, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (in aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode), then repeat steps 9 and 10.



F4-Series



F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s



SB-25

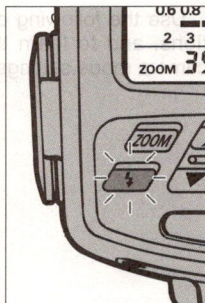
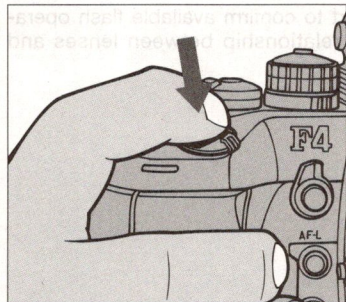
11 Confirm ready-light has come on and subject is in focus.

Confirm ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .

Check whether subject is in focus by using the in-focus indicator  in the camera's viewfinder.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F4-Series, F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s Users

Firing Flash



12 Fully depress the shutter release button to fire flash.

13 Check again whether ready-light is blinking.

If ready-light blinks for a few seconds after shooting, flash has fired at its maximum output but the light may have been insufficient.

Reconfirm shooting distance and, if necessary, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (in aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode) to compensate underexposure.

Controlled shutter speed and aperture in Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash/Standard TTL Flash

When the SB-25 is set at **REAR** position (for flash sync mode selector), the camera automatically controls the shutter speed and aperture between 30 — 1/250 sec. in programmed auto and aperture-priority auto exposure mode.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 Users

Choosing A Flash Method

The F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 enable you to choose between Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash or Standard TTL Flash with a push of the  button on the camera.

You can also switch between Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash methods (Matrix Balanced, Center-Weighted, Spot Fill-Flash) and Standard TTL Flash, depending on the combination of camera (its metering system) and lens in use.

Use the following chart to confirm available flash operations, and to learn the relationship between lenses and camera mode settings.

Flash Methods with F-601/N6006

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	Camera's Metering System		
		Matrix	Center-Weighted	Spot
AF Nikkor lenses ²⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (P _M , P)	Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash	Spot Fill-Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)			
	Aperture-priority auto (A)			
	Manual (M)			
Other lenses	Aperture-priority auto (A)	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash ³⁾		Spot Fill-Flash

1) Suitable lenses and use depend on the camera; see instruction manual for information.

2) Except AF lenses for F3 Series cameras.

Flash Methods with F-601M/N6000

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	Camera's Metering System	
		Matrix	Center-Weighted
AF Nikkor lenses ²⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (P _M , P)	Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)		
	Aperture-priority auto (A)		
	Manual (M)		
Other lenses	Aperture-priority auto (A)	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash ³⁾	

3) Matrix metering system automatically shifts to Center-Weighted, indicated by a blinking mark in the camera's LCD panel. Only Center-Weighted Fill-Flash is available.

Set Up and Practice

Choose an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash method: Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash, Center-Weighted Fill-Flash, or Spot Fill-Flash (with F-601/N6006).

Your choice will vary according to the combination of camera, its metering system and the lens you use.

Check the charts on page 48 to determine which flash is available and appropriate before actual shooting.

Note that the following instructions describe a situation where you are using either a D-type Nikkor, an AF Nikkor (except for F3AF) or an AI-P lens. With any other lens, Center-Weighted or Spot Fill-Flash will be performed.

Before proceeding:

X ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

X TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

X USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

X USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.

X USE A FILM BETWEEN ISO 20 TO ISO 1000.

Flash Methods in TTL Auto Flash Mode

-  Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)
-  Center-Weighted Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)
-  Spot Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)
-  Standard TTL Flash

Switching between an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash and Standard TTL Flash

To perform an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash, use the camera's Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash button  so that  appears in the camera's LCD panel.

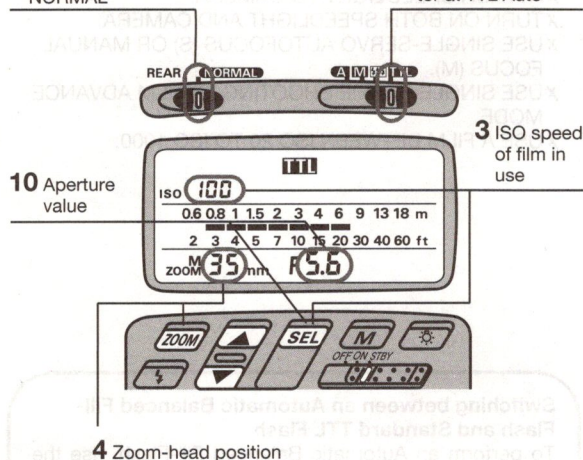
To activate Standard TTL Flash, use the same button so that the  in the LCD panel disappears.

In both cases, the SB-25's  and  buttons cannot be used for switching between Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash and Standard TTL Flash. Also, the  mark does not appear in the SB-25's LCD panel.

Setting Up SB-25

2 Flash sync mode selector at NORMAL

1 Flash mode selector at TTL Auto



1 Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position* (flash sync mode selector).

* For SLOW SYNC FLASH or REAR-CURTAIN SYNC FLASH, perform the settings on the camera; setting priorities are determined by the camera and flash sync mode selections on the SB-25 will be ignored.

3 Set ISO speed of the film in use. Usable film speeds are ISO 25 to ISO 1000.

For instruction, see "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28.

4 Set the built-in zoom head position.

For instruction, see "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 Users

Setting Up Your Camera

5 To perform **Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash**, use the MODE/ button, and confirm the  mark in the LCD panel.

To perform **Standard TTL Flash**, use the MODE/ button, and confirm the  mark disappears from the LCD panel.

6 Select one of the following exposure modes:

- a. Programmed auto (either PM or P)
- b. Shutter-priority auto (S)
- c. Aperture-priority auto (A)
- d. Manual exposure mode (M)

7 Select a metering system:

- a. Matrix metering system to perform **Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash**.
- b. Center-Weighted metering system to perform **Center-Weighted Fill-Flash**.
- c. With the F-601/N6006, Spot metering system to perform **Spot Fill Flash**.
- d. Any metering system can be chosen to perform **Standard TTL Flash**.

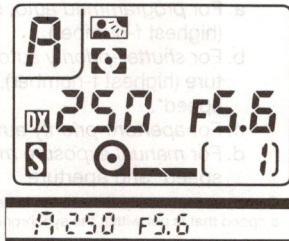
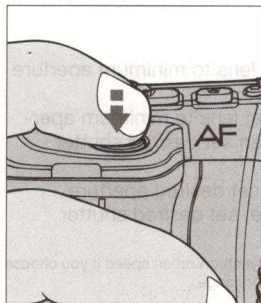
8 Perform other settings:

- a. For *programmed auto*, set lens to minimum aperture (highest f-number).
- b. For *shutter-priority auto*, set lens to minimum aperture (highest f-number), then set desired shutter speed*.
- c. For *aperture-priority auto*, set desired aperture.
- d. For *manual exposure mode*, set desired shutter speed* and aperture.

* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.

Quick reference on the relationship between usable apertures and flash shooting distance
Use table on page 142 in this instruction manual.

Confirming Settings



- 9** Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button. Confirm aperture and shutter speed. These also appear in the camera's LCD panel.

Controlled shutter speed and aperture in programmed/aperture-priority auto

Aperture and shutter speed are automatically controlled by the camera as specified in the following tables.

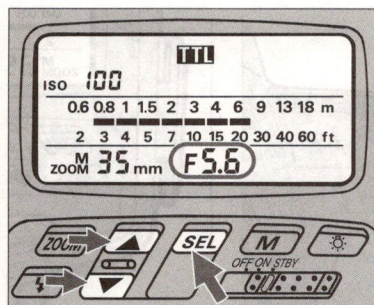
Controlled shutter speeds

Lens in use (focal length)	Shutter speed
60mm or shorter	1/(focal length) to 1/125 sec.
Longer than 60mm	1/60 to 1/125 sec.

Usable maximum apertures in programmed auto

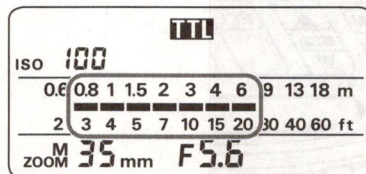
ISO film speed	25	50	100	200	400	800	1000
Controlled aperture*	f/4	f/4.8	f/5.6	f/6.7	f/8	f/9.5	f/10
	f/2.8	f/2.8	f/4	f/5.6	f/8	f/11	f/11+1/3 f/stop

* Above figures for F-601/N6006, below for F-601w/N6000.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 Users

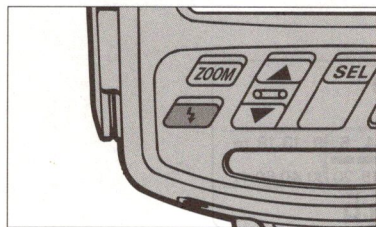
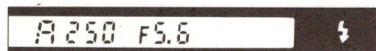
10 Set the controlled aperture (from step 9)*, then read shooting distance range on the SB-25's LCD panel. For instruction, see "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29. Once aperture is set, indicator bars  show the shooting distance range for that setting.

* This operation is important for reading the appropriate shooting distance from the indicator bars (step 11); setting a wrong aperture value on the SB-25 does not affect all TTL Auto Flash operations — a shot will be taken with the aperture set on the camera.



11 Confirm shooting distance.

Check whether subject falls within range of the shooting distance indicator bars  in the SB-25's LCD panel. If not, move closer to subject or select a wide aperture (when aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode), then repeat steps 10 and 11.

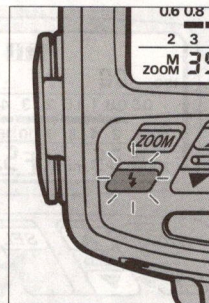
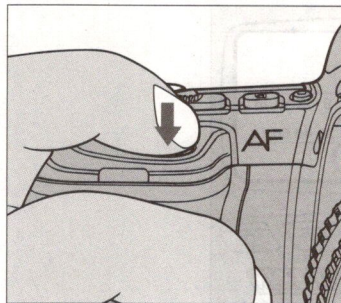


12 Confirm ready-light has come on and subject is in focus.

Confirm ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .

Check whether subject is in focus by using the in-focus indicator  in the camera's viewfinder.

Firing Flash



13 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

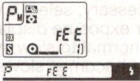
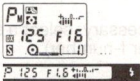
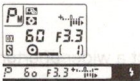
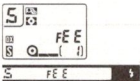
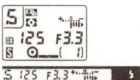
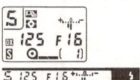
14 Recheck ready-light to see if it is blinking.

If ready-light blinks for a few seconds after shooting, the flash has fired at its maximum output but the light may have been insufficient.

Next, reconfirm shooting distance and, if necessary, move closer to the subject or select a wider aperture (in aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode) to compensate underexposure.

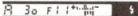
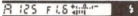
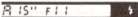
TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 Users

F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 warning indications

Exposure mode/LCD panel/Viewfinder	Cause	Troubleshooting
	FEE blinks.	Lens not set at smallest aperture. Shutter locks. Set lens to the smallest aperture.
Programmed auto 	“+” value appears in electronic analog display (F-601/N6006). “H” appears in shutter speed position.	Background may be overexposed. Use a lower ISO film, or add a neutral density filter or circular polarizer.
	“-” value appears in electronic analog display (F-601/N6006).	Background may be underexposed. If necessary, switch to slow sync to obtain slower shutter speed or switch to shutter-priority auto exposure mode to select slower shutter speed.
	FEE blinks.	Lens not set at smallest aperture. Shutter locks. Set lens to the smallest aperture.
Shutter-priority auto 	Lens maximum aperture appears with electronic analog display.	Background may be overexposed. If necessary, select slower shutter speed.
	“+” value appears in electronic analog display. “H” appears in shutter speed position (F-601M/N6000).	Background may be underexposed. If necessary, select faster shutter speed.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 Users

F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 warning indications (continued)

Exposure mode/LCD panel/Viewfinder	Cause	Troubleshooting
 	Scale appears	Background may be underexposed. If necessary, select a wider aperture. If under exposure display stays on, change from normal to slow sync, though shutter speed becomes slower.
Aperture-priority auto  	"+" value appears in electronic analog display. "HI" appears in shutter speed position (F-601M/N6000).	Background may be overexposed. If necessary, select a smaller aperture (larger f-number).
 	Shutter speed display blinks	Selected shutter speed may be too slow for handheld photography or for movement of subject Select a wider aperture.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-401x/N5005 Users

Choosing A Flash Method

The SB-25 lets you choose between Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash or Standard TTL Flash in TTL Auto flash mode.

Use the charts below to confirm available flash/exposure mode combinations.

TTL Auto flash mode with F-401x/N5005

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	SB-25 Flash
AF Nikkor lenses ²⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (P)	Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)	
	Aperture-priority auto (A)	
	Manual (M)	Center-Weighted Fill-Flash

1) Suitable lenses and use depend on the camera; see instruction manual for information.

2) Except AF lenses for F3 Series cameras.

Flash Methods in TTL Auto Flash Mode

 Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)

 Center-Weighted Fill-Flash (an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash)

Set Up and Practice

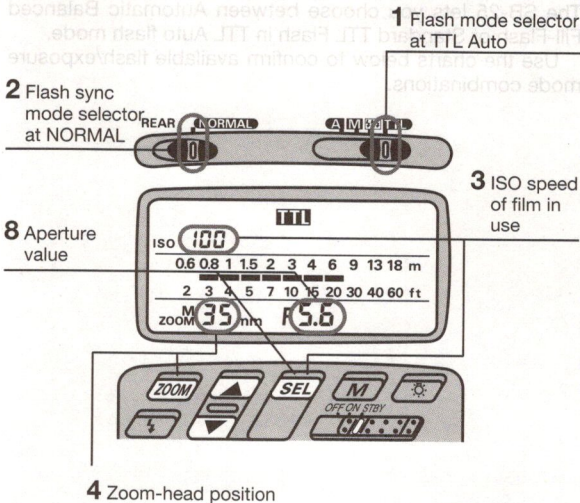
Choose an Automatic Balanced Fill-Flash method, either Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash or Center-Weighted Fill-Flash. Your choice will depend on your camera settings (its exposure mode, auto or manual).

Check the charts on page 57 to determine which flash is available and suitable for your shooting situation before actual shooting.

Before proceeding:

- ✗ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.
- ✗ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.
- ✗ SET LENS TO MINIMUM APERTURE (HIGHEST F-NUMBER).
- ✗ USE A FILM BETWEEN ISO 25 AND ISO 1000.

Setting Up SB-25



TTL Auto Flash **TTL** Mode: *For F-401x/N5005 Users*

1 Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position* (flash sync mode selector).

* Since TTL Auto Flash operation can be performed regardless of the flash sync mode selector setting, for simplicity, always leave the switch at this position.

3 Set ISO speed of the film in use. Usable speeds are ISO 25 to ISO 1000.

For instruction, see "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28.

4 Set the built-in zoom head position.

For instruction, see "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.

Setting Up Your Camera

5 Select one of the following exposure modes:

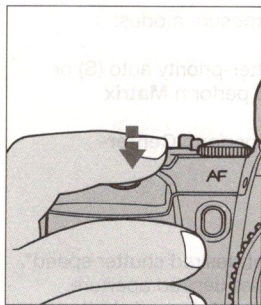
- Programmed auto (P), shutter-priority auto (S) or aperture-priority auto (A) to perform **Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash**.
- Manual exposure mode to perform **Center-Weighted Fill-Flash**.

6 Perform other settings:

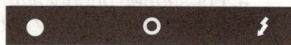
- For *shutter-priority auto*, set desired shutter speed*.
- For *aperture-priority auto*, set desired aperture.
- For *manual exposure mode*, set desired shutter speed* and aperture.

* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.

Confirm Settings



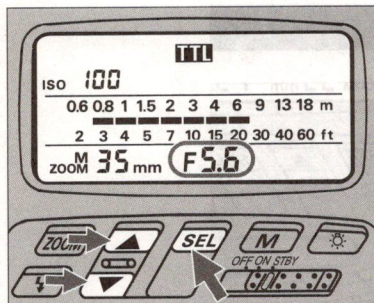
7 Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button. Confirm exposure indicator LEDs (+, O, -) in the viewfinder appear, and make adjustments if necessary. Use the following chart to read LEDs.



Quick reference on the relationship between usable apertures and flash shooting distance
Use table on page 142 in this instruction manual.

Warning indications

Selected exposure mode	Viewfinder LED	Status/cause	Troubleshooting
Programmed auto	No indication	—	—
Shutter-priority auto	+ or + O	Background is overexposed.	Select faster shutter speed until only O appears.
	O	OK: Background is correctly exposed	—
	- O or -	Background is underexposed	Select slower shutter speed until only O appears.
Aperture-priority auto	+ or + O	Background is overexposed	Select smaller aperture until only O appears.
	O	OK: Background is correctly exposed	—
	- O or -	Background is underexposed	Select larger aperture until only O appears.
Manual	+ or + O	Background is overexposed	Select faster shutter speed or smaller aperture.
	O	OK: Background is correctly exposed	—
	- O or -	Background is underexposed	Select slower shutter speed or larger aperture.

TTL Auto Flash **TTL** Mode: For F-401x/N5005 Users

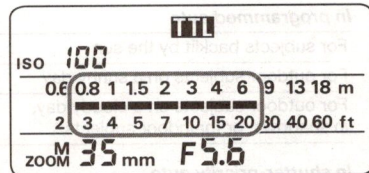
8 Set aperture in the SB-25's LCD panel*, then read the shooting distance range.

For instruction, see "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29. In *aperture-priority auto* or *manual exposure mode*, set the aperture value that you have set on the camera (from step 6).

In *programmed auto* or *shutter-priority auto exposure mode*, aperture is automatically controlled by the camera. Choose and set a value, using the "Guide to determining aperture" in the following page.

Once aperture is set, indicator bars ■■■■ show the shooting distance range.

* This operation is important for reading the appropriate shooting distance from the indicator bars (step 9); setting a wrong aperture value on the SB-25 does not affect all TTL Auto Flash operations — a shot will be taken with the aperture set on the camera.



9 Confirm shooting distance.

Check whether subject falls within the range of the shooting distance indicator bars ■■■■ in the SB-25's LCD panel. If not, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (when *aperture-priority auto* or *manual exposure mode*), then repeat steps 8 and 9.

Guide to determining aperture

Use these suggestions as a guide. To choose a suitable aperture, select aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode.

In programmed auto

For subjects backlit by the sun	f/16
For outdoor subjects on a sunny day	f/8
For outdoor subjects on a cloudy day, in shadows, or for indoor subjects	f/5.6

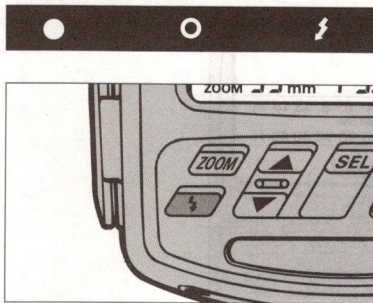
In shutter-priority auto

For subjects backlit by the sun	f/16 at 1/125 sec.
For outdoor subjects on a sunny day	f/8 at 1/125 sec.
For outdoor subjects on a cloudy day in shadows	f/5.6 at 1/125 sec.
For indoor subjects	f/5.6 at 1/30 sec

Usable maximum apertures in programmed auto or shutter priority auto

Choose an aperture that does not exceed the maximum possible aperture for the film in use, as given below.

ISO film speed	25	50	100	200	400	800	1000
Maximum aperture	f/4	f/4.7	f/5.6	f/6.7	f/8	f/9.5	f/10

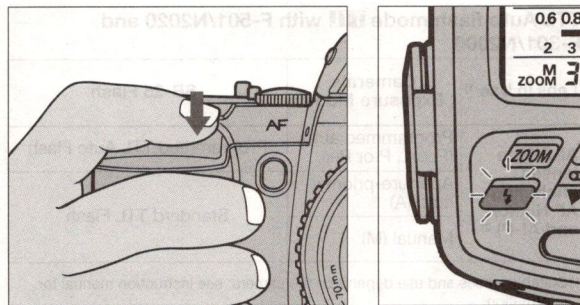


10 Confirm ready-light has come on and subject is in focus.

Confirm ready-light is on in the camera viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .

Check whether subject is in focus by using the in-focus indicator  in the camera's viewfinder.

Firing Flash



11 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

12 Recheck ready-light to see if it is blinking.

If ready-light blinks for a few seconds after shooting, the flash has fired at its maximum output but the light may have been insufficient.

Reconfirm shooting distance and, if necessary, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (in aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode) to compensate underexposure.

Choosing A Flash Method

The SB-28 lets you choose between Programmed TTL Auto Flash or Standard TTL Flash in TTL Auto flash mode. Use the chart at right to confirm available flash/exposure mode combinations.

Programmed TTL Auto Flash
By setting the camera's exposure mode to a programmed auto setting (either P, P, or P), you can choose Programmed TTL Auto Flash.

In Programmed TTL Auto Flash, the camera automatically selects a shutter speed of 1/125 sec. and a configured aperture that corresponds to the ISO speed of the film in use (see chart on page 63).

Flash output is regulated by the Speedlight to ensure a "correct" subject exposure. This enables you to concentrate on picture composition without worrying about exposure settings (including aperture).

You can also perform Standard TTL Flash with the camera set at aperture-priority auto (A) or manual exposure mode. In Standard TTL Flash, the Speedlight controls the flash output level to correctly expose the subject. Shutter-speed and/or aperture settings can be selected by the user.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-501/N2020 and F-301/N2000 Users

Choosing A Flash Method

The SB-25 lets you choose between Programmed TTL Auto Flash or Standard TTL Flash in TTL Auto flash mode.

Use the charts at right to confirm available flash/exposure mode combinations.

Programmed TTL Auto Flash

By setting the camera's exposure mode to a programmed auto setting (either PDUAL, P or PHI), you can choose Programmed TTL Auto Flash.

In Programmed TTL Auto Flash, the camera automatically selects a shutter speed of 1/125 sec. and a controlled aperture that corresponds to the ISO speed of the film in use (see chart on page 68).

Flash output is regulated by the Speedlight to ensure a "correct" subject exposure. This enables you to concentrate on picture composition without worrying about exposure settings (including aperture).

You can also perform Standard TTL Flash with the camera set at aperture-priority auto (A) or manual exposure mode. In Standard TTL Flash, the Speedlight controls the flash output level to correctly expose the subject. Shutter-speed and/or aperture setting(s) can be selected by the user.

TTL Auto flash mode with F-501/N2020 and F-301/N2000

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	SB-25 Flash
AI-S type lenses (including AF Nikkor and AI-P) ²⁾	Programmed auto (PDUAL, P or PHI)	Programmed TTL Auto Flash
	Aperture-priority auto (A)	Standard TTL Flash
	Manual (M)	

1) Suitable lenses and use depend on the camera; see instruction manual for information.

2) Except AF lenses for F3 Series cameras.

For Programmed TTL Auto Flash, use only AI-S lenses, which include AF Nikkor, Nikkor lenses with a built-in CPU and Series E lenses.

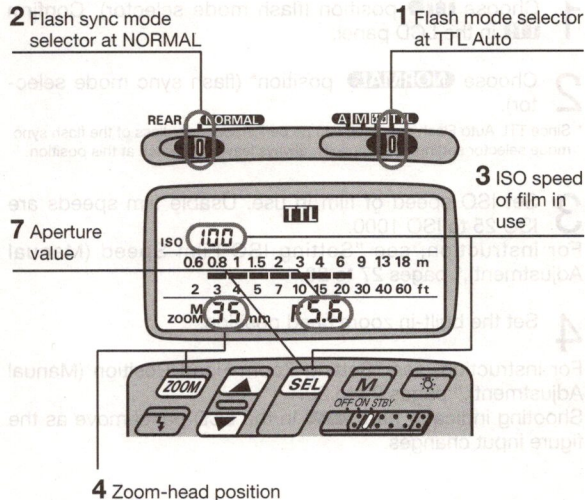
Set Up and Practice

You can choose Programmed TTL Auto Flash against Standard TTL Flash by setting camera to a programmed auto exposure mode (either P DUAL, P or PH). Check charts on the previous page.

Before proceeding:

- ✗ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.
- ✗ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.
- ✗ USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).
- ✗ USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.
- ✗ USE FILM WITH A SPEED BETWEEN ISO 25 AND ISO 1000.
- ✗ USE AN AI-S LENS (AF Nikkor, Nikkor lens with built-in CPU or Series E lens).

Setting Up SB-25



To distinguish AI-S lenses from others

Look for an orange mark on the minimum aperture scale of the lens.

1 Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position* (flash sync mode selector).

* Since TTL Auto Flash operation can be performed regardless of the flash sync mode selector setting, for simplicity, always leave the switch at this position.

3 Set ISO speed of film in use. Usable film speeds are ISO 25 to ISO 1000.

For instruction, see "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28.

4 Set the built-in zoom head position.

For instruction, see "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.

Shooting indicator bars  in the LCD panel move as the figure input changes.

Quick reference on the relationship between usable apertures and flash shooting distance

Use table on page 142 in this instruction manual.

Setting Up Your Camera

5 Select one of the following exposure modes:

- Programmed auto (either PDUAL, P or PHI) to perform **Programmed TTL Auto Flash**.
- Aperture-priority auto (A) to perform **Standard TTL Flash**.
- Manual exposure mode to perform **Standard TTL Flash**.

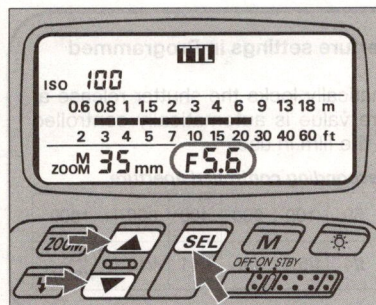
6 Perform other settings:

- For *programmed auto*, set lens to minimum aperture (highest f-number).
- For *aperture-priority auto*, set desired aperture.
- For *manual exposure mode*, set desired shutter speed* and aperture.

* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-501/N2020 and F-301/N2000 Users

Confirm Settings



7

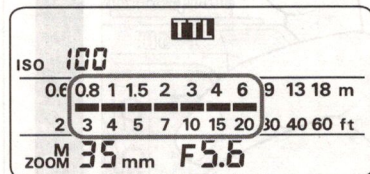
 Set aperture in the SB-25's LCD panel*.

For instruction, see "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29. In *programmed auto exposure mode*, aperture is automatically controlled by the camera. Choose a value, using "Shutter speed/aperture settings in Programmed TTL Auto Flash" in the following page.

In *aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode*, set the aperture value that you have set on the camera (from step 6).

Once aperture is set, indicator bars  show the shooting distance range.

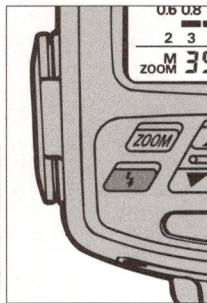
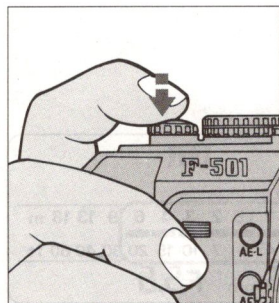
* This operation is important for reading the appropriate shooting distance from the indicator bars (step 8); setting a wrong aperture value on the SB-25 does not affect all TTL Auto Flash operations — a shot will be taken with the aperture set on the camera.



8

 Confirm shooting distance.

Check whether subject falls within the range of the shooting distance indicator bars  in the SB-25's LCD panel. If not, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (when *aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode*), then repeat steps 7 and 8.



- 9 Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button.
 Confirm ready-light has come on and subject is in focus.
 Check that ready-light is on in camera viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .
- Check whether subject is in focus by using the in-focus indicator ● in the camera's viewfinder.

Shutter speed/aperture settings in Programmed TTL Auto Flash

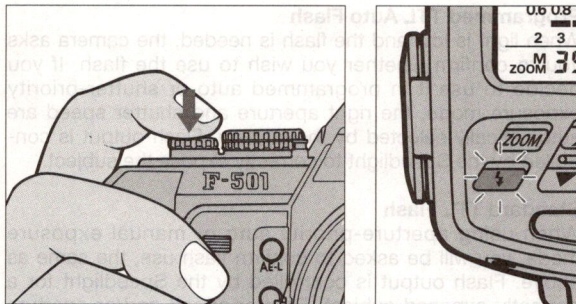
The camera automatically locks the shutter release at 1/125 sec. Aperture value is automatically controlled to correspond with the film in use.

Film speed and corresponding controlled aperture

ISO film speed	25	50	100	200	400	800	1000
Controlled aperture	f/2.8	f/4	f/5.6	f/8	f/11	f/16	f/16+1/3 f/stop

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-501/N2020 and F-301/N2000 Users

Firing Flash



10 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

11 Recheck ready-light to see if it is blinking.

If ready-light blinks for a few seconds after shooting, the flash has fired at its maximum output but the light may have been insufficient.

Reconfirm shooting distance and, if necessary, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (in aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode) to compensate underexposure.

Choosing A Flash Method

The SB-25 can be used in the same manner as the camera's built-in TTL flash, but offers more powerful light output and a greater shooting distance range.

The SB-25's  setting takes full advantage of the F-401/N4004 and F-401/N4004 multi-sensor metering system for flash photography.

Is the scene "bright" or "dark", and which is brighter — the subject or background? The algorithm in the metering system checks the amount of light based on these questions, and the camera asks through the viewfinder whether you choose to use the flash or not.

In any case, if you decide to use the flash, the camera automatically sets the most appropriate flash method for your shooting situation. Programmed TTL Auto Flash or Standard TTL Flash.

Use the chart in the next page to confirm available flash/exposure mode combinations.

Viewfinder prompt: Use flash or not
When the SB-25 is attached to the camera but turned off, the camera's viewfinder ready light blinks to suggest you use a flash. You can reject or ignore the prompt simply by leaving the SB-25's power off (it continues blinking).

Choosing A Flash Method

The SB-25 can be used in the same manner as the camera's built-in TTL flash, but offers more powerful light output and a greater shooting distance range.

The SB-25's  setting takes full advantage of the F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s' multi-sensor metering system for flash photography.

Is the scene "bright" or "dark," and which is brighter — the subject or background? The algorithm in the metering system checks the amount of light based on these questions, and the camera asks through the viewfinder whether you choose to use the flash or not.

In any case, if you decide to use the flash, the camera automatically sets the most appropriate flash method for your shooting situation: Programmed TTL Auto Flash or Standard TTL Flash.

Use the chart in the next page to confirm available flash/exposure mode combinations.

Programmed TTL Auto Flash

When light is low and the flash is needed, the camera asks you to confirm whether you wish to use the flash. If you decide to use it in programmed auto or shutter-priority exposure mode, the right aperture and shutter speed are automatically selected by the camera. Flash output is controlled by the Speedlight to correctly expose the subject.

Standard TTL Flash

When using aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode, you will be asked to confirm flash use, the same as above. Flash output is controlled by the Speedlight for a correctly exposed subject. Shutter-speed and/or aperture setting(s) can be selected by the user.

Viewfinder prompt: Use flash or not

When the SB-25 is attached to the camera but turned off, the camera's viewfinder ready-light  blinks to suggest you use a flash. You can reject or ignore the prompt simply by leaving the SB-25's power off ( continues blinking).

TTL Auto flash mode with F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s

Lens in Use ¹⁾	Camera's Exposure Mode	SB-25 Flash
AF Nikkor lenses ²⁾ AI-P lenses	Programmed auto (A/S)	Programmed TTL Auto Flash
	Shutter-priority auto (S)	
	Aperture-priority auto (A)	Standard TTL Flash
	Manual (M)	

1) Suitable lenses and use depend on the camera; see instruction manual for information.

2) Except AF lenses for F3 Series cameras.

For Programmed TTL Auto Flash, use only AF Nikkor lenses (including latest D-Type), except AF Nikkor 80mm f/2.8, 200mm f/3.5 IF-ED and Autofocus Converter TC-16/TC-16A.

Set Up and Practice

When camera is set at programmed auto (A/S) or shutter-priority auto (S) exposure mode, it automatically switches into Programmed TTL Auto Flash.

Before proceeding, be sure to:

✗ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

✗ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

✗ SET LENS TO MINIMUM APERTURE (HIGHEST F-NUMBER).

✗ USE FILM WITH A SPEED BETWEEN ISO 25 AND ISO 400.

✗ USE AN AF NIKKOR LENS (including the latest D-Type Lens, but excluding AF Nikkor 80mm f/2.8, 200mm f/3.5 IF-ED and Autofocus Converters TC-16/TC-16A).

Setting Up SB-25

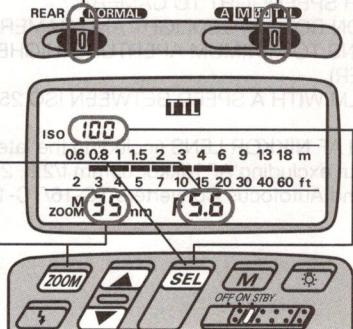
2 Flash sync mode selector at NORMAL

1 Flash mode selector at TTL Auto

7 Aperture value

3 ISO speed of film in use

4 Zoom-head position



1 Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position* (flash sync mode selector).

* Since TTL Auto Flash operation can be performed regardless of the flash sync mode selector setting, for simplicity, always leave the switch at this position.

3 Set ISO speed of the film in use. Usable film speeds are ISO 25 to ISO 400.

For instruction, see "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28.

4 Set the built-in zoom head position.

For instruction, see "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.

Shooting indicator bars  in the LCD panel move as the figure input changes.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s Users

Setting Up Your Camera

- 5** Select one of the following exposure modes:
- Programmed auto (A/S) to perform **Programmed TTL Auto Flash**.
 - Shutter-priority auto (S) to perform **Programmed TTL Auto Flash**.
 - Aperture-priority auto (A) to perform **Standard TTL Flash**.
 - Manual exposure mode to perform **Standard TTL Flash**.

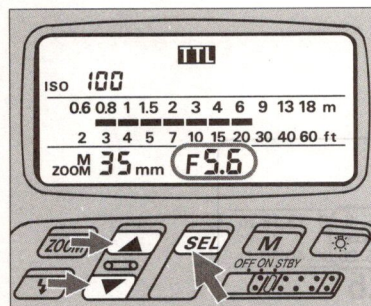
- 6** Perform other settings:

- For *shutter-priority auto*, set desired shutter speed*.
- For *aperture-priority auto*, set desired aperture.
- For *manual exposure mode*, set desired shutter speed* and aperture.

* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.

Quick reference on the relationship between usable apertures and flash shooting distance
Use table on page 142 in this instruction manual.

Confirming Settings



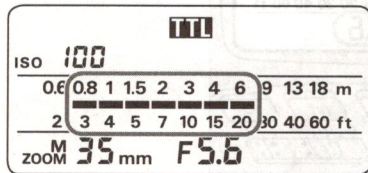
- 7** Set aperture in the SB-25's LCD panel*.

For instruction, see "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29.

In *programmed auto* and *shutter-priority auto exposure mode*, set an aperture using the "Guide to determine aperture" in the following page.

In *aperture-priority auto* or *manual exposure mode*, set the aperture value that you have set on the camera (from step 6). Once aperture is set, indicator bars  show the shooting distance range for that setting.

* This operation is important for reading the appropriate shooting distance from the indicator bars (step 8); setting a wrong aperture value on the SB-25 does not affect all TTL Auto Flash operations — a shot will be taken with the aperture set on the camera.



8 Confirm shooting distance.

Check whether subject falls within the range of the shooting distance indicator bars  in the SB-25's LCD panel. If not, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture (when aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode), then repeat steps 7 and 8.

Guide to determining aperture

Use these suggestions as a guide for choosing aperture.

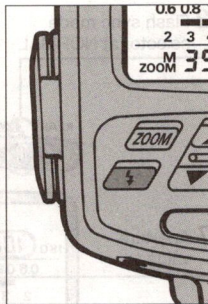
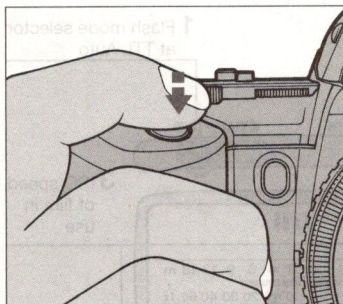
In programmed auto (ISO 100)

For subjects backlit by the sun	f/16
For outdoor subjects on a sunny day	f/8
For subjects beside a bright window	f/5.6
For indoor subject	f/5.6

In shutter-priority auto

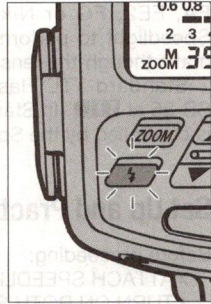
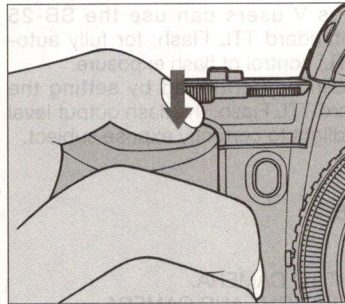
For subjects backlit by the sun	f/16 at 1/100 sec.
For outdoor subjects on a sunny day	f/8 at 1/100 sec.
For subjects beside a bright window	f/5.6 at 1/100 sec.
For indoor subjects	f/5.6 at 1/30 sec.

TTL Auto Flash Mode: For F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s Users



- 9** Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button. Confirm ready-light has come on and subject is in focus. Confirm ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .
- Check whether subject is in focus by using the in-focus indicator  in the camera's viewfinder

Firing Flash



- 10** Fully depress the shutter release button to fire flash.

- 11** Recheck ready-light to see if it is blinking.

If ready-light blinks for a few seconds after shooting, the flash has fired at its maximum output but the light may have been insufficient.

Reconfirm shooting distance and, if necessary, move closer to the subject or select a wider aperture (in aperture-priority auto manual exposure mode) to compensate underexposure.

TTL Auto Flash **TTL** Mode: For FA, FE2, FG and Nikonos V Users

Choosing A Flash Method

FA, FE2, FG or Nikonos V users can use the SB-25 Speedlight to perform Standard TTL Flash, for fully automatic through-the-lens (TTL) control of flash exposure.

Standard TTL Flash can be performed by setting the SB-25 at **TTL**. In Standard TTL Flash, the flash output level is controlled by the Speedlight to correctly expose subject.

Set Up and Practice

Before proceeding:

- ✗ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.
- ✗ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.
- ✗ USE FILM WITH A SPEED BETWEEN ISO 25 AND ISO 400.

Setting Up SB-25

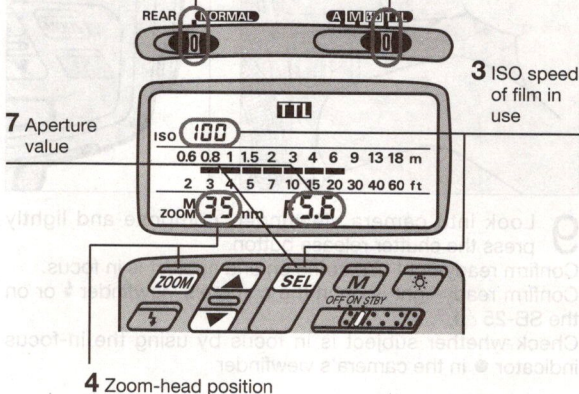
2 Flash sync mode selector at NORMAL

1 Flash mode selector at TTL Auto

7 Aperture value

3 ISO speed of film in use

4 Zoom-head position



Caution

Use the SB-25 exclusively for on-land conditions; it cannot be used in underwater conditions. Always keep the unit away from salt water, rain or water splashes.

1 Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position (flash sync mode selector).

* Since TTL Auto Flash operation can be performed regardless of the flash sync mode selector setting, for simplicity, always leave the switch at this position.

3 Set ISO speed of the film in use. Usable film speeds are from ISO 25 to ISO 400
For instruction, see "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28.

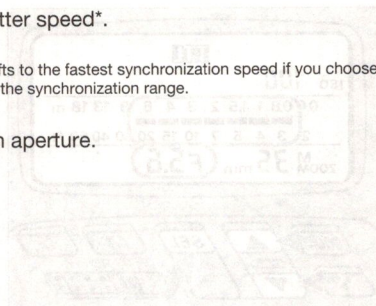
4 Set position of the built-in zoom head.
For instruction, see "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.
Shooting indicator bars  in the LCD panel move as the figure input changes.

Setting Up Your Camera

5 Set desired shutter speed*.

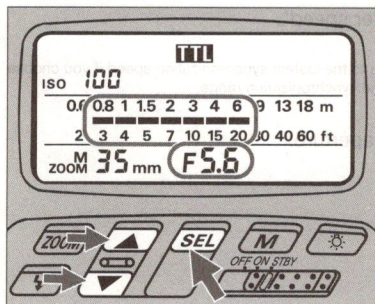
* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.

6 Set your chosen aperture.



Quick reference on relationship between usable apertures and flash shooting distance. Use table on page 312 in this instruction manual.

Confirm Settings

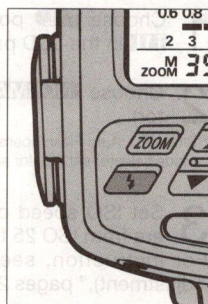
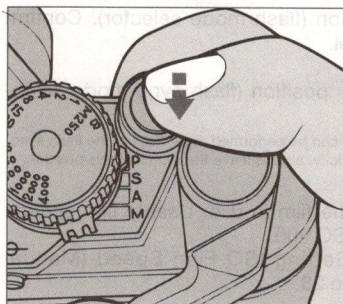


7 Set aperture in use.

For instruction, see "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29.

Shooting indicator bars  in the LCD panel move as the figure input changes.

Determine approximate flash-shooting distance range by reading indicator bars.



8 Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button.

Confirm ready-light has come on and subject is in focus.

Check if ready-light is on in camera's viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .

Quick reference on relationship between usable apertures and flash shooting distance

Use table on page 142 in this instruction manual.

Non-TTL Auto Flash **A** Mode — Shooting with Various Lens Apertures

To use various lens apertures for the same subject or when camera/lens combination is incompatible with TTL Auto Flash mode, set the SB-25's flash mode selector to **A** for Non-TTL Auto Flash operation.

In Non-TTL Auto Flash shooting, light output automatically changes to match the flash-to-subject distance, but instead of light being measured through the lens, it is measured by the light sensor on the front of the SB-25.

The SB-25 can be used in Non-TTL Auto Flash mode with any Nikon camera/lens combination.

Before proceeding:

✕ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

✕ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

✕ USE APERTURE-PRIORITY AUTO OR MANUAL EXPOSURE MODE.

✕ USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

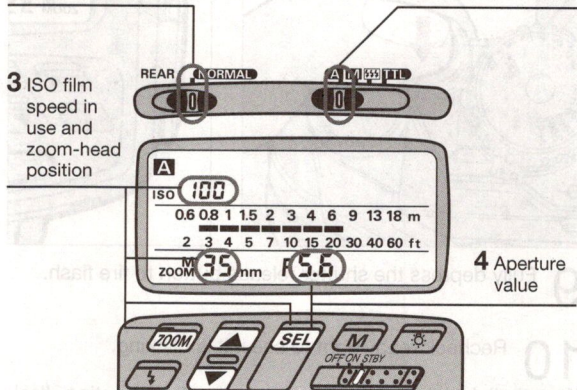
Set Up and Practice

2 Flash sync mode selector at NORMAL

1 Flash mode selector at Non-TTL Auto

3 ISO film speed in use and zoom-head position

4 Aperture value



Non-TTL Auto Flash **A** Mode

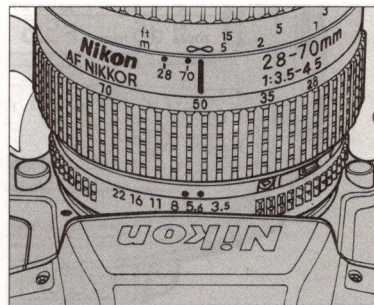
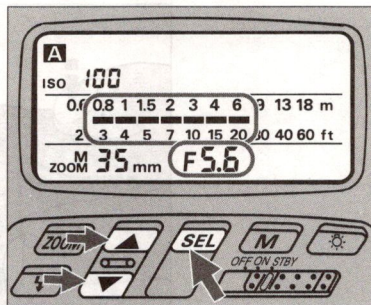
1 Choose **A** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **A** appears in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position (flash sync mode selector*).

* **REAR** position is used for Rear-Curtain Sync Flash, and only with the F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, and F-801s/N8008s. For details, see page 105.

3 Set ISO film speed and position the built-in zoom head.

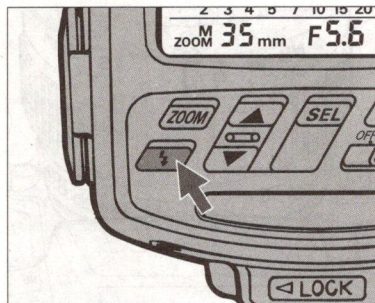
For instructions, see "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28, and "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.



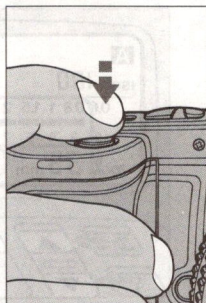
4 Set desired aperture in the SB-25's LCD panel, then set again on the camera.

For instructions, see "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29.

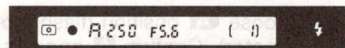
Indicator bars show a appropriate shooting distance range.



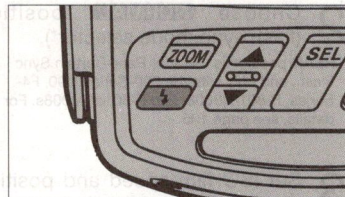
5 Push  button for a test firing (see page 110) when you are not sure whether subject is within the flash shooting range. If ready-light  blinks for a few seconds after test firing, flash has fired at its maximum output but light might not have been sufficient. Select a wider aperture or move closer to subject.



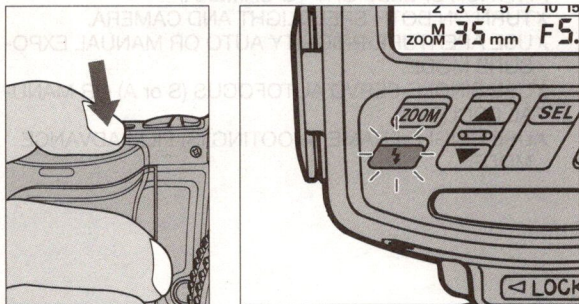
6 Look into the camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press shutter release button to confirm that subject is in focus. Check that ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .



F90-Series/N90's viewfinder



Non-TTL Auto Flash **A** Mode



- 7** Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

- 8** Recheck ready-light to see if it is blinking.

If ready-light  blinks for a few seconds after shooting, flash has fired at maximum output but the light may have been insufficient.

Reconfirm shooting distance and, if necessary, move closer to subject or select a wider aperture to compensate underexposure.

Exposure compensation

Exposure compensation in Non-TTL Auto Flash mode is achieved by purposely setting a different aperture value on the camera (actually on the lens in most cases) than on the SB-25.

Use an aperture 1/3 to one stop smaller for an entirely dark background (low reflectance). For backgrounds that include a highly reflective object, use an aperture 1/3 to one stop larger.

Note that shooting distance range indication  corresponds to the aperture value set on the SB-25 — not on the camera.

In general, you may want to take a series of pictures using exposure bracketing.

Manual Flash **M** Mode — Manual Light-Output Control

With the SB-25's flash mode selector at **M**, you can perform manual flash photography.

For manual flash photography, it is important to choose an appropriate aperture and shooting distance to achieve your desired effect. To help approximate these variables, you can use the SB-25's LCD panel and control buttons as a "calculator", or use "guide numbers" (see page 118).

To enhance this feature, the SB-25 lets you manually adjust flash output levels from full power (1/1) to 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32, 1/64, and FP1 and FP2.

Before proceeding:

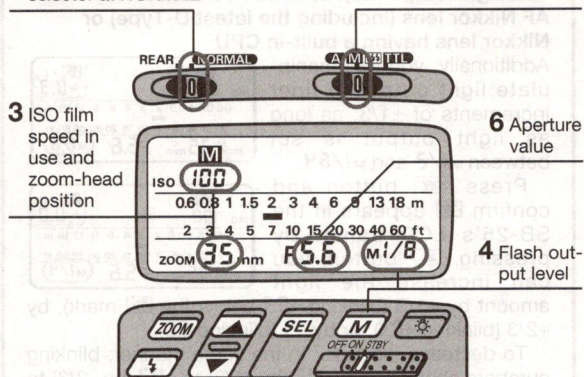
- ✗ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.
- ✗ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.
- ✗ USE APERTURE-PRIORITY AUTO OR MANUAL EXPOSURE MODE.
- ✗ USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).
- ✗ USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	✗	F-501/N2020	✗	Nikonos V	✗
F4-Series	✗	F-301/N2000	✗	F3-Series	✗
F-801/N8008	✗	F-401/N4004	✗	F2-Series	✗
F-801s/N8008s	✗	F-401s/N4004s	✗	FM2	✗
F-601/N6006	✗	FA	✗	FG-20	✗
F-601m/N6000	✗	FE2	✗		
F-401x/N5005	✗	FG	✗		

Set Up and Practice

- 2 Flash sync mode selector at NORMAL
- 1 Flash mode selector at Manual Flash



- 1 Choose **M** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **M** appears in the LCD panel.

- 2 Choose **NORMAL** position (flash sync mode selector*).

* **REAR** position is used for Rear-Curtain Sync Flash, and only with the F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, and F-801s/N8008s. For details, see page105.

- 3 Set ISO film speed and the built-in zoom head position.

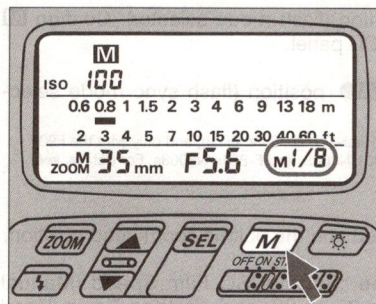
For instructions, see "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28, and "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.



Automatic ISO film speed/zoom-head position adjustment: F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, or F-801s/N8008s used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

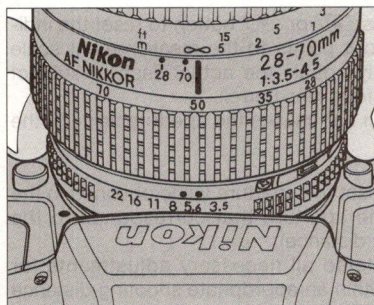
The film speed and zoom-head position in use are automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel.

For other lenses, set manually according to the shooting situation. See "Setting ISO Film Speed (Manual Adjustment)," pages 27 to 28, and "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.



4 Press **M** button to choose desired light output.

You can choose an amount ranging from full power (1/1) to one sixty-fourth (1/64). LCD indications change as: - **mi/1** - **mi/2** - **mi/4** - **mi/8** - **mi/16** - **mi/32** - **mi/64** - **mi/128** - **mi/256** - **mi/512** - **mi/1024** - **mi/2048** - **mi/4096** - **mi/8192** - **mi/16384** - **mi/32768** - **mi/65536** - **mi/131072** - **mi/262144** - **mi/524288** - **mi/1048576** - **mi/2097152** - **mi/4194304** - **mi/8388608** - **mi/16777216** - **mi/33554432** - **mi/67108864** - **mi/134217728** - **mi/268435456** - **mi/536870912** - **mi/1073741824** - **mi/2147483648** - **mi/4294967296** - **mi/8589934592** - **mi/17179869184** - **mi/34359738368** - **mi/68719476736** - **mi/137438953472** - **mi/274877906944** - **mi/549755813888** - **mi/1099511627776** - **mi/2199023255552** - **mi/4398046511104** - **mi/8796093022208** - **mi/17592186044416** - **mi/35184372088832** - **mi/70368744177664** - **mi/140737488355328** - **mi/281474976710656** - **mi/562949953421312** - **mi/1125899906842624** - **mi/2251799813685248** - **mi/4503599627370496** - 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**mi/14474011154664524427946373126085988481658**



5 For *aperture-priority auto*, set desired aperture on the camera.

For *manual exposure mode*, set desired aperture and shutter speed* on the camera.

* Camera automatically shifts to the fastest synchronization speed if you choose a speed that is not within the synchronization range.



Automatic aperture adjustment: F90-

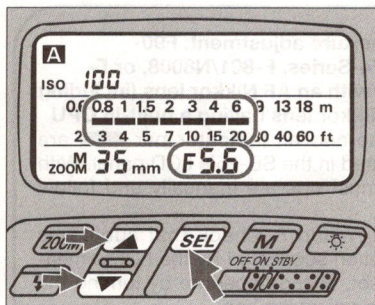
Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, or F-801s/N8008s used with an AF Nikkor lens (including latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

The aperture in use and an indicator bar are automatically indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel. With other lenses, you must operate manually and follow steps 6, 7 and 8.

To skip steps 6, 7 and 8, check that subject is standing at the location suggested by the LCD's measurement scale. If not, change aperture by turning the lens' aperture ring to adjust the bar.

Using guide number

Guide number is helpful to calculate exact flash shooting distance in manual flash operation. For details, see "Guide Number — To Calculate a Proper Aperture," page 118, and "Specification," page 139.



6 Set the same aperture value in the SB-25's LCD panel.

For instruction, see "Setting Aperture Values (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29.

An indicator bar appears to show appropriate shooting distance for the selected aperture.

7 If necessary, press or button to reset the indicator bar so it points to the measurement scale that matches or nearly equals the actual flash-to-subject distance (can be read from lens barrel).

Manipulating indication bar causes the aperture value in the LCD panel to change.

8 On the camera, reset the aperture value obtained in the previous step (the aperture that corresponds to the actual flash-to-subject distance).

You have now completed all necessary adjustments for locating the subject within an appropriate shooting distance range for the predetermined light output and aperture.

9 Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button to confirm that subject is in focus.

Check that ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder or on the SB-25 .

10 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

Synchronization in continuous shooting

The SB-25 is able to recycle fast enough to synchronize with a motor-driven camera firing continuously at up to six frames per sec. at 1/64 light output. This means you can take up to 40 flash pictures in rapid succession. Batteries must be fresh to achieve the rates indicated.

Continuous firing in Manual Flash **M** mode

Batteries		Light output	Number of continuous flash (frames)
Inside SB-25	Optional external power source		
AA-type alkaline-manganese (four sets)	—	$m/8$	More than 4
		$m/16$	More than 8
		$m/32$	More than 16
		$m/64$	More than 30
	SD-7	$m/8$	More than 6
		$m/16$	More than 10
		$m/32$	More than 40
		$m/64$	More than 40
AA-type NiCd (four sets)	SD-8 (when used with NiCd batteries)	$m/8$	More than 5
		$m/16$	More than 10
		$m/32$	More than 30
		$m/64$	More than 40



Caution

Let the flash unit rest at least 10 minutes after continuous firing at a maximum number (see the chart), to allow it to cool off. Overuse generates heat that could shorten the Speedlight's life.

Safety range in continuous firing

Flash mode	Max. number
TTL Auto III	15
Non-TTL Auto A	15
Manual Flash M	15 at full (1/1) or 1/2 light output, 40 at 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32 or 1/64 light output

Repeating Flash Mode — For Multiple Exposure

For multiple flash exposures on a single frame, use the SB-25 in the  mode. The flash can be fired up to 160 times on one frame, and if used in conjunction with the camera body's multiple exposure control, many more flash can be achieved on the same frame.

When making multiple exposures, there are many factors to consider. You may want to experiment before making the final exposure.

Before proceeding:

- X ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.
- X TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.
- X USE MANUAL EXPOSURE MODE.
- X USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).
- X USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.

Set Up and Practice

2 Flash sync mode selector at NORMAL

1 Flash mode selector at Repeating Flash

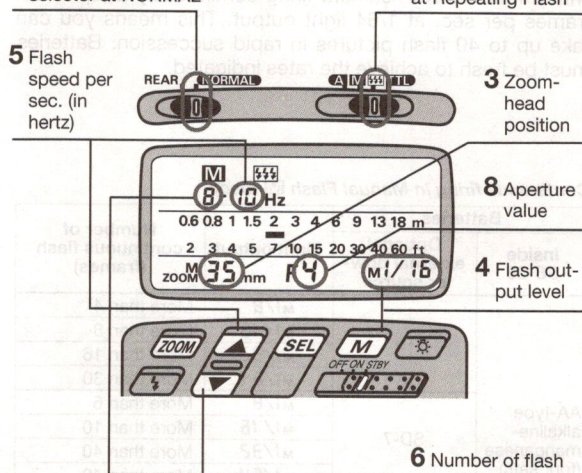
5 Flash speed per sec. (in hertz)

3 Zoom-head position

8 Aperture value

4 Flash output level

6 Number of flash per frame



APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601m/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

1 Choose  position (flash mode selector). Confirm  and  appear in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position (flash sync mode selector*).

* **REAR** position is only used for Rear-Curtain Sync Flash in TTL Auto , Non-TTL Auto  and Manual  Flash, and only with the F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801s/N8008, and F-801s/N8008s. For details, see page 105.

3 Set the built-in zoom head position.

For instructions, see "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 to 30.

4 Press  button to choose desired light output.

You can choose an amount ranging from one eighth of full power (1/8) to one sixty-fourth (1/64). LCD indications change as: -mi/8 -mi/16 -mi/32 -mi/64 -.-. For details, see the chart below.

Number of repeating flashes per frame (shown with blinking hyphen -): Flashes indicate use with External Power Source 2D-T or 2D-8

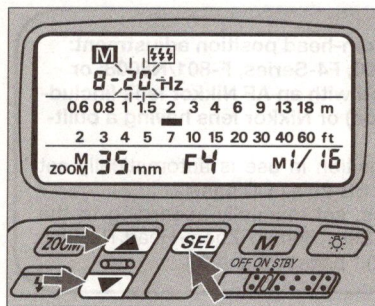
Flash speed per second	mi/8	mi/16	mi/32	mi/64
1 — 1 Hz	20	40	80	160
8 — 10 Hz	10	20	40	80
20 — 30 Hz	8	16	32	64



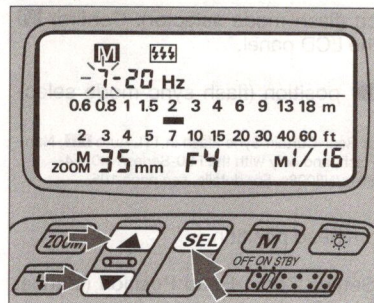
Automatic zoom-head position adjustment:
F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, or F-801s/N8008s used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

The zoom-head position in use is automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel.

For other lenses, set manually according to the shooting situation. See "Setting Zoom-Head Position (Manual Adjustment)," pages 29 and 30.



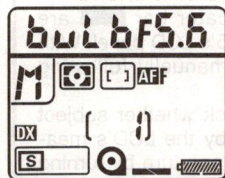
- 5** Press **SEL** until a number (flash speed per second) starts blinking beside **Hz**.
 Use **▲** or **▼** to set a desired flash speed.
 See "Determining shutter speed with number/speed of flashes" on page 93.



- 6** Press **SEL** again until a number (flashes per frame) starts blinking beside center hyphen - .
 Use **▲** or **▼** to set the desired number.
 The maximum number of flashes per frame depends on light-output amount and flash speed. If two hyphens - - blink, the available number of flashes is fixed (no other choice). For details, see the chart below.

Number of repeating flashes per frame (shown with blinking hyphens - -) : Figures indicate use with External Power Source SD-7 or SD-8

Flash speed per second	Light output amount			
	M1/8	M1/16	M1/32	M1/64
1 — 7 Hz	20	40	80	160
8 — 10 Hz	10	20	40	80
20 — 50 Hz	8	16	20	40



F90-Series/N90's LCD panel

7 Set desired shutter speed and aperture on the camera. Choose B (bulb) setting or a shutter speed long enough to accommodate the flash you will fire. For calculations, see at right, “Determining shutter speed with number/speed of flashes.” Use a tripod to minimize camera shake.

Determining shutter speed with number/speed of flash

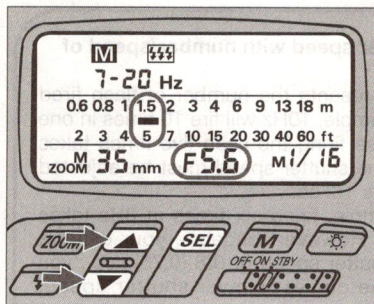
Frequency (Hz) represents the number of flash fired per second. For example, 10Hz will fire 10 times in one second. Or, because firing the flash five times takes 1/2 sec. at 10Hz, the shutter speed must be adjusted to at least as slow as 1/2 sec.

For another example, firing six times at 8Hz takes 6/8 sec. to occur. However, because your camera does not have a shutter speed of 6/8 (0.75) sec., you should set it to the closest slower shutter speed, which is one second.

The following equation can be applied to calculate an appropriate shutter speed:

$$[\text{Shutter speed}] \approx \frac{[\text{Number of flash per frame}]}{[\text{Speed of flash (Hz)}]}$$

where the result (shutter speed) must be rounded off to the closest slower shutter speed available with your camera.



- 8** Set the same aperture value in the SB-25's LCD Panel that you set on the camera (step 7). For instruction, see "Setting Aperture Values (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29. An indicator bar  appears to show appropriate shooting distance for the selected aperture.

 **Automatic aperture adjustment: F90-Series/ N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, or F-801s/ N8008s used with an AF Nikkor lens (including latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU**
The aperture in use and an indicator bar  are automatically indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel. With other lenses, you must operate manually following steps 8, 9 and 10.

To skip steps 8, 9 and 10, check whether subject stands at the location suggested by the LCD's measurement scale. If not, change the aperture by turning the lens' aperture ring to adjust the bar.

Finally, perform "minus" exposure compensation* to prevent overexposure of overlapping images—use the aperture ring to choose another aperture one or two stops smaller than indicated above.

* The aperture indicated by the LCD provides a correct exposure with the very first flash, whereas overlapped images are illuminated from the second flash on. It is advisable to take a few additional shots at different apertures (exposure bracketing).

9 If necessary, press  or  button to reset the indicator bar  so it points at the measurement scale that matches or nearly equals the actual flash-to-subject distance (can be read this from the lens barrel). Manipulating the indication bar causes aperture value in the LCD panel to change.

10 Reset aperture value on the camera.

Use an aperture one or two stops smaller than the LCD panel indicates. This will prevent overexposure for overlapping images (“minus” exposure compensation).*

* Subject will be correctly exposed with the very first flash, but successive overlapping images (from the second flash on) will not be properly exposed, unless you perform minus exposure compensation as indicated in steps 9 and 10. We recommend you take a few additional shots at different apertures (exposure bracketing).

11 Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button to confirm that subject is in focus.

Check that ready-light is on in the camera’s viewfinder  or on the SB-25 .

12 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

Background brightness and subject overlap

Use as dark a background material as possible (e.g., black curtain or cloth). If the overlapping exposed images are too weak or too strong, try repositioning subject at the location suggested by the indicator bar  (or adjust indicator bar).

Conditions vary for each situation — try experimenting.

- 11 Look into camera viewfinder, compose and lightly press the shutter release button to confirm that subject is in focus.
- 12 Check that ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder or on the SB-25.
- 13 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

- 9 If necessary, press or to reset the indicator bar so it points at the measurement scale that matches or nearly equals the actual flash-to-subject distance (can be read this from the lens panel).
- 10 Manipulating the indicator bar causes aperture value in the LCD panel to change.

- 10 Reset aperture value on the camera.
- Use an aperture one or two stops smaller than the LCD panel indicates. This will prevent overexposure for overlapping images ("minus" exposure compensation).
- Subject will be correctly exposed with heavy first flash, but successive overlapping images from the second flash on will not be properly exposed, unless you perform multiple exposure compensation as outlined in steps 9 and 10. We recommend you take a few additional shots of different apertures (exposure bracketing).

Background brightness and subject overlap
Use as dark a background material as possible (e.g. black curtain or cloth). If the overlapping exposed images are too weak or too strong, try repositioning subject at the location suggested by the indicator bar (shown) or adjust indicator bar.

Conditions vary for each situation — try experiment.

Chapter 4



Flash-Shooting Applications

FP High-Speed Sync Flash — Flash Photography At Higher Shutter

Unlike other Nikon SLR models the F90-Series/N90 camera and the SB-25 allow you to use faster shutter speeds up to 1/4000 sec. for flash synchronization.

Ordinarily the flash fires only when the curtains are fully opened in regular flash syncs. With FP High-Speed Sync Flash, the flash consecutively emits light at an extremely rapid cycle, while the shutter curtains travel to expose the entire film surface — but the curtains are never fully opened (i.e. exposure with a “slit”).

By using a high-speed shutter and flash simultaneously, you can create light flow from a rapidly moving subject.

In outdoor photography, it also enables you to use both a wider aperture and a faster shutter speed to achieve a shallower depth of field and purposely blur the subject's background.

Note that a guide number for FP High-Speed Sync Flash varies with the selected shutter speed and it is smaller than for regular flash synchronization (i.e. smaller light output). Furthermore, we recommend you use shutter speeds between 1/250 and 1/4000 sec. to avoid uneven exposure.

Before proceeding:

X ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

X TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

X USE MANUAL EXPOSURE MODE.

X USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

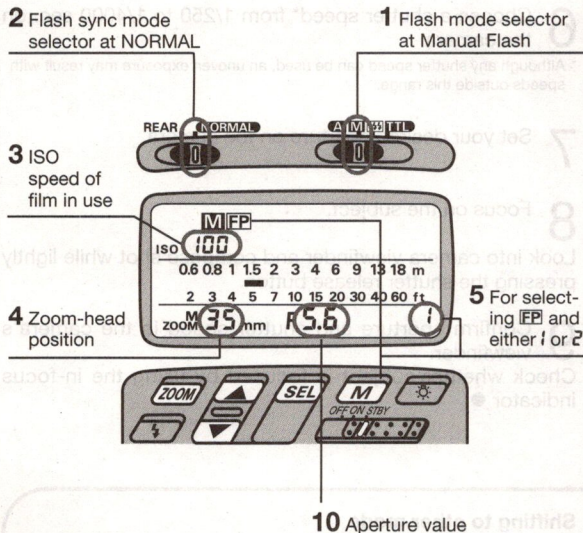
X USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020		Nikonos V	
F4-Series		F-301/N2000		F3-Series	
F-801/N8008		F-401/N4004		F2-Series	
F-801s/N8008s		F-401s/N4004s		FM2	
F-601/N6006		FA		FG-20	
F-601M/N6000		FE2			
F-401X/N5005		FG			

Speeds

Set Up and Practice



1 Choose **M** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **M** appears in the LCD panel.

2 Choose **NORMAL** position (flash sync mode selector)*.

* FP High-Speed Sync Flash operation can be performed regardless of the flash sync mode selector setting; for simplicity, always leave the switch at this position.

3 Confirm ISO film speed has been set and appears in the SB-25's LCD panel.

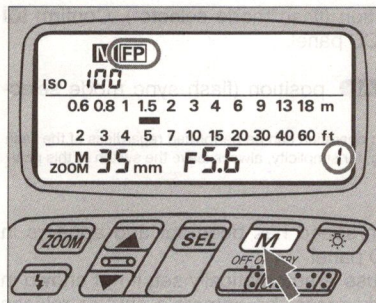
ISO speed of film in use is automatically set; if not shown in the LCD panel, lightly press the camera's shutter release button.

4 Confirm the zoom-head position has been set and appears in the SB-25's LCD panel.

The zoom-head position is automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel when the camera is used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or a Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU.

Or, set manually according to the shooting situation (see page 29).

DO NOT USE THE WIDE FLASH PANEL (zoom head at the 20mm position). When used, **m20**, **M** and **FP** blink in the LCD panel as an alert.



- 5** Press **[M]** button until **FP** appears in the LCD panel, and confirm **1** or **2** appears in the light amount indicator while LCD indication changes: -**m1/1** -**m1/2** -**m1/4** -**m1/8** -**m1/15** -**m1/32** -**m1/64** - **1-2** - .
Next, choose either **1** for FP1 flash operation or **2** for FP2.

Detaching the SB-25

When you take off the Speedlight from the F90-Series/N90 to use it with another camera, be sure to cancel FP flash operation by pressing the **[M]** button: confirm **FP** disappears from the LCD panel. If it is removed with FP setting, **FP** blinks a warning. The SB-25 will not function normally with the FP setting when mounted to any model other than the F90-Series/N90.

- 6** Choose a shutter speed* from 1/250 to 1/4000 sec. on the camera

* Although any shutter speed can be used, an uneven exposure may result with speeds outside this range.

- 7** Set your desired aperture on the camera.

- 8** Focus on the subject.

Look into camera viewfinder and compose shot while lightly pressing the shutter release button.

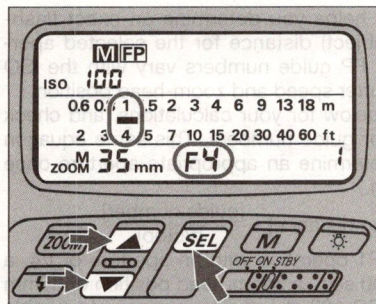
- 9** Confirm aperture and shutter speed in the camera's viewfinder.

Check whether subject is focused by using the in-focus indicator ●.

Shifting to other mode

Shutter speed is automatically locked at 1/250 sec., if you have set a shutter speed at 1/250 sec. or faster, then you perform one of the following:

- Switch exposure mode to programmed auto on the camera, or
- Change from FP High-Speed Sync to another flash operation on the Speedlight



10 Set the aperture value (from step 7) in the SB-25's LCD panel.

See "Setting Aperture Value (Manual Adjustment)," pages 28 to 29.

The aperture value is automatically set and indicated in the SB-25's LCD panel when the camera is used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or a Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU.

An indicator bar ■ appears to show the appropriate shooting distance.

In a bright scene

After you have adjusted the camera/flash-to-subject distance (with subject standing at the location represented by indication bar ■), readjust indicator bar (from step 11) to the left by one or two steps so the bar indicates a position closer than the actual subject location.

Experience indicates that a small amount of under-exposure may result in a more pleasing photograph.

To readjust the indicator bar, perform one or a combination of the following adjustments:

- 1) Pressing **M** button to switch from FP1 (FP with **1**) to FP2.
- 2) Moving further from the subject.
- 3) Choose a different number for the zoom-head position (wider angle of coverage).

We recommend that you not manipulate shutter speed and aperture on the camera.

11 Confirm subject is at the distance shown by the indicator bar  in the SB-25's LCD panel (from step 9).

To determine the subject-to-camera distance, read the distance scale on the lens barrel.

If the bar location matches the subject-to-camera distance from steps 9 and 10, the subject will be correctly exposed with the selected aperture, shutter speed, and light output amount.

If the subject-to-camera distance does not match the appropriate shooting distance, readjust the indicator bars by:

- Pressing **[M]** button to switch from FP1 (**[FP]** with **f**) to FP2, or vice versa. The bar  location then moves to show an alternate shooting distance.
- Moving closer to or further from the subject.
- Choose a different number for the zoom-head position (altering guide number).

12 Look into camera's viewfinder again, then compose and lightly press the shutter release button to check that the ready-light is on in the camera's viewfinder . Ready-light also appears on the SB-25 .

13 Fully depress shutter release button to fire flash.

Guide number in FP High-Speed Sync Flash

The "guide number" helps you determine an exact flash-shooting (flash-to-subject) distance for the selected aperture (f/stop number). FP guide numbers vary with the ISO film speed in use, shutter speed and zoom-head position.

Use the equation below for your calculations, and check the following chart for guide numbers. This same equation can be applied to determine an appropriate aperture once the distance is known.

$$[\text{flash-shooting distance}] = \frac{[\text{guide number}]}{[f/\text{stop}]}$$

For example, in FP1 operation with an aperture of f/4, a shutter speed of 1/500 sec., a zoom-head position of 35mm and a film speed of ISO 100, the chart recommends a guide number of 12 (or 39 for feet):

If measuring in meters;

$$[\text{flash-shooting distance}] = \frac{12}{4} = 3$$

if measuring in feet;

$$[\text{flash-shooting distance}] = \frac{39}{4} = 9.75$$

Next, adjust subject and flash/camera location for 3 meters, or 9.75 feet, to obtain correct exposure in FP1 flash operation.

FP High-Speed Sync Flash

FP1 guide number (at ISO 100; for meters/feet)

Shutter speed	Zoom-head position					
	24mm	28mm	35mm	50mm	70mm	85mm
1/250	14/46	15/50	17/56	20/65	23/74	24/77
1/500	10/33	11/36	12/39	14/46	16/52	17/56
1/1000	7/23	7.5/25	8.5/28	10/33	11/36	12/39
1/2000	5/16	5.3/17	6/20	7/23	8/26	8.5/28
1/4000	3.5/11	3.7/12	4.2/14	5/16	5.6/18	6/20

FP2 guide number (at ISO 100; for meters/feet)

Shutter speed	Zoom-head position					
	24mm	28mm	35mm	50mm	70mm	85mm
1/250	10/33	11/36	12/39	14/46	16/52	17/56
1/500	7/23	7.5/25	8.5/28	10/33	11/36	12/39
1/1000	5/16	5.3/17	6/20	7/23	8/26	8.5/28
1/2000	3.5/11	3.7/12	4.2/14	5/16	5.6/18	6/20
1/4000	2.5/8.2	2.6/8.5	3/10	3.5/11	4/13	4.2/14

Using a film speed other than ISO 100

For film speeds other than ISO 100, multiply the above figures by the factors shown in the following chart.

If the film speed in the previous example had been ISO 400 rather than ISO 100:

$$[\text{flash-shooting distance}] = \frac{12}{4} \times 2 = 3 \times 2 = 6$$

if measuring in feet;

$$[\text{flash-shooting distance}] = \frac{39}{4} \times 2 = 9.75 \times 2 = 19.5$$

You should have obtained 6 meters, or 19.5 feet, for correct exposure.

Adjustment factors for other ISO film speeds

ISO film speed	25	50	100	200	400	800	1600
Factor	x 0.5	x 0.7	x 1	x 1.4	x 2	x 2.8	x 4

Red-Eye Reduction Control — For Better Flash Portraits

Light from the camera's flash reflects off the interior of the eye through the wide-open pupil and back into the camera's lens. The result is a portrait with the subject's eyes bright red, a phenomenon known as "red-eye" effect.

When used with the F90-Series/N90 camera, the SB-25 fires three pre-flash consecutively before the main flash to reduce the appearance of red eyes.

Red-eye effect can also be affected by the angle at which light flash on the subject and is reflected back to the lens. For further details on "red eye," see page 134.

Before proceeding:

✕ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

✕ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

✕ USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

✕ USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	✕	F-501/N2020		Nikonos V	
F4-Series		F-301/N2000		F3-Series	
F-801/N8008		F-401/N4004		F2-Series	
F-801s/N8008s		F-401s/N4004s		FM2	
F-601/N6006		FA		FG-20	
F-601M/N6000		FE2			
F-401x/N5005		FG			

Hints and Notes



- Set Red-Eye Reduction Control on the camera. Confirm  appears in the SB-25's LCD panel.
- Red-Eye Reduction Control can not be used in Repeating Flash  mode.
- Rear-Curtain Sync Flash cannot be performed.

Rear-Curtain Sync Flash — For Natural Light Flows

When used with the F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000, the SB-25 lets you synchronize the flash to the instant before the rear (second) curtain begins to close. This turns available light into a stream of light that follows the moving, flash-illuminated subject.

Rear-curtain sync flash photography is most effective with slower shutter speeds. You can slow the shutter down to 30 sec., depending on the background situation.

Before proceeding:

X ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

X TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

X USE SHUTTER-PRIORITY AUTO OR MANUAL EXPOSURE MODE.

X USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	Nikonos V	
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	F3-Series	
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	F2-Series	
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	FM2	
F-601/N6006	X	FA	FG-20	
F-601M/N6000	X	FE2		
F-401x/N5005		FG		

Hints and Notes

- Select TTL Auto **TTL**, Non-TTL Auto **A** or Manual **M** Flash mode.
- Choose **REAR** position (flash mode selector).
With the F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000, you must select REAR-CURTAIN SYNC FLASH on the camera. This sync flash then operates regardless of the SB-25's sync mode setting, either **NORMAL** or **REAR** position.
With the F90-Series/N90, although it is possible to select REAR-CURTAIN SYNC FLASH on the camera, the SB-25's sync mode setting will override what is set on the camera.
- With the F90-Series/N90, F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 used in programmed auto or aperture-priority auto exposure mode, the camera automatically controls the shutter speed down to as slow as 30 sec.
- With the F90-Series/N90, in the following cases Rear-Curtain Sync Flash cannot be performed:
 - 1) When using Vari-Program.
 - 2) When using Red-Eye Reduction Control.
- Use a tripod to minimize camera shake.

Flash Exposure Compensation — To Make Flash-Illuminated Subject

The SB-25 allows you to manually adjust the amount of flash light in a range from -3 to +1 EV. This feature is particularly useful for “balanced” fill-flash where flash illumination is sufficient to brighten the subject to almost the brightness of the background.

Sometimes, you may want to use a little more or less flash to make the subject a little brighter or not quite so bright. Your choice may be based on desired aesthetic qualities, or may be forced by extremes in lighting.

Generally speaking, you don’t want to make the subject too bright; you just want to brighten shadows. To achieve a subtle fill-flash effect, you may want to use some manually selected “minus” compensation.

However, when the background is extremely bright, and the subject is in deep shadows, you will probably want to use some “plus” compensation.

Although the SB-25 is quite powerful, when using it for fill-flash, it is competing with the sun’s brightness — very strong competition.

With Standard TTL Flash you can manually compensate exposure by adjusting the flash output level.

You can also adjust flash output level for Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash, Center-Weighted Fill-Flash or Spot Fill-Flash, in combination with the computer’s automatic compensation.

Before proceeding:

X ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

X TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

X USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A) OR MANUAL FOCUS (M).

X USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020		Nikonos V	
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000		F3-Series	
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004		F2-Series	
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s		FM2	
F-601/N6006	X	FA		FG-20	
F-601M/N6000	X	FE2			
F-401x/N5005		FG			

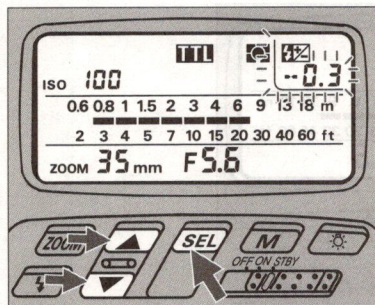
For F-601/N6006 and F-601M/N6000 users

Make settings on the camera to control the SB-25’s flash exposure compensation; the SB-25 will work as set on the camera. The SB-25’s control buttons and LCD panel cannot be used for setting.

Lighter or Darker

Flash Exposure Compensation

Set Up and Practice



1 Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector). Confirm **TTL** in the LCD panel.

This feature is available only in TTL Auto Flash mode.

2 Press the **SEL** button.

Confirm the **0.0** indicator appears and **0.0** (zero exposure compensation value) blinks in the LCD panel.

3 Press **▲** **▼** buttons for value adjustment. Adjustment can be made while the value indicator is blinking.

Simultaneously, the shooting indicator bars **■■■■** change.

4 Press the **SEL** button again to complete setting.

The the value indicator will automatically stop blinking in eight seconds unless you press the **SEL** button. In this case, the last figure indicated will be set in the SB-25.

The exposure compensation value remains in the LCD panel.

5 To cancel, readjust compensation value to 0 (steps 1 and 2), then press **SEL** button or leave it more than eight seconds so the indication disappears.

Exposure compensation on the camera

You can make additional compensation for background by using the camera's exposure compensation dial.

For example, with compensation of -2 on the SB-25 and -1 on the camera body, the total compensated value for flash output level is -3, and the compensated value for the background will be -1.

Note that the SB-25's LCD panel shows only the compensated value of the SB-25.

For further information, see "Exposure Compensation with Camera's Dial — To Make Background Lighter or Darker," pages 108 and 109.

Exposure Compensation with Camera's Dial — To Make Background

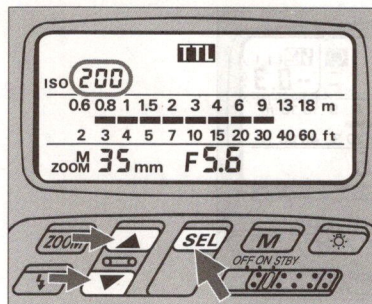
Some camera models include an EV compensation control. Using this control you can modify the exposure to make your picture lighter or darker.

To make the picture lighter, use “+” compensation. For darker pictures use “-” compensation. How much compensation you choose depends on how much you want to modify the resulting picture.

Since the shooting distance range for TTL Auto Flash varies with the amount of exposure compensation, make sure your subject falls within the range before shooting.

You can use the LCD panel for confirmation by altering the ISO film speed value and observing changes of distance indicator bars.

Hints and Notes

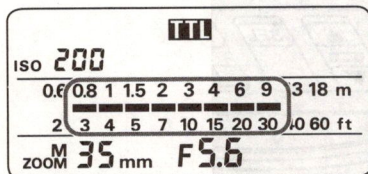


- First, make necessary exposure compensation on the camera.
Then, use the chart on the next page, “Assumed ISO film speeds,” to set an assumed ISO film speed in the SB-25’s LCD panel that corresponds to the actual ISO film speed in use. See “Setting Aperture Values (Manual Adjustment),” pages 28 and 29.
- For TTL Auto Flash, be sure the substituted film speed falls within the range of “usable films” that ensure correct exposure with your camera.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004		F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s		FM2	
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601M/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

Lighter or Darker



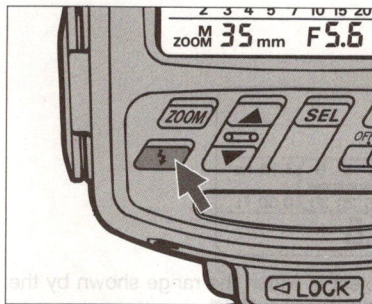
Open Flash Button —

For Test Firing

Push the  button for a test firing when you are not sure whether the subject is within the flash shooting range.

For test firing, Non-TTL Auto Flash **A** mode is used because reflected flash light from subject is measured by the light sensor on the front of the SB-25 rather than through the lens (TTL) on the camera. The results, however, can be used for TTL-auto flash.

Hints and Notes



- Set the SB-25 and your camera in the same manner indicated in "Non-TTL Auto Flash **A** Mode," pages 80 and 83.
- After confirming that the ready-light is on, push the open-flash button and check that the ready-light remains on. If the ready-light blinks, light may be insufficient at the aperture selected. If so, move closer to the subject or select a wider aperture.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601m/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

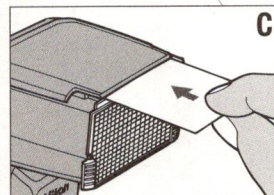
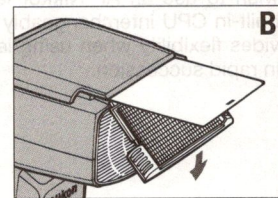
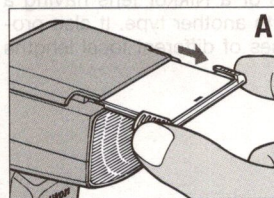
Built-In Wide Flash Adapter — For Shorter Focal-Length Lenses

The SB-25 comes with a wide flash adapter to cover the full range of short focal length lenses.

For focal lengths shorter than 24mm, consider using the wide flash adapter to achieve expanded coverage.

When you use the wide flash adapter, the zoom head is automatically adjusted and the LCD panel shows **ZOOM 20mm** with **M** indication.

While the adapter is used, the automatic zoom-head position adjustment does not function for F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008 or F-801s/N8008s cameras, even when used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU.



Mounting/Removing wide flash adapter

- A. To mount the wide-flash adapter, slide out the adapter (the diffuser card comes out with it).
- B. Close only the adapter to cover the head.
- C. Slide the diffuser back to its original position.

- To remove, uncover the adapter and slide back to its original position.

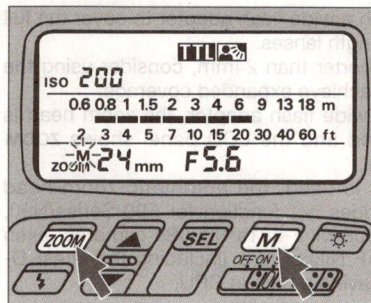
APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601M/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

Zoom-Lock Capability — To Fix Zoom-Head Position

A predetermined zoom-head position is useful when you wish to use an AF Nikkor lens or a Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU interchangeably with another type. It also provides flexibility when using lenses of different focal lengths in rapid succession.

Set Up and Practice



- 1 Press **ZOOM** and **M** buttons simultaneously for a few seconds until **m** indication starts blinking.
- 2 Next, press **ZOOM** button only to set desired zoom-head position. This position remains locked as long as the **m** indication continues blinking.
- 3 To unlock, press the same buttons simultaneously for a few seconds until the **m** indication stops blinking or totally disappears.

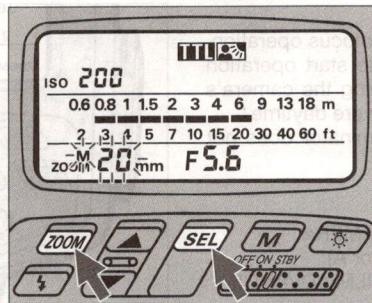
APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601M/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

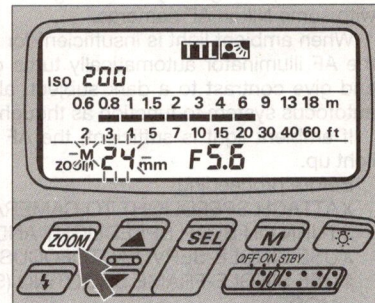
Trouble With Wide Flash Adapter

In certain situations, the zoom head may lock at the 20mm position (adapter does not return to original position). If this happens, perform following operation.

Although the adjusted zoom-head position and/or **M** indication will blink if the wide flash adapter is stored in its original place, this does not affect normal flash operation.



- 1 Press **ZOOM** and **SEL** buttons simultaneously for a few seconds until the previously set number and the **M** indication start blinking.



- 2 Press only **ZOOM** button to set your desired zoom-head position. To resume automatic adjustment with certain camera/lens combinations (see page 30), press **ZOOM** button until the **M** indication above **zoom** disappears.



Automatic zoom-head position adjustment: F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, or F-801s/N8008s used with an AF Nikkor lens (including the latest D-Type) or Nikkor lens having a built-in CPU

The SB-25 automatically adjusts the zoom-head position to provide an angle of coverage that matches the focal length of the lens in use. For details, see page 30.

AF Assist LED — Autofocus Flash Photography in Dim Light

The SB-25's AF assist LED enables you to perform autofocus flash photography in dim light or even total darkness with some Nikon AF cameras.

When ambient light is insufficient for autofocus operation, the AF illuminator automatically turns on to start operation and give contrast to a dark subject, allowing the camera's autofocus system to function as though it were daytime.

If ambient light is sufficient, the AF illuminator does not light up.

Before proceeding:

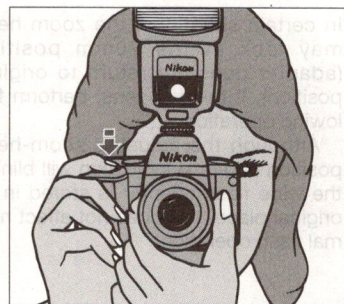
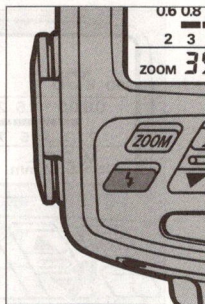
✕ ATTACH SPEEDLIGHT TO CAMERA.

✕ TURN ON BOTH SPEEDLIGHT AND CAMERA.

✕ USE SINGLE-SERVO AUTOFOCUS (S or A)

✕ USE SINGLE-FRAME SHOOTING (S) FILM ADVANCE MODE

Hints and Notes



- Check that the SB-25's ready-light has come on.
- Lightly press the camera's shutter release button to activate the AF illuminator LED. Do not use autofocus lock function.
- Confirm whether in-focus indicator LED ● in the camera's viewfinder appears.

If the in-focus indication does not appear inside the viewfinder, the subject is beyond the autofocus distance range (see at right "Notes of AF assist LED"); focus manually on the clear matte field.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

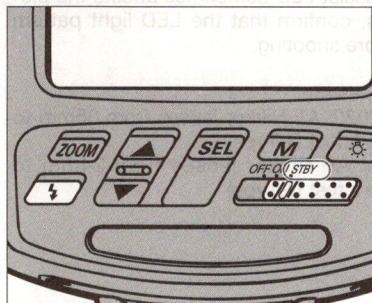
F90-Series/N90	✕	F-501/N2020	✕	Nikonos V	
F4-Series	✕	F-301/N2000		F3-Series	
F-801/N8008	✕	F-401/N4004	✕	F2-Series	
F-801s/N8008s	✕	F-401s/N4004s	✕	FM2	
F-601/N6006	✕	FA		FG-20	
F-601M/N6000		FE2			
F-401x/N5005	✕	FG			

Power Switch Standby (STBY) Position — To Conserve Energy and

Setting the power switch to STBY position turns on the SB-25, but the SB-25 will also automatically shut off to conserve flash battery energy.

When you will not use the SB-25 for a long time, however, it is recommended to set the power switch to OFF.

Hints and Notes



- With the SB-25's power switch on standby (STBY) position, the unit turns off to conserve energy approx. 80 sec. after the camera's meter has turned off.
- To turn the SB-25 on again, lightly press the shutter release button to turn the camera's meter on, or push the SB-25's open-flash button .

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601M/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

Guide Number — To Calculate a Proper Aperture

The “guide number” helps you determine a correct aperture or f/stop value for using the SB-25’s Manual Flash and Repeating-Flash mode. (See “Guide number” chart, page 139.)

Use the following equation for your calculations, and check the following chart for guide numbers at various film speeds.

$$[f/stop] = \frac{[guide\ number]}{[flash-to-subject\ distance]}$$

For example, when shooting a subject located 9 m (approx. 30 ft.) away at 1/1 (full) light output in **M** (Manual Flash) mode, with a zoom-head position of 35mm and a film speed of ISO 100, you will obtain a guide number of 36 (or 118.0) from the same chart on page 139.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601m/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

If measuring in meters;

$$[f/stop] = \frac{36}{9} = 4$$

Or, if measuring in feet;

$$[f/stop] = \frac{118}{30} = 3.93 \approx 4$$

You should then choose f/4 as the proper aperture.

For films other than ISO 100, multiply the above figures by the factors shown in the following chart:

Adjustment factors for other ISO film speeds

ISO film speed	25	50	100	200	400	500	1600
Factor	x 0.5	x 0.71	x 1	x 1.4	x 2	x 2.8	x 4

If the film speed in the above example was ISO 400 rather than ISO 100:

$$[f/stop] = \frac{36}{9} \times 2 = 4 \times 2 = 8$$

Or, if measuring in feet;

$$[f/stop] = \frac{118}{30} \times 2 = 3.93 \times 2 = 7.86 \approx 8$$

You should then choose f/8 as the proper aperture.

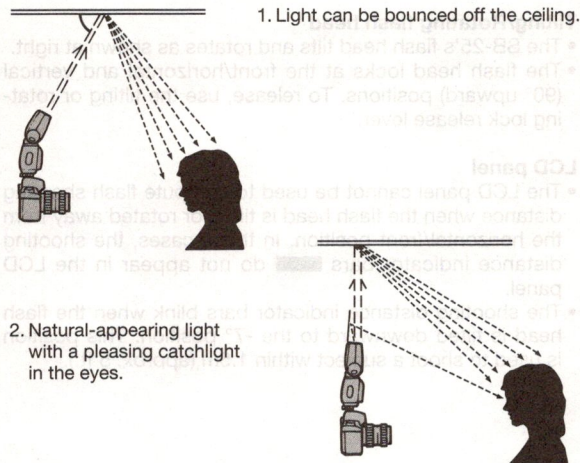
Diffusing Light — To Soften Harsh Shadows

With a subject in front of a wall, a direct flash causes harsh and unattractive shadows. By bouncing the light off the ceiling or walls, or by diffusing the light with card(s) or paper, you can soften harsh shadows and create attractive portraits.

The SB-25 comes with a built-in diffuser. You can use it alone or with a combination of other reflecting surfaces for advanced application.

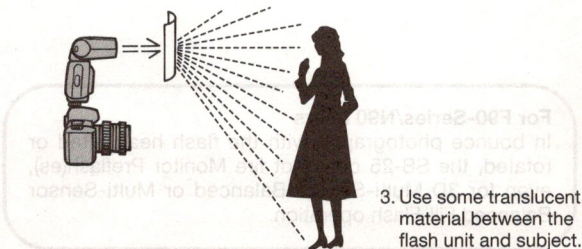
There are a few ways to diffuse light:

1. Bounce light off a broad reflective surface such as the ceiling.
2. Use both the ceiling and the built-in diffuser card to create a catchlight for subject's eyes.
3. Use a diffuser between the flash and the subject.



APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601m/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

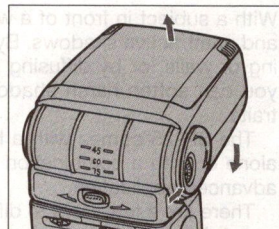
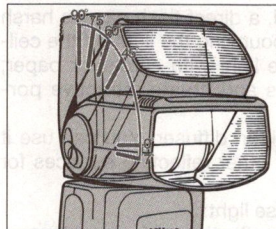


Tilting/Rotating flash head

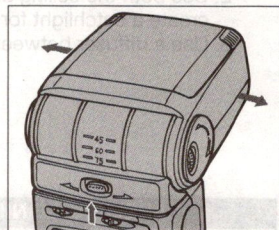
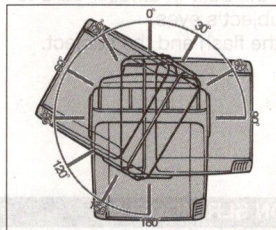
- The SB-25's flash head tilts and rotates as shown at right.
- The flash head locks at the front/horizontal and vertical (90° upward) positions. To release, use the tilting or rotating lock release lever.

LCD panel

- The LCD panel cannot be used to compute flash shooting distance when the flash head is tilted or rotated away from the horizontal/front position. In these cases, the shooting distance indicator bars  do not appear in the LCD panel.
- The shooting distance indicator bars blink when the flash head is tilted downward to the -7° position. This position is used to shoot a subject within 1.5m (approx. 5 ft.).



Tilting: up to 90° — front — down to —7°



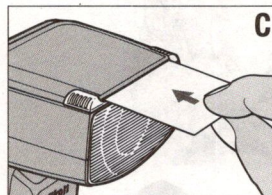
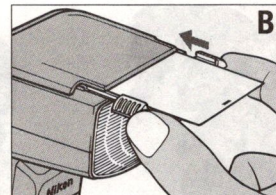
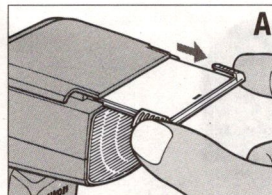
Rotation: to right 90° — front — to left 180°

For F90-Series/N90 users

In bounce photography with the flash head tilted or rotated, the SB-25 does not fire Monitor Preflash(es), even for 3D Multi-Sensor Balanced or Multi-Sensor Balanced Fill-Flash operation.

Built-in diffuser card for bounce flash photography

- Use the diffuser card to create a catchlight for the subject's eyes, an effect that is not always available in bounce flash photography.
- The diffuser can be used to provide supplemental light to the face or front of the subject, thereby brightening shadows created by top-lighting or bounced flash from the ceiling.

**Mounting/Removing diffuser card**

- To mount the diffuser card, slide out the wide flash adapter; the diffuser card comes out with it.
- Slide the adapter back to its original position.
- To remove, slide the diffuser card back to its original position.

Bounce Flash Photography



Bounce flash (above);
with ceiling): Soft,
natural-looking
lighting.

Direct flash (below):
Harsh, un-flattering
lighting



- Select a ceiling or wall to bounce the flash from.
- The built-in diffuser card can be effective for creating more natural lighting with a catchlight for the eyes.
- Tilt the flash head 60° up (first click-stop) or more to avoid uneven illumination.
- In color photography, only use bounce with white surfaces. Otherwise, color photographs will come out with an unnatural color cast similar to that of the reflecting surface.
- Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector) for TTL Auto Flash operation.
Use an aperture a few stops wider than you would use for regular TTL Auto Flash operation.
For further instruction, see the *TTL Auto Flash Mode* **TTL** section relating to your camera type.
- Although the flash mode **A** can be used for Non-TTL Auto Flash, perform a test firing. If the ready-light blinks after testing to indicate possible underexposure at the aperture in use, use a wider aperture or reduce the bounce distance. Then, perform test firing again.

Using a Diffuser

- To diffuse light, place a translucent material, such as one or more sheets of tracing paper between the flash and the subject.
Avoid using delicate materials for the diffuser, and ensure a sufficient distance between the flash head and diffuser to avoid burns.
For optimum results, experiment with different flash-to-diffuser distances and with more than one diffuser

- In TTL Auto Flash operation, the SB-25 will automatically compensate for the diffuser affect (reduced light amount) in TTL Auto Flash mode.

For further instructions, see the *TTL Auto Flash Mode* [III] section relating to your camera type.

Note that the LCD panel cannot be used to compute flash shooting distance in bounce photography.

- To protect the diffuser from burning, be sure it does not come in direct contact with the flash head.
- Avoid reflection from the translucent material into the lens.

Bracketing your exposures

If possible, take additional shots with different apertures and/or exposure compensation techniques for exposure bracketing. Bounce/diffuser techniques reduce the maximum distance available for a given aperture due to the extra distance required for the flash light to travel, or amount of diffusion, or blockage.

Set the camera's exposure compensation dial in the + or - direction (not possible with the F-401x/N5005, F-401/N4004, F-401s/N4004s and FM2) for TTL Auto Flash operation, or with the lens opened up one or two f/stops for Non-TTL Auto Flash operation.

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS			
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	
F-401/N5000	X	FE2	
F-401/N5000	X	FA	
F-401s/N5004s	X	FM2	
F-401/N5004	X	F2-Series	
F-301/N5000	X	F3-Series	
F-301/N5020	X	Nikkor V	

Close-Up Flash Photography in TTL Auto Flash Mode — To Flash On

Optional TTL Remote Cord SC-17 or SC-24 lets you perform TTL Auto Flash shooting on a subject closer than 0.6m (2 ft.).

Hints and Notes

- Connect the SB-25 to the camera, using the SC-17 or SC-24*.
- * Used for F4-Series with the DW-20 or DW-21 attached.
- Position the SB-25 so light from the head covers the subject.
- Mount the built-in flash adapter.
The zoom-head position is automatically adjusted. Confirm the LCD panel shows **ZOOM 20mm** with **M** indication.
- Use aperture-priority auto or manual exposure mode.
- Choose **TTL** position (flash mode selector) for TTL Auto Flash operation.
For further instruction, see the *TTL Auto Flash Mode* **TTL** section relating to your camera type.
- Determine the aperture or f/stop value using the following equation and chart, then set on the lens. The SB-25's LCD panel cannot be used to compute shooting distance.

$$[f/stop] \geq \frac{[coefficient]}{[flash-to-subject distance]}$$

APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS

F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	
F-601M/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		

A Very Close Subject

For example, to shoot a subject located 0.5 m away with an ISO 100 film and a wide-flash adapter:

$$[f/\text{stop}] \geq \frac{4}{0.5} = 8$$

You can then use an aperture of $f/8$ or smaller (a larger f -number). As far as conditions allow, you should choose the smallest aperture (as large an f -number) possible.

- With a very light- or dark-toned subject, take additional shots with other exposure compensation conditions to ensure a correct exposure. See “Flash Exposure Compensation” on pages 106 and 107, and “Exposure Compensation with Camera’s Dial” on pages 108 and 109.

ISO film Speed and coefficient

ISO film speed	100 or lower	125 — 400	500 or higher
Coefficient*	4 (14)	8 (26)	11 (36)

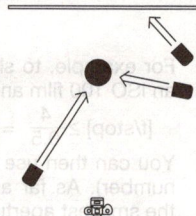
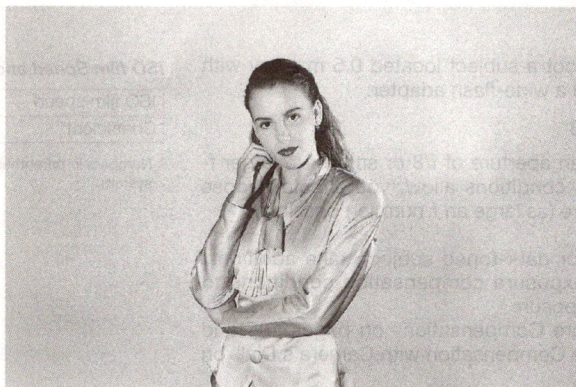
* Numbers in parentheses () represents coefficients for foot measurement system.

Multiple Flash Photography — Using More Than One Speedlight

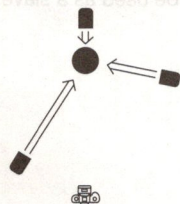
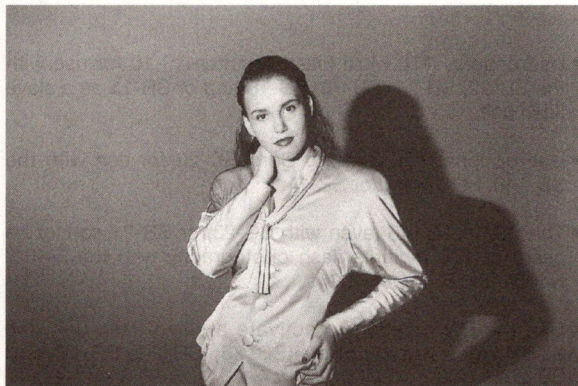
If you have another flash unit, you can use it as a secondary light source for multiple flash photography. When you use only one flash unit in front of a subject, harsh shadows may be produced or light may not reach the background. Using more than one flash unit helps you solve these problems.

Carefully consider the number of flash units to use and their locations. For better results, position each unit so its light can brighten a shadow created by another.

See also "System Chart for TTL Multiple Flash," pages 130 and 131.



APPLICABLE NIKON SLR MODELS					
F90-Series/N90	X	F-501/N2020	X	Nikonos V	X
F4-Series	X	F-301/N2000	X	F3-Series	X
F-801/N8008	X	F-401/N4004	X	F2-Series	X
F-801s/N8008s	X	F-401s/N4004s	X	FM2	X
F-601/N6006	X	FA	X	FG-20	X
F-601m/N6000	X	FE2	X		
F-401x/N5005	X	FG	X		



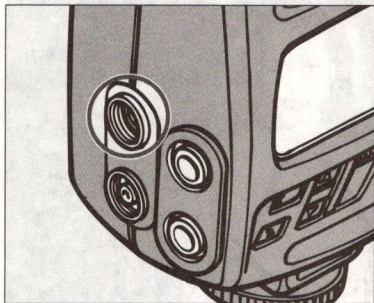
Master	SB-28, SB-24, SB-23, SB-22, SB-21B, SB-20, SB-18, SB-16 or SB-15
Slave	SB-28, SB-24, SB-23, SB-21B, SB-20, SB-18, SB-17, SB-16A, SB-16B and/or SB-15



Caution

To avoid damage to flash units or incorrect operation, never mix Nikon Speedlights with flash units of other manufacturers.

TTL Multiple Flash Photography



- Use the TTL multiple flash terminal for connecting other Speedlights via optional sync cords.
- You can use one Speedlight for the master flash unit and up to four other units for slaves. See the following chart to confirm available Speedlights for master and slave use.
- Use optional Multi-Flash Sync Cord SC-18 (1.5m) and/or SC-19 (3m) to connect flash units via the SB-25's TTL multiple flash terminal. Remove the rubber cover to use.
- Use optional TTL Remote Cord SC-17 or SC-24* for use with the SB-23, SB-22, SB-21B, SB-20, SB-18 and/or SB-15 as a master flash unit.

* Used for F4-Series with the DW-20 or DW-21 attached.

- Use optional TTL Multi-Flash Adapter AS-10 for use with the SB-22, SB-21, SB-20, SB-18 and or SB-15 as a slave flash unit.
- Use optional TTL Remote Cord SC-23 for use with the SB-140, SB-14 and/or SB-11.
- The SB-11/14/140 (even with SC-23) or SB-21 cannot be used for TTL multiple flash photography with the F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s.
- Use the ON position to activate a slave flash unit; the STBY does not function (SB-25, SB-24, SB-22 and SB-20).
The SB-23 offers only OFF and TTL/STBY positions for power switching. This means it cannot be used as a slave.



Speedlights for TTL multiple flash photography

Master	SB-25, SB-24, SB-23, SB-22, SB-21B, SB-20, SB-18, SB-16B or SB-15
Slave	SB-25, SB-24, SB-22, SB-21B, SB-20, SB-18, SB-17, SB-16A, SB-16B and/or SB-15

Multiple Flash Photography

Manual Multiple Flash Photography

When a second shot cannot be taken (F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-601M/N6000, F-401x/N5005, and F-501/N2020)

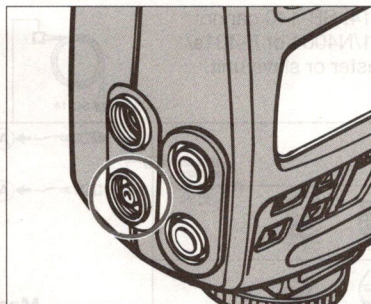
For multiple flash photography, if the electronic current in the synchro circuit exceeds a certain level, you may not be able to take a second shot after taking the first shot.

Take care that the combined total of the coefficients (numbers shown in parentheses below) for all Speedlights used at any one time does not exceed 20 at 20°C (68°F), or 13 at 40°C (104°F).

If you are unable to take a second shot, disconnect the master Speedlight from the camera, or turn each of the Speedlights off once. This resets the circuits so you can resume shooting.

Speedlight coefficients

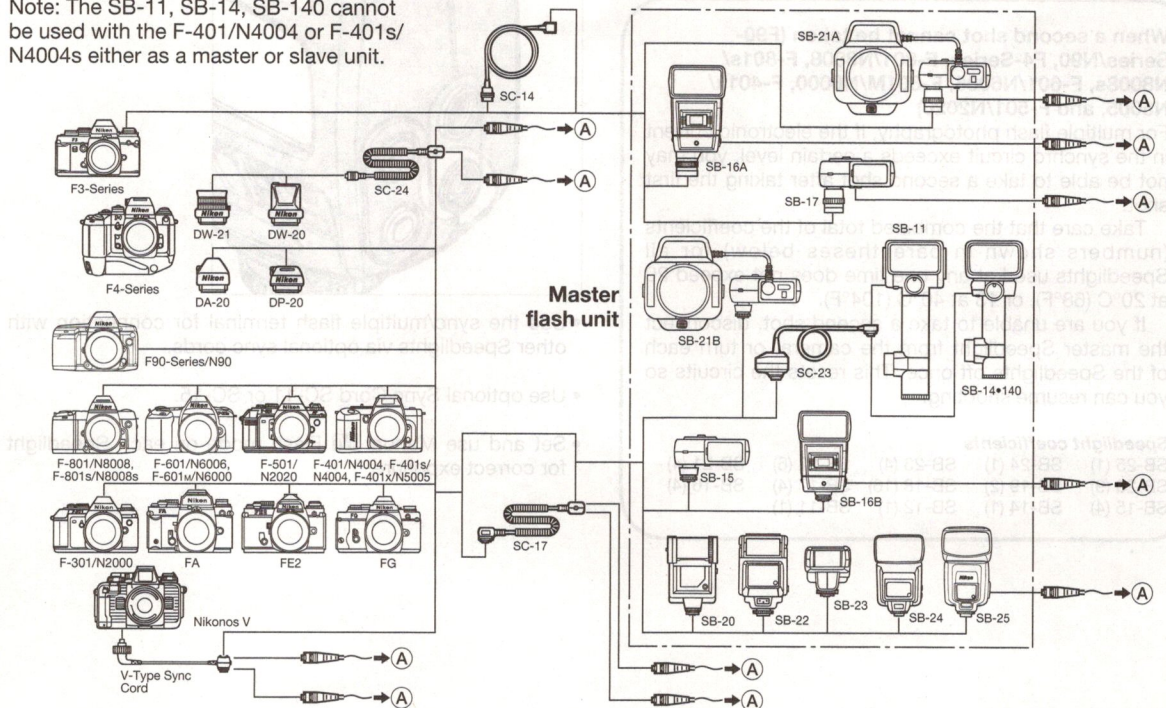
SB-25 (1)	SB-24 (1)	SB-23 (4)	SB-22 (6)	SB-21 (4)
SB-20 (9)	SB-19 (2)	SB-18 (16)	SB-17 (4)	SB-16 (4)
SB-15 (4)	SB-14 (1)	SB-12 (1)	SB-11 (1)	



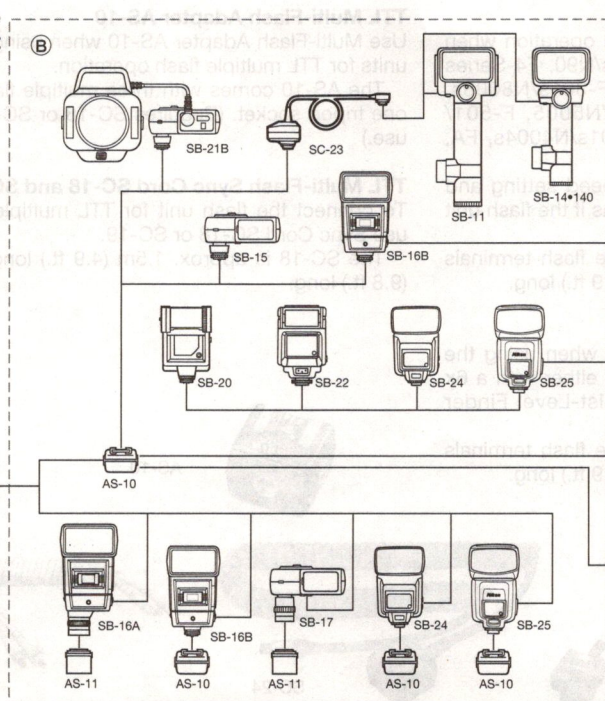
- Use the sync/multiple flash terminal for connection with other Speedlights via optional sync cords.
- Use optional Sync Cord SC-11 or SC-15.
- Set and use Manual **M** Flash mode on each Speedlight for correct exposure.

System Chart for TTL Multiple Flash

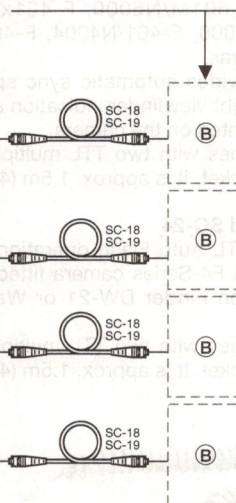
Note: The SB-11, SB-14, SB-140 can not be used with the F-401/N4004 or F-401s/N4004s either as a master or slave unit.



Multiple Flash Photography

Slave
flash unit

Using SC-18 or SC-19, up to five flash units can be used for multiple flash photography, at a total length of 10m (33 ft.).



Accessories for TTL Multiple Flash

TTL Remote Cord SC-17

Use coiled cord SC-17 for TTL Auto Flash operation when using the SB-25 off the Nikon F90-Series/N90, F4-Series (with DP-20 or DA-20), F-801/ N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-601M/N6000, F-401x/N5005, F-501/ N2020, F-301/N2000, F-401/N4004, F-401s/N4004s, FA, FE2 and FG cameras.

The SC-17 provides automatic sync speed setting and the same ready-light viewfinder indication as if the flash unit were directly mounted on the camera.

The SC-17 comes with two TTL multiple flash terminals and one tripod socket. It is approx. 1.5m (4.9 ft.) long.

TTL Remote Cord SC-24

Use SC-24, for TTL Auto Flash operation when using the SB-25 off a Nikon F4-Series camera fitted either with a 6x High-Magnification Finder DW-21 or Waist-Level Finder DW-20.

The SC-24 comes with two TTL multiple flash terminals and one tripod socket. It is approx. 1.5m (4.9 ft.) long.

TTL Multi-Flash Adapter AS-10

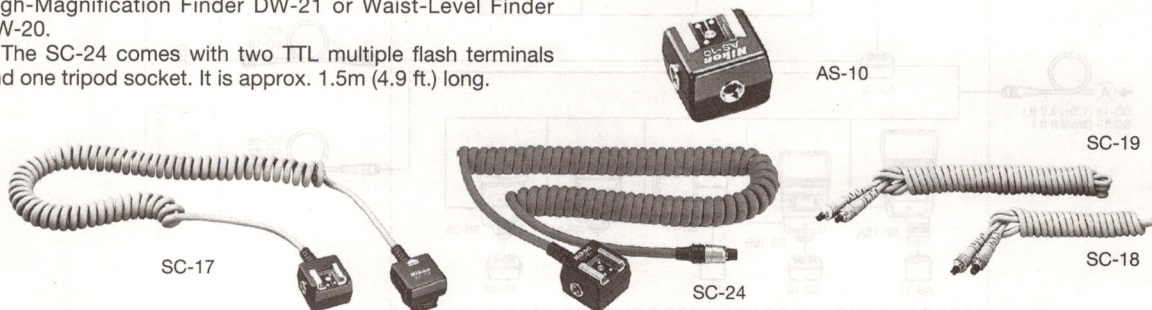
Use Multi-Flash Adapter AS-10 when using more than three units for TTL multiple flash operation.

The AS-10 comes with three multiple flash terminals and one tripod socket. (Requires SC-18 or SC-19 for each flash use.)

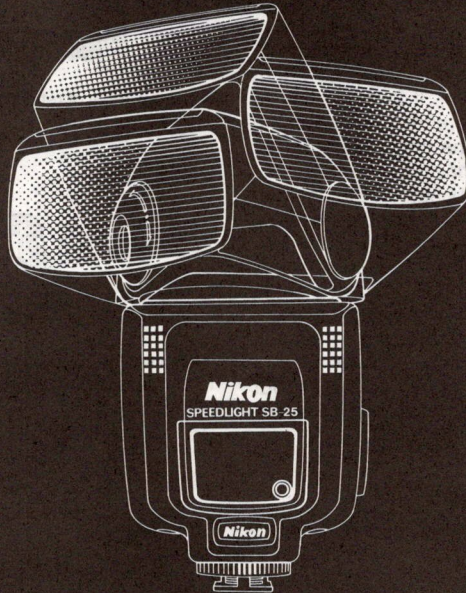
TTL Multi-Flash Sync Cord SC-18 and SC-19

To connect the flash unit for TTL multiple flash operation, use Sync Cord SC-18 or SC-19.

The SC-18 is approx. 1.5m (4.9 ft.) long; the SC-19, 3m (9.8 ft.) long.



Chapter 5



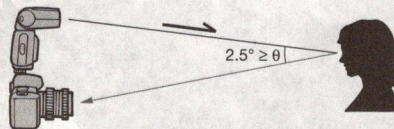
Notes on Speedlight

“Red Eye”

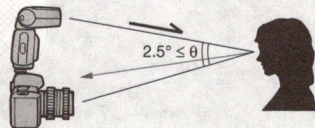
“Red eye” is a common problem in flash photography. Normally, flash pictures are taken when the surroundings light is dim, and under such conditions the subject’s eye pupils will be dilated (open very wide). Red-eye effect occurs when light from the camera’s flash reflects off the interior of the eye and back into the camera’s lens. The wide-open pupil allows much light to enter, and as a result, the center portions of a subject’s eyes can appear bright red (white in a black and white picture). It is interesting to note that the intensity of the red-eye effect varies among individuals, and with two people in the same photograph, one may have red-eye and the other may not.

The appearance of red-eye is also based on the angle at which the light flash on the subject and is reflected back to the camera’s lens. If the angle is 2 to 2.5 degrees or narrower, red-eye will occur. As you move closer to a subject, the angle becomes wider, and the likelihood of red-eye effect decreases. As you move farther from a subject, the angle narrows and the incidence of red-eye increases. When you get very far from a subject, the size of the eye in the picture may become so small that red-eye is not apparent, but when you switch to a lens with a longer focal length the red-eye will become more apparent.

Angle of reflection vs. distance to subject



A narrow angle of reflection (θ : less than 2.5°) increases the likelihood of red eye.



It is sometimes possible to reduce red-eye effect by moving closer to the subject, or the right or left, thereby increasing the angle of reflection.

Flash Sync Mode Selector **NORMAL** vs. REAR Position

The SB-25 is capable of synchronizing flash output with shutter curtain movement, for either the front (first) curtain or rear (second) curtain.

At **NORMAL** position, the Speedlight synchronizes flash output at the moment the front curtain has fully opened (at the end of front curtain movement) but before the rear curtain has started to travel. This is called "front-curtain sync flash," and is the most popular sync method in flash photography.

At **REAR** position, the unit synchronizes the flash to the instant before the rear curtain starts to close (the end of film exposure). Therefore, it is called "rear-curtain sync flash."

The **REAR** position can be chosen to create special effects, and is most effective for freezing a moving subject at the end of a light flow, especially in flash photography at a slow shutter speed.

For F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s and F-401x/N5005 Users:

- Front-curtain sync is performed at **NORMAL** setting.
- "Rear-Curtain Sync" flash is performed at **REAR** setting.

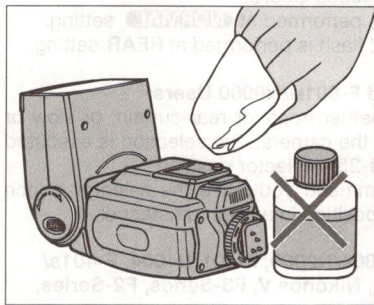
For F-601/N6006 and F-601m/N6000 Users:

- The sync mode, whether front- or rear-curtain, or slow or not, must be set on the camera. The selection is executed regardless of the SB-25's selector position. Therefore, we recommend you leave the selector switch on the **NORMAL** position in any circumstances.

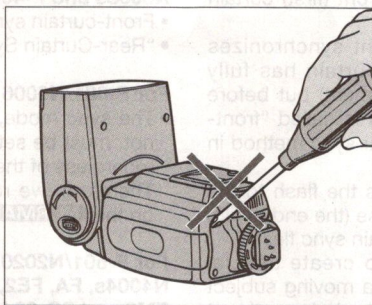
For F-501/N2020, F-301/N2000, F-401/N4004, F-401s/N4004s, FA, FE2, FG, Nikonos V, F3-Series, F2-Series, FM2 and FG-20 Users:

- Front-curtain sync is performed at either **NORMAL** or **REAR** setting. These models are not capable of rear-curtain sync. Therefore, regardless of circumstances, we recommend you leave the selector switch on **NORMAL** position.

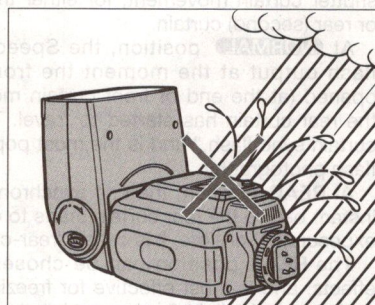
Tips on Speedlight Care



- To remove smudges, wipe with a silicon-treated or other soft, dry cloth. Never use thinner, benzine or alcohol — they might damage plastic parts.



- Never disassemble or repair the Speedlight. If the SB-25 malfunctions, take it immediately to an authorized Nikon dealer or service center.



- Keep the SB-25 away from salt water and out of the rain.

About Batteries

New batteries

Purchase the newest (freshest) batteries possible.

Temperature

Battery life ratings are based on operation at 20°C (68°F). Especially at a lower temperature, battery life is shortened. Keep spare batteries and if possible, use NiCd batteries.

Continuous use

Batteries are drained more quickly by continuous use than by intermittent use.

Storage

Store batteries in a cool, dry place, below 20°C (68°F).

Battery brand

Do not mix battery brands or models, or new and old batteries.

Disposal

Do not dispose of batteries by burning, and never disassemble batteries.

NiCd batteries

Compared with regular batteries, NiCd batteries offer a faster recycling time and greater efficiency at low temperatures.

Before charging NiCd batteries, thoroughly read the instructions for the batteries and battery charger.

Batteries with a "+" terminal that exceeds 6mm (0.23") in diameter cannot be used.

DC Units SD-8/SD-7

Nikon DC Unit SD-8 or SD-7 can be used as an optional external power source to enhance flash capacity and provide faster recycling time.

To use the DC Unit, connect its power cord SC-16 to the SB-25's external power terminal. Even when powered with the DC Unit, the SB-25 still requires batteries inside the flash unit. Do not remove the batteries.

In continuous shooting with the DC Unit, to prevent flash head deterioration caused by heat, do not exceed the maximum number of flash listed below.

It is recommended to rest for more than 10 minutes after firing near the maximum numbers.

Maximum consecutive firing

SB-25 Flash mode	Maximum number of flash	
	SD-8	SD-7
TTL Auto Flash [M]	15	15
Non-TTL Auto Flash [A]	15	15
Manual Flash [M]	15 (at full or 1/2 power) 40 (at 1/4 power or less)	15 (at full or 1/2 power) 40 (at 1/4 power or less)
Repeating Flash [M]	15	15

Specifications

All performance data are for normal-temperature operation (20° C/68° F).

Electronic construction:

Automatic Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor (IGBT) and series circuitry.

Guide number (at ISO 100: for m/ft.):

Light output	Zoom-head position						
	20mm	24mm	28mm	35mm	50mm	70mm	85mm
1/1 (full)	20/66	30/98	32/105	36/118	42/138	48/157	50/164
1/2	14/46	21/69	23/75	26/85	30/98	34/112	36/118
1/4	10/33	15/49	16/52	18/59	21/69	24/79	25/82
1/8	7/23	10/33	11/36	13/43	15/49	17/56	18/59
1/16	5/16	7.5/25	8/26	9/30	10/33	12/39	13/43
1/32	3.5/11	5.3/17	5.7/19	6.4/21	7.5/25	8.5/28	9/30
1/64	2.5/8.2	3.8/17	4/13	4.5/15	5.3/17	6/20	6.3/21

Angle of coverage:

Zoom-head position	Horizontal coverage	Vertical coverage
20mm	102°	90°
24mm	78°	60°
28mm	70°	53°
35mm	60°	45°
50mm	46°	34°
70mm	36°	26°
85mm	31°	23°

Zoom capability:

Seven settings — 20mm (with the built-in wide flash adapter), 24mm, 28mm, 35mm, 50mm, 70mm, 85mm; auto power zoom with the Nikon F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s; manually set with other cameras.

Bounce capability:

Flash head tilts down to -7° or up to 90° with click stops; flash head rotates through an arc of 270°, 90° clockwise and 180° counterclockwise with click stops; at front and vertical positions, flash head can be locked

Power source:

Four 1.5 AA-type penlight alkaline-manganese, or 1.2V NiCd batteries; optional Battery Pack SD-8 and SD-7 are available as an external power source.

Power switch:

Three positions are provided — OFF, STBY (standby) and ON; at STBY position with Nikon F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-601M/N6000, F-401x/N5005, F-501/N2020, F-301/N2000, F-401/N4004, F-401s/N4004s, FA, FE2, FG, Nikonos V, FM2 or FG-20, SB-25 turns off automatically when flash unit is not used for approx. 80 seconds, and turns on when camera is turned on.

Flash duration (approx.):

1/1000 sec.	@ 1/1 (full) output
1/1100 sec.	@ 1/2 output
1/2500 sec.	@ 1/4 output
1/5000 sec.	@ 1/8 output
1/87000 sec.	@ 1/16 output
1/12000 sec.	@ 1/32 output
1/23000 sec.	@ 1/64 output

Number of flash and recycling time at manual full light output:

Batteries		Number of flash (approx.)	Recycling time (approx.)
AA-type alkaline-manganese		100 times	7 — 30 sec.
External power source SD-7*	C-type alkaline-manganese	200 times	3 — 6 sec.
		300 times	3 — 10 sec.
		400 times	3 — 30 sec.
External power source SD-8*	AA-type alkaline-manganese	100 times	3 — 5 sec.
		200 times	3 — 9 sec.
		250 times	3 — 30 sec.
AA-type NiCd		40 times	5 — 30 sec.
External power source SD-7*	C-type NiCd	140 times	1.6 — 30 sec.
External power source SD-8*	AA-type NiCd	100 times	2 — 30 sec.

* With either alkaline-manganese or NiCd batteries installed in the SB-25.

Note: Data for light output at 1/1 (full), no use of AF assist LED and LCD panel illuminator.

Flash exposure control:

Four flash modes are provided — TTL, A, M and Repeating Flash

TTL mode

Used with F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-601m/N6000, F-401x/N5005, F-501/N2020, F-301/N2000, F-401/N4004, F-401s/N4004s, FA, FE2, FG and Nikonos V.

Usable aperture range in TTL mode:

f/1.4 to f/22 (at ISO 100).

Shooting distance range in TTL mode:

0.6 — 20m (2 — 66 ft.).

A mode

For Non-TTL Auto Flash operation, light is measured via light sensor in front of the flash unit.

Usable apertures in A mode:

f/2, f/2.8, f/4, f/5.6, f/8 and f/11 (at ISO 100)

Shooting distance range in A mode:

0.6 — 20m (2 — 66 ft.).

M mode

For Manual Flash operation, light output amount can be varied from 1/1 (full) to 1/64 output (total of 18 steps in 1/3 increments).

Flash sync mode selector:

NORMAL position is used for front-curtain sync with all the cameras listed in this manual.

REAR position is used for Rear-Curtain Sync flash with F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008 and F-801s/N8008s.

Red-eye reduction control:

Preflashes are fired to reduce the likelihood of red-eye effect when used with F90-Series/N90.

AF assist LED:

In insufficient light, automatically fires LED beam toward subject when performing autofocus with Nikon F90-Series/N90, F4-Series, F-801/N8008, F-801s/N8008s, F-601/N6006, F-401x/N5005, F-501/N2020, F-401/N4004 or F-401s/N4004s.

Specifications

**Ready-light/Open-flash button **:

Indicates recharged battery power (ready-light). In TTL Auto and Non-TTL Auto Flash mode, indicates possible underexposure by blinking. In Non-TTL Auto Flash mode, can be used as a test-firing button for light-amount detection. In Repeating Flash mode, can be used as a test-firing button for preset strobo flashes.

Build-in diffuser card:

In bounce flash photography application, creates natural lighting for catchlight in subject's eyes.

Mount pin:

Fixes F90-Series/N90 on the hot shoe.

LCD panel illuminator:

Activated with  button. Illumination lasts approx. eight seconds; same button turns illumination off.

Flash shooting distance scale:

Measurement systems can be switched between meters and feet using the lever inside the battery chamber.

FP High-Speed Sync flash:

Available with the F90-Series/N90. Enables higher shutter speeds (1/250 sec. or faster) for flash synchronization.

Monitor Preflash:

Available with F90-Series/N90 cameras when used with an AF Nikkor lens.

Other features:

External power source terminal, TTL multiple flash terminal and Sync/multiple flash terminal.

Dimensions (W x H x D):

Approx. 79 x 135 x 101mm (3.1 x 5.3 x 4.0 in.)

Weight (without batteries):

Approx. 380g (13.4 oz.)

Accessory provided:

Soft Case SS-24

Specifications and designs are subject to change without notice.

Usable Aperture/Flash Shooting Distance Ranges In TTL Auto **III** and Non-TTL **A** Flash Modes

ISO film speed								Shooting distance range (in meters)						
f/stop	1600	800	400	200	100	50	25	Zoom set at 20mm	Zoom set at 24mm	Zoom set at 28mm	Zoom set at 35mm	Zoom set at 50mm	Zoom set at 70mm	Zoom set at 85mm
	2.8	2	1.4					2.5—20	3.8—20	4.0—20	4.5—20	5.2—20	6.0—20	6.3—20
	4	2.8	2	1.4				1.8—20	2.7—20	2.9—20	3.2—20	3.7—20	4.3—20	4.5—20
	5.6	4	2.8	2	1.4			1.3—14	1.9—20	2.0—20	2.3—20	2.6—20	3.0—20	3.2—20
	8	5.6	4	2.8	2	1.4		0.9—10	1.4—15	1.5—16	1.6—18	1.9—20	2.2—20	2.2—20
	11	8	5.6	4	2.8	2	1.4	0.7—7.0	1.0—10	1.0—11	1.1—13	1.4—14	1.5—16	1.6—17
	16	11	8	5.6	4	2.8	2	0.6—5.0	0.7—7.5	0.7—8.0	0.8—9.0	1.0—10	1.1—12	1.1—12
	22	16	11	8	5.6	4	2.8	0.6—3.5	0.6—5.3	0.6—5.6	0.6—6.3	0.7—7.4	0.8—8.4	0.8—8.8
	32	22	16	11	8	5.6	4	0.6—2.5	0.6—3.7	0.6—4.0	0.6—4.5	0.6—5.2	0.6—6.0	0.6—6.2
		32	22	16	11	8	5.6	0.6—1.7	0.6—2.8	0.6—2.8	0.6—3.2	0.6—3.7	0.6—4.2	0.6—4.4
			32	22	16	11	8	0.6—1.2	0.6—1.8	0.6—2.0	0.6—2.3	0.6—2.6	0.6—3.0	0.6—3.1

ISO film speed								Shooting distance range (in feet)						
f/stop	1600	800	400	200	100	50	25	Zoom set at 20mm	Zoom set at 24mm	Zoom set at 28mm	Zoom set at 35mm	Zoom set at 50mm	Zoom set at 70mm	Zoom set at 85mm
	2.8	2	1.4					8.2—60	12—60	13—60	15—60	17—60	20—60	21—60
	4	2.8	2	1.4				5.7—60	8.7—60	9.3—60	11—60	12—60	14—60	15—60
	5.6	4	2.8	2	1.4			4.1—46	6.2—60	6.6—60	7.4—60	8.6—60	9.8—60	10—60
	8	5.6	4	2.8	2	1.4		2.8—32	4.4—49	4.7—52	5.2—58	6.1—60	7.0—60	7.2—60
	11	8	5.6	4	2.8	2	1.4	2.1—23	3.1—34	3.3—37	3.7—41	4.3—48	4.9—55	5.1—58
	16	11	8	5.6	4	2.8	2	2.0—16	2.2—24	2.4—26	2.6—29	3.0—34	3.5—39	3.6—41
	22	16	11	8	5.6	4	2.8	2.0—11	2.0—17	2.0—18	2.0—20	2.2—24	2.5—27	2.6—29
	32	22	16	11	8	5.6	4	2.0—8.2	2.0—12	2.0—13	2.0—14	2.0—17	2.0—19	2.0—20
		32	22	16	11	8	5.6	2.0—5.7	2.0—8.6	2.0—9.2	2.0—10	2.0—12	2.0—13	2.0—14
			32	22	16	11	8	2.0—4.1	2.0—6.1	2.0—6.5	2.0—7.3	2.0—8.6	2.0—9.8	2.0—10

 : Programmed TTL Auto Flash with Nikon F-401x/N5005, F-501/N2020, F-301/N2000, F-401/N4004 and F-401s/N4004s.

 : Non-TTL Auto Flash mode.

• Usable film speeds depend on the camera model used.

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Nikon

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