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how to use your BELL & HOWELL AUTOLOAD® 340 CAMERA



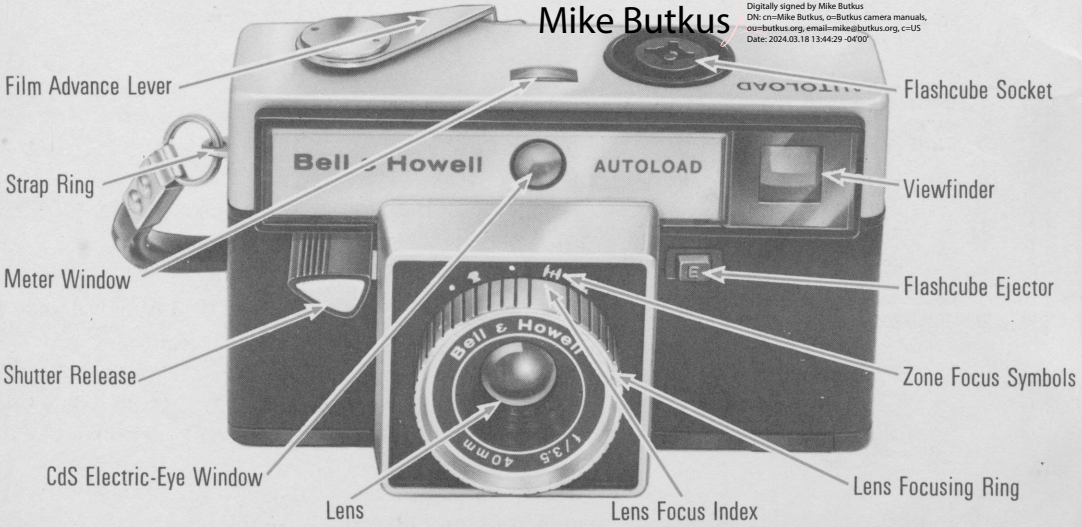
instant loading

CdS electric eye

uses flashcubes

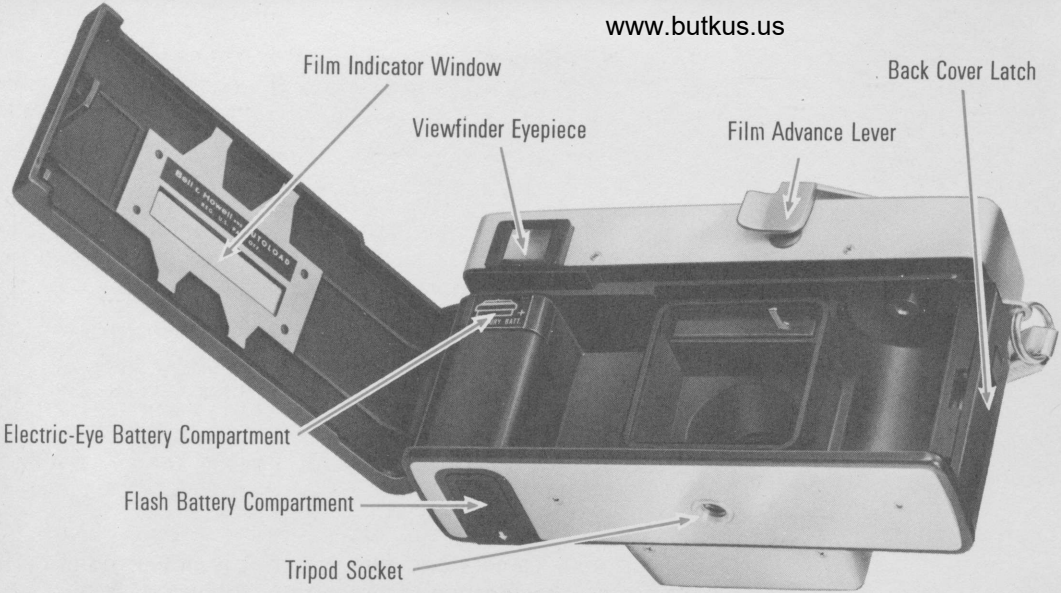
Here are the parts of the camera as they are referred to throughout this book. You'll want to familiarize yourself with them and read the book carefully before trying your camera out for the first time.

Mike Butkus
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Unfold the flap at the back of the book for additional part names.

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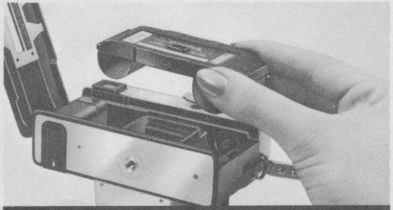
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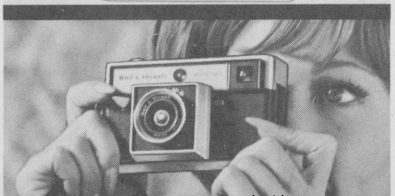
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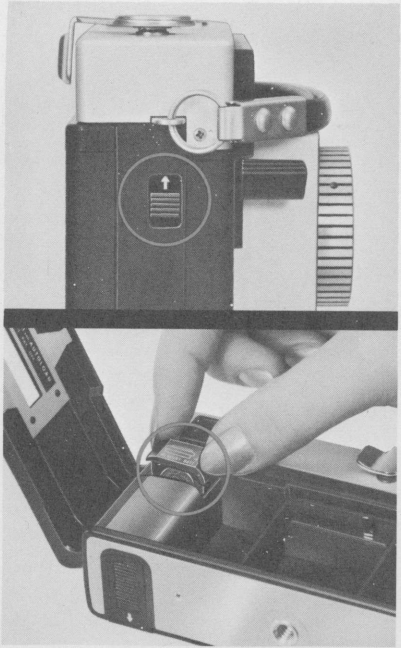
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taking pictures with your AUTOLOAD 340 CAMERA is as easy as...

1. Drop in the instant-loading film and wind it to the first picture
2. Set the lens focus for the picture—close-up, group, or distant scene
3. Compose through the viewfinder and slowly press the shutter release

There are preliminary things to do before using your camera for the first time, however. You'll want to install the batteries, learn how to take flash pictures, etc. Reading this book over thoroughly will assure perfect results your very first try.

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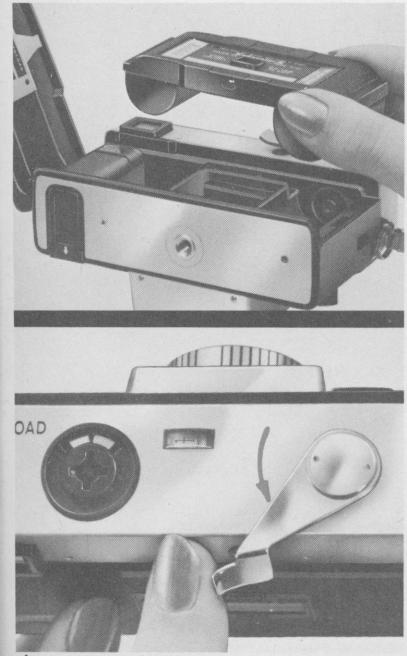


the electric-eye battery

The automatic operation of your camera is controlled by a long-life mercury battery. One is included with your camera (in the packaging) when you purchase it.

To install the battery, first open the BACK COVER by sliding the COVER LATCH up. The ELECTRIC-EYE BATTERY COMPARTMENT slides out as shown. Place the battery in the recess with the + side down, then slide the compartment back into place. NOTE: Wiping both sides of the battery with a cloth before inserting it will insure good contact and dependable operation.

Although you won't have to worry about this battery for a long time, here's how to check it for proper strength. With your finger, rapidly cover and uncover the CdS ELECTRIC-EYE WINDOW (have the camera pointed towards a bright scene). When the battery is good, the needle in the METER WINDOW will respond rapidly. If the action is sluggish, then a new battery is needed and can be purchased from a Bell & Howell dealer. See the back flap for the correct type.

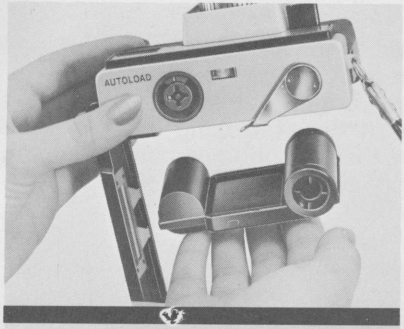


Many different types of Size 126 film are available for your camera (see film information on back flap).

film loading

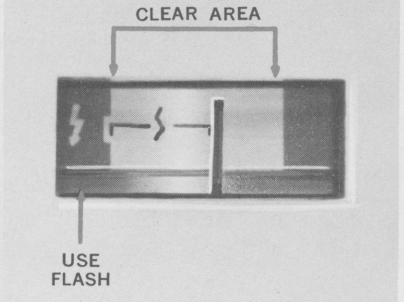
Just open the BACK COVER and drop the film in—that's all there's to it! NOTE that the largest end of the cartridge goes to the right . . . actually, you can't put it in the wrong way. Close the back cover, advance the film with the FILM ADVANCE LEVER until it locks (about 6 or 7 full strokes), and you're ready for the first picture. The number "1" will appear in the FILM INDICATOR WINDOW to show you the first picture is ready to take. This number will change each time you advance the film. The film indicator window will also show the type of film in the camera and the number of exposures in the cartridge. NOTE: Do not open the camera back until all the pictures have been taken and you have read the unloading instructions.

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unloading

After taking the last picture in the cartridge and BEFORE opening the camera back, advance the film until all the yellow paper has disappeared from the film indicator window (the lever will lock). Then you just open the back, tip the camera over, and let the cartridge fall into your hand. Have the film processed as soon as possible.



outdoor pictures

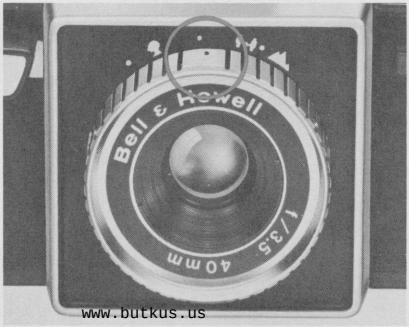
No worry here! The 340's electric eye will set the lens and the shutter for a perfect picture, every time. No film settings, either, as the electric eye adjusts for the type of film as the cartridge is inserted.

Be sure to check the light for each picture with the camera aimed directly at the subject. The needle in the meter window will warn you if the light is too dim or too bright for a good shot. If the needle is anywhere in the center "clear" area, go ahead and shoot!

Flash should be used whenever the needle is in the warning zone at the left. See pages 8 and 9.

In some extremely bright outdoor situations, the needle may indicate in the right-hand warning zone. Pictures taken under these conditions may be slightly overexposed, but probably will be acceptable to you.

setting the distance



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You'll want your pictures to be sharp and clear, of course, and here's all you have to do . . .

Just turn the LENS FOCUSING RING so the FOCUS INDEX (red dot) is opposite the FOCUS SYMBOL for your picture. That's all there's to it! is for close-ups, is for group shots, and is for those distant landscapes. If you like, you can set the lens between the symbols. Be sure to change the setting if the type of picture changes.

If you want to set the lens focus more exactly, the drawing on page 10 shows the distances that correspond to the symbols.

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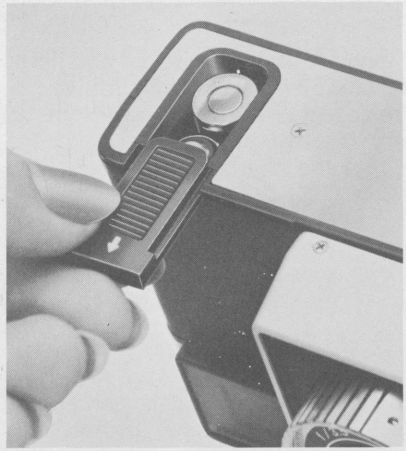
taking the picture



When you've set the lens focus and checked the light, press the SHUTTER RELEASE down . . . and you've got the picture! Press the release down slowly and smoothly, though, so the camera doesn't move the instant the picture is taken. *Note that the shutter is released at the very bottom of the stroke.*

Here are a couple of hints that will assure *great* pictures! Sight through the VIEWFINDER squarely and compose the picture just as you want it to appear. You won't want to be too far away when taking pictures of people, for instance. When the subject is less than 5' away, place the center of the subject to the right and slightly below the center of the viewfinder. This will prevent any possible "head chopping" when taking close-ups. Remember to recheck the meter window and lens focus setting whenever the light or subject changes —it takes just a second to be sure.

flash is easy, too!

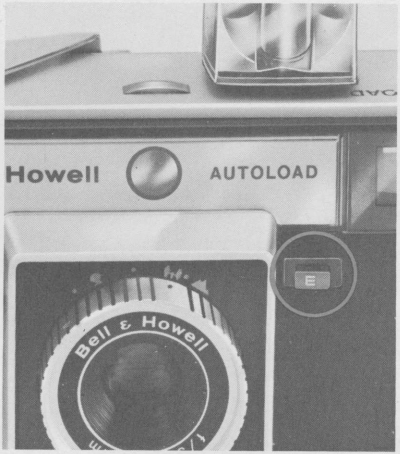


Two "N" size batteries are used to power the flash on your camera. Your dealer can supply you with the proper type (see back flap for battery numbers). To install them, first remove the BATTERY COMPARTMENT COVER by sliding it in the direction of the arrow. *Insert the batteries into the compartment so that one + tip is up, the other + tip is down.* Replace the compartment cover.

Have the batteries checked occasionally by your dealer to be sure they have sufficient power to fire the flashcube.

Since batteries of this type sometimes give off a substance that coats the contacts, wipe the battery ends and the compartment cover contacts off with a coarse cloth every once in a while. This will assure you of dependable flash results.

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To install a flashcube, just snap it into the FLASHCUBE SOCKET. Inserting the flashcube automatically adjusts the shutter to 1/30 second for proper synchronization.

To remove the flashcube, just press the EJECT BUTTON on the front of the camera. If you insert a partially used flashcube, rotate it until an unfired side is facing forward. The flashcube can be rotated manually in either direction at any time.

The flashcube will rotate automatically to the next side each time you take a flash picture. Be sure and remove the flashcube when taking outdoor pictures.

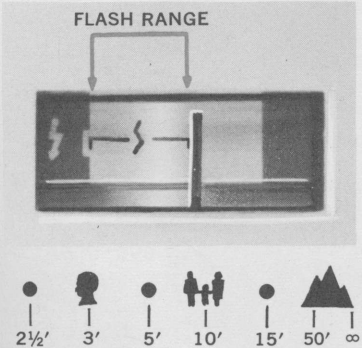
setting the flash distance

After the batteries and the flashcube have been installed, just set the lens to the subject distance.

Estimate the distance from the camera to the subject and set the LENS FOCUSING RING. The chart on the next page gives the distances that correspond to the focus symbols. This simple setting automatically adjusts the lens for the proper exposure for your flash shot.

setting the flash distance

(continued)



Of course, there is a limit as to how far away or how close you can be and still get excellent results.

The flash range is shown in the meter window (see illustration). With a flashcube in place, the needle in the window will move back and forth as the distance is set on lens. As long as the needle remains within the flash range, you'll get perfect exposures.

The approximate distance range for flash pictures with ASA 64 or 80 films is 3′ to 25′. When using ASA 125 or 160 films, the range is 6′ to 45′.

Here are some helpful hints for flash. With the film advanced and flashcube in place, set the subject distance on the lens. Then check the needle to be sure it is within the flash range in the meter window. If it isn't you'll have to get closer or farther away from your subject. If the needle in the window doesn't move when you change the lens distance setting, this indicates that the flashcube side has already been used—or the flashcube has a broken circuit and won't fire. This provides a handy check so you won't miss a good shot. The mercury battery that powers the electric-eye system also powers the automatic flash-exposure system. Always have battery in place when taking flash pictures.

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more helpful hints

1. If the shutter release won't go down, this means you haven't advanced the film for the next picture. No chance for a double-exposure!

2. If the film advance lever won't move, you haven't taken that picture yet. This is a good way to tell if the film has been advanced.

3. When you're outdoors in dim light and the meter needle is at the *edge* of the warning zone. Take the picture anyway. Chances are you'll get a perfectly acceptable exposure.

4. Going to take a lot of shots outdoors in bright light? No need to adjust the lens distance setting for each picture—just set it to approximately 12' (see page 10) and every subject between 6' and infinity will be sharp and clear.

5. If you're putting the camera away for a while, remove the flash batteries and the mercury battery. Store them in a cool dry place as this will prolong their useful life.

6. Never keep your camera and film where it is hot or humid. The camera's case provides good protection against dust and hard knocks. Keep the camera covered when not in use.

SPECIFICATIONS

FILM SIZE AND TYPE—The Autoload 340 Camera uses size 126 instant-loading film cartridges; black-and-white, color print, and color slide films with ratings of ASA 64, 80, 125 and 160 can be used for outdoor or flash pictures.

LENS—40mm f/3.5 optical glass 3-element design; focus fully adjustable from 2½′ to infinity with zone-focus symbols.

ELECTRIC EYE—Adjusts lens openings for f/3.5 to f/22; CdS exposure control system powered by long-life mercury battery.

SHUTTER—Programmed type; works with electric eye to provide best combination of lens opening and shutter speed; range 1/30 to 1/250 second; automatically adjusts to 1/30 second for flashcube pictures.

FLASH SYSTEM—Adjusts automatically to proper lens opening as lens focus is set; flash range shows in meter window with needle indicator; automatic flashcube rotation as picture is taken; flashcube circuit check; flash power supplied by two N-size alkaline batteries.

BATTERY TYPES USED—*Electric Eye* uses single mercury battery; Mallory PX-13, Eveready EPX-13, Burgess HPX-13, or equivalent. *Flash system* uses two alkaline batteries; Mallory Mn-9100, Eveready E-90, Burgess AL-N, Bright Star 7528, or equivalent.

SIZE—4 1/16"x2¾"x2¼".

WEIGHT—10 ounces without batteries or film.

Unfold this flap when reading your instruction book.