User Manual for GAF XL 415

From Super8wiki

User Manual for GAF XL 415

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Camera appearance
subject to minor changes

CONDENSED INSTRUCTIONS

Read entire booklet for detailed information

INSTALLING BATTERIES

Depress lock button on battery compartment cover (**Fig. 1**), then raise and remove cover (**Fig. 2**). Load battery compartment with four AA-size 1.5-volt alkaline batteries. The correct orientation of the plus (+) and minus (—) ends of each battery is shown by diagram inside compartment (**Fig. 3**). Replace battery compartment cover; make sure that it is firmly closed.

Alkaline batteries will drive up to 15 cartridges of film through the camera. When alkaline batteries are not available, zinc-carbon flashlight batteries may be used at temperatures above 55F; they will be good for about 5 cartridges.

To prolong life of batteries, keep On/Off switch in the "Off" position when camera is not being used.

Important: Clean all battery contacts at regular intervals. To remove deposits, rub both ends of batteries with fine sandpaper or other abrasive material. Since batteries may leak in time, remove them when camera is stored for a prolonged period.

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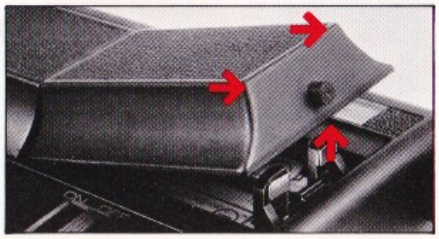

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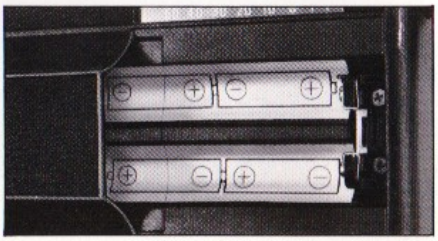

TESTING THE BATTERIES

Depress tester button. If the batteries are good, depressing the button will turn on test light (**Fig. 4**). If test light does not go on, or is very dim, batteries must be replaced.

LOADING THE CAMERA

Pull back latch and swing open film compartment cover (**Fig. 5**). Insert Super 8 film cartridge, label side up, film toward lens. The notch in the cartridge must be **under** the cartridge-locking pin (**Fig. 6**). Press down the rear corners of the cartridge until it clicks into place. Close cover firmly.

As the camera is loaded, the cartridge automatically sets the correct film speed for exposure control. Use a film with 25/40 or 100/160 daylight/tungsten ASA film speed combination, or the universal (type G) ASA 160 film.

ATTACHING CAMERA HANDLE

The handle has a pin and a screw. Insert the pin into the round hole in the camera bottom and the screw into the tripod socket (**Fig. 7**). Keep turning the milled wheel until handle is firmly attached to camera.

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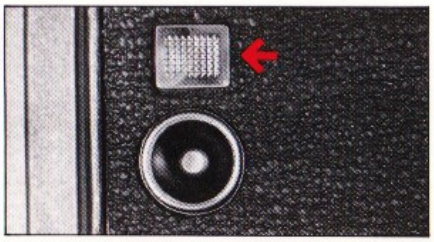

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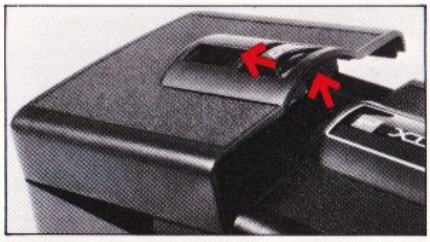

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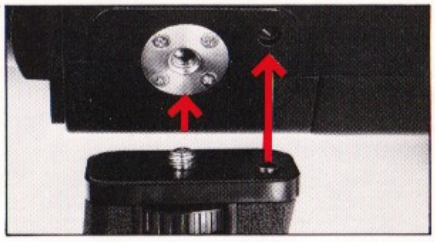

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FOOTAGE INDICATOR

The footage indicator shows how many feet (red figures) or meters (green figures) of unexposed film are still in the cartridge. All the film in the cartridge has been exposed when the needle is lined up with the zeros.

UNLOADING EXPOSED FILM

When all the film has been exposed, run the camera for an additional 10 seconds, then open the film compartment cover. Remove the cartridge by lifting its rear edge up and out; the word "EXPOSED" now appears on the film.

Have the film processed without delay.

If a partially-exposed cartridge is removed from the camera, some film is lost and the footage indicator returns to 50 and 15.

LOCKING THE CAMERA

The camera can be locked in two positions:

1. To prevent accidental operation of the camera, slide the On/Off switch to the "Off" position.

2. To get into the scene, place the camera on a tripod, aim it at the scene, slide On/Off switch to "On", and Single-frame/Run/Run-lock (S/R/RL) switch to "RL". The camera will keep running until the S/R/RL switch is returned to "R".

USING THE VIEWFINDER

The bright, through-the-lens viewfinder shows each scene as it will appear projected on the screen.

To adjust the viewfinder to your eye:

1. Zoom lens to the 34 mm telephoto position by depressing front power-zoom switch, marked "T".

2. Align the ∞ (infinity) symbol on the focusing ring distance scale with the reference line on top of the lens barrel (**Fig. 8**), then look through the viewfinder at an object at least 500 feet away.

3. Turn viewfinder eyecup (**Fig. 9**) first clockwise, then counterclockwise, until image in viewfinder is sharpest.

FOCUSING

Line up with the reference line the figure on the focusing ring that corresponds with the camera-to-subject distance in feet.

For example, if the camera-to-subject distance is 5 feet, then the figure 5 is lined up with the reference line (**Fig. 10**).

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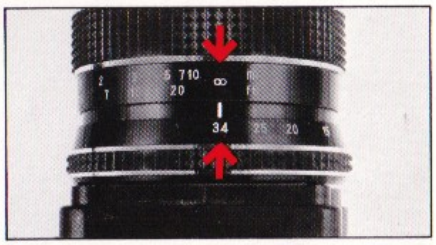

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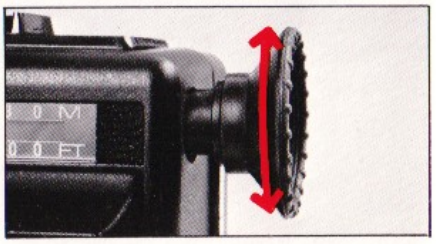

USING THE ZOOM LENS

The zoom lens does the work of several separate lenses. It has a 4 to 1 focal length range and is continuously adjustable from the 8.5 mm wide-angle setting to the 34 mm telephoto setting.

Important! When the zoom lens is in the telephoto position (25 to 34 mm), the slightest camera motion will result in a jumpy screen image. To keep the camera steady when the lens is used in the 25-34 mm telephoto range, use a tripod, where feasible, or steady camera by placing elbows on a firm support.

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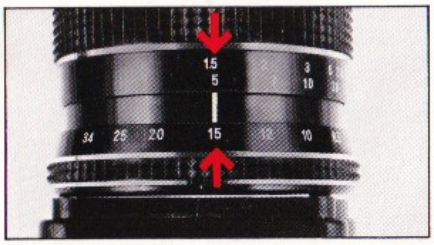

When lined up with the reference line, the figures 8.5, 10, 12, 15, 20, 25, and 34 on the focal-length scale around the lens indicate in millimeters the focal length of the lens at that setting. For example, when 15 is lined up with the reference line (as in **Fig. 10**), the effective focal length of the lens is 15 millimeters.

The zoom feature is used to control the subject's image size and the area included in the scene. At the 8.5 mm wide-angle setting the subject's image is the smallest and the surrounding area included is the greatest. From the same camera position the 34 mm telephoto setting will make the subject largest and it will reduce the amount of surrounding area. At in-between settings, the subject's size and the area covered will vary between the two extremes.

When the front power-zoom switch (marked "T") is depressed, the lens zooms toward the telephoto (34 mm) position. When the rear power-zoom switch (marked "W") is depressed, the lens zooms toward the wide-angle (8.5 mm) position.

The zoom feature may be utilized in two ways:

1. To control the subject's size in the image, depress either zoom switch to bring the lens to the end of the zoom range, then depress the other zoom switch and observe the subject in the viewfinder. When the size is right, stop zooming and start the camera.

2. The subject's size may be changed while the camera is running. To get a moving-toward-the-subject effect, depress the front ("T") power-zoom switch. Depressing the rear ("W") switch will result in a moving-away-from-the-subject effect.* The focal length of the lens may also be adjusted manually by turning the zoom ring.

***When the camera is packed or stored, make sure that the zoom switches are not pressed against an object. Depressing either zoom switch will keep the zoom motor operating, exhausting the batteries.**

EXPOSURE

The through-the-lens CdS exposure meter provides completely automatic exposure control.
To check light level, slide On/Off switch to "On", observe subject in viewfinder and slowly depress trigger release halfway.

When the light is too low or too bright for proper exposure, a red warning light appears and remains below the viewfinder image.

When the light is too low, movies will be too dark, underexposed. In cases of extreme underexposure, the film may not even show an image. With high speed film (ASA 100/160) movies can often be made even while the red low-light warning signal appears in the viewfinder*.

If the illumination is too bright (a rare occurrence), movies will be too bright, overexposed. Overexposure can be prevented by placing a .6 neutral-density (ND) filter over the camera lens, in a screw-in or slip-on mount (see "Filter Size" on page 10).

*See "Low-Light Movie Making" on page 9.

Do not make movies with the camera pointed at the sun or other bright light source. The bright light will influence the electric eye and make the pictures too dark.
Note: Remember that the high speed films are designed for filming under low levels of illumination; whenever possible, avoid using them in bright sunlight.

MAKING MOVIES

Important: Make sure On/Off switch is in the "On" position and S/R/RL switch is set at the "R" (run). **Always** depress trigger release slowly.

When the camera is loaded, the lens focused, and the viewfinder adjusted to your eye, just press the trigger to make movies automatically.

Keep camera level and steady. Camera movement and inaccurate focusing are especially noticeable when the lens is used in the telephoto position. Use a tripod whenever feasible; the tripod socket is on the bottom of the camera body.

OUTDOOR MOVIES

A built-in orange filter, positioned behind the lens, adjusts the camera to outdoor work with indoor film.

Bright or hazy sunlight coming from behind or from either side of the camera is best for outdoor movies. Do not make movies with the camera facing the sun.

INDOOR MOVIES

The GAF® XL 415 movie camera is designed for movie making indoors by existing light. When the red warning light indicates that the existing light is too dim, use an accessory GAF® XL movie light or a similar unit; they fit the socket on top of the camera.
Attaching the movie light adjusts the camera automatically to filming under artificial illumination by retracting the daylight (orange) filter from the optical system.
If a movie light of a type that does not fit the socket, a floodlight, or

existing artificial light is used, screw the movie light plug (supplied with the camera) into the movie light socket (**Fig. 11**).
Do not forget to remove the movie light plug for outdoor movies. When loaded with the universal ASA 160 type G film, camera will operate correctly under any type of illumination, without adjustment.

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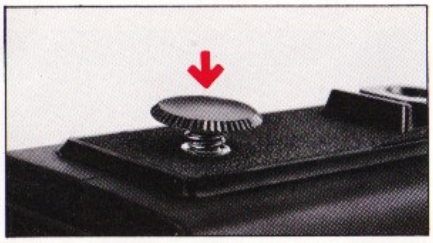

LOW-LIGHT MOVIE MAKING

The camera is designed for movie making in bright light, as well as in most of the dim-light situations that before now required the use of movie light. These include outdoor movies in the shade, under a heavy overcast, early or late in the day, etc. Movies can also be made indoors when the illumination is comparatively bright.

For movies outdoors in bright light, the use of ASA 25/40 speed film is recommended. This film is also satisfactory in some low-light situations as the fast f/1.2 lens and the 220 degree shutter usually provide adequate exposure. The faster ASA 100/160 film is useful in low-light outdoor situations and for movie making indoors. As mentioned elsewhere, it is not recommended for movie making outdoors in bright sunlight.

The electric eye automatically adjusts the camera for correct exposures, as long as the red warning light does not appear in the viewfinder when the trigger release is halfway depressed. When the light is low, the red signal does not always mean, however, that acceptable movies cannot be made. This is especially true when the camera is loaded with fast film. Subject or background reflectance and various other factors may cause the electric eye to indicate insufficient light while, in fact, adequately exposed movies can still be made. In other situations, the illumination may indeed be too low, yet movies can still be made if you are willing to accept the resulting dark images. The following hints will permit the movie maker to keep filming even after a low-light situation causes the red warning signal to appear in the viewfinder.

When the red signal keeps appearing and disappearing (while the trigger release is at least halfway depressed), usually the low reflectance of the surroundings is the cause. Virtually normal movies can still be made.

When the surroundings are dark, adequately exposed (for the subject) movies can often be made even when the red signal is on all the time.

If it is important to have a film record of the subject, make the movie even when the light level is really too low and the warning signal is on in the viewfinder. The resulting images will be dark, but may still be better (under the circumstances) than no movie at all.

Remember to insert movie light plug, for movies taken indoors by existing artificial light, when either 25/40 or 100/160 ASA speed film is used.

Use these tips as guidelines for getting started. Practice will soon reveal what situations are likely to permit movie making even when the warning light is visible in the viewfinder. Remember, however, that filming with the red warning light visible in the viewfinder is not recommended; do it only when it is more important to have a movie record of the subject than obtaining a correctly exposed image.

REMOTE CONTROL

The accessory remote control cord has a plug at one end and a switch at the other.

Place the camera on a tripod or other solid support, aim it at the scene, focus, insert the remote control cord plug into the remote ("RC") socket and slide remote control switch to "Off".
Slide On/Off switch on camera to "On" and S/R/RL switch on camera to "RL" (run-lock). Switching to the run-lock position will not operate the camera when the remote control is plugged in.
Operate the camera from a distance using the remote control switch.

SINGLE-FRAME EXPOSURES

Slide On/Off switch to "On" and Single-frame/Run/Run-lock (S/R/RL) switch to "S". At that setting a single frame will be exposed every time the trigger release is depressed.

FILTER SIZE

The lens accommodates Series VII filters in a 52 mm diameter x 0.75 mm thread-pitch screw-in mount, or in a 54 mm slip-on mount.

CAMERA CARE

Protect camera from dirt, rain, dampness, and excessive heat. Avoid touching the lens. To clean lens, breathe on it first, then wipe it gently with a soft, lintless cloth or tissue. Do not use chemically treated eyeglass tissues as they might damage the lens coating. Clean out the interior of the camera occasionally with a camel-hair brush, paying special attention to the film gate (**Fig. 12**).

Do not attempt to remove or oil any part of the camera. If anything goes wrong, don't try to repair it yourself; send it to the nearest GAF Consumer Photo Service Center listed below.

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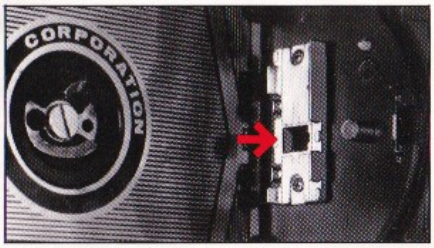

GAF CORPORATION

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3500 North Kostner Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60641

16217 Kittridge St.
Van Nuys, California 91406

58-10 Broadway
Woodside, New York 11377

P.O. Box 490
Portland, Ore. 97207

4601 Winters Chapel Road
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Atlanta, Ga. 30340

IN CANADA

GAF (Canada) Limited
Consumer Photo Service Center
70 Alexdon Road
Downsview, Ontario

1195 West 8 Ave.
Vancouver 9, Brit. Col.

Important: The original bill of sale (dated sales slip with name and address of dealer) is now accepted as proof of purchase for establishing the warranty period. No warranty card is provided. To help identification in case of loss or theft, keep among your personal records the camera model designation (GAF XL 415) and the serial number appearing on the plate inside the film compartment.

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GAF CORPORATION
140 West 51 Street
New York, NY 10020

Photo & Repro Group

LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

GAF Corporation warrants the GAF® XL 415 Super 8 Movie Camera to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of 12 months from the date of original purchase. If defective during such time period the camera will be repaired or replaced, at GAF's option, without additional charge, if returned postage prepaid to the nearest GAF Consumer Photo Service Center shown in the list on page 11, specifying the difficulty encountered and attaching a copy of the bill of sale showing the date and place of purchase. Remove any batteries and return camera well packed and insured, as GAF does not assume any responsibility for damage caused by leaky or defective batteries or for damage which may occur during shipment. THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER EQUIPMENT WHICH HAS BEEN DAMAGED IN ACCIDENTS OR BY IMPROPER USE. GAF does not assume any liability if adaptions are made or accessories attached to the camera which impair the proper function of the equipment. Cost of work performed at repair shops not authorized by GAF shall not be reimbursed. GAF DOES NOT MAKE, AND SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR, ANY WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR MERCHANTABILITY AFTER 12 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ORIGINAL PURCHASE. IN NO EVENT SHALL GAF BE LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, OR OTHER DAMAGES EXCEPT AS HEREINABOVE SPECIFIED.

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