

Mercury Instax Square for Graflok 23 Back Instructions

Compatibility

The Mercury Instax Square Back for Graflok 23 is compatible with any camera that (a) uses the Graflok 23 back mount, and (b) has the capability of being shortened by 30mm. Usually this means modular or bellows cameras.

Confirmed compatible models include the Mercury Universal Medium Format camera line, the Horseman VH/R line, the Graflex Century Graphic, and the Graflex Baby Speed Graphic. On a Mercury camera, remove 30mm of front spacing to use the back. On bellows cameras, set your front standard back (further toward the rear of the camera) by 30mm. You can do this by drawing a precise line or by added a second set of infinity stops. Note that some wide angle lenses may not leave you enough flange focal distance to remove 30mm; these lenses will not focus to infinity when using this back.

When using on a Graflex camera with a Kalart rangefinder, the Kalart works normally, but if you wish to see it while the back is mounted, you will need the Kalart extension eyepiece.

Other cameras, such as the Mamiya RB67 and Graflex XL, will physically mount the back, but it will result in macro shooting only.

Before Use

The back requires four (4) AAA batteries. Slide the small door off and insert the batteries in the orientation indicated.

To load or unload the film, unlatch the large door at the top and swing it open. It is hinged at the bottom. Simply press your Instax Square film cartridge into place and carefully close the door, pressing until it clicks in place.

Frame Counter

When the back is loaded, the frame counter on the right side will light up. The number of illuminated dots indicates how many frames remain in your current film pack. Note that there is no "on" or "off" button on the back. The frame counter will remain lit as long as a pack is inserted.

Matching Ground Glass Back

A matching ground glass back is available as an optional add-on for this back. It provides you with precise framing and spacing (accounting for the 30mm shift in film plane). You do not need the ground glass back if you are focusing via rangefinder or focus scale, but it comes in very handy when testing the back and shooting on a tripod.

Developing/Ejecting

When you are ready to expose a shot, pull the darkslide up by the exposed handle on top of the back, just in front of the ejection slot. Only pull the darkslide up until you see the black line. Removing the darkslide all the way can sometimes, in the right conditions, lead to a light leak.

After you have exposed your shot, press and hold the rectangular button on the right side of the back, below the frame counter LEDs. The current frame will automatically eject out the top of the back.

After your frame begins to eject, you can close the darkslide. Note that the ejection button only functions when the darkslide is open!

Battery Reminder

In between shoots, don't forget to remove the batteries from the back, to prevent battery leakage.

Happy shooting!

