# THE NEW LEICA M8 DIGITAL RANGEFINDER CAMERA

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION


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Leica Camera AG / Oskar-Barnack-Straße 11 / D-35606 Solms / www.leica-camera.com / info@leica-camera.com /
Telefon +49(0)6442-208-0 / Telefax +49(0)6442-208-333 / AG mit Sitz in Solms / Amtsgericht Wetzlar HRB 966 /
AR-Vorsitzender: Dr. Andreas Kaufmann / Vorstand: Dr. Josef Scichtig (Vorsitzender)

| Technical data | LEICA M8 |
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| Camera type | Compact digital view- and rangefinder system camera for professional use with Leica M lenses. Microprocessor-controlled metal blade focal plane shutter |
| Image sensor | Low-noise CCD chip, specially optimized for the requirements of the Leica M lens system, Pixels: 10.3 Million. Dimensions: 18 x 27mm. Extension factor: 1.33x. Aspect ratio: 3:2. Moiré filter: No, lens imaging power is fully utilized through recognition and software-based elimination of moiré. |
| Sensitivity range | Manual setting from ISO 160/23° to ISO 2500/35° |
| **Viewfinder** | |
| Viewfinder principle | Large, bright bright-line frame range and viewfinder with automatic parallax compensation. Viewfinder optics with reduced susceptibility to stray light and optimal perceptibility of all bright-line frames in any lighting conditions |
| Eyepiece | Adjusted to –0.5 dptr. Correction lenses from –3 to +3 dpt. available. |
| Framing | By projection of pairs of bright-line frames: For 24 and 35mm, or for 28 and 90mm, or for 50 and 75mm. Automatic projection when lens is attached. |
| Frame selector | Can be used to select any of the bright-line frame pairs and so emulate any focal length |
| Parallax compensation | The horizontal and vertical difference between the viewfinder and the lens is automatically compensated according to the relevant distance setting, i.e. the bright-line frames automatically align with the subject detail recorded by the lens. |
| Enlargement | 0.68× (for all lenses) |
| Wide base rangefinder | Split or superimposed image rangefinder shown as a bright field in the center of the viewfinder image. Effective base width 47.1mm (mechanical base width 69.25mm x viewfinder enlargement 0.68x). |
| **Lenses** | |
| Lens attachment | Leica M bayonet with additional sensor for identification of 6-Bit coded lenses. |

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| Lens system | Current 6-Bit coded Leica M lenses from 16 to 90mm. Almost all 16 to 90mm Leica M lenses manufactured since 1954 without 6-Bit coding can also be used. Most lenses can be updated to the 6-Bit coded standard. |
| 6-Bit functions | Lens-specific reduction of system-immanent vignetting. Lens information is added to image file to facilitate easier digital archiving. Adjustment of the motor-driven reflector with accordingly equipped flash units. Auto slow sync mode with aperture priority mode. |

**Exposure control**

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| Aperture priority mode (A) | Automatic setting of correct shutter speed for the manually preset aperture with according viewfinder display |
| Manual mode | Manual setting of shutter speed and aperture according to camera's exposure metering system, indicated by light balance in viewfinder |

**Main switch settings**

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| S | Single exposures. one per pressing of the shutter release button |
| C | Continuous (serial) exposures with 2fps and a maximum of 10 per series |
| Self timer | Delay selectable with 2 Or 12s, countdown indicated by an LED in the viewfinder window on the camera front |

**Controls**

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| Front | Lens release button, frame selector |
| Top | Main switch, shutter release button, shutter speed dial, LCD for remaining exposures and battery status |
| Back | 2.5" color monitor, setting ring for navigation in menu and enlarging, 4 direction buttons for navigation in menu and frame trimming, MENU, SET, PLAY, DELETE, PROTECT, and INFO buttons |
| Bottom | Locking bottom cover protects battery and SD card from dust and moisture |
| Color Monitor | Large (2.5"), bright LCD with 230.000 pixel resolution for image replay and menu control. Brightness |

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| | adjustable in 5 steps. Controllable by replay: General quality of images, exposure control by RGB histogram including indication of over-saturated highlights (also available with magnified images), focus plane, indication of image parameter settings, and of the attached lens' focal length (when current, 6-Bit coded lenses are employed) |
| Image replay sizes | 4/9 thumbnails, full size, and enlargement up to 100% (1 sensor pixel = 1 LCD pixel) |

**Image parameter menu / Main menu**

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| | Image parameter menu is accessed with SET button and includes the following image-relevant parameters: User profile, Sensitivity, Exposure compensation, White balance, Quality/Compression rate, and Resolution.<br><br>Main menu is accessed with MENU button and includes settings such as monitor brightness and color space. |
| Menu languages | German, English, French, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, and Chinese. |
| Resolution | DNG™: 3916 x 2634 pixels (10.31MP);JPEG: 3936 x 2630 pixels (10.35MP), 2952 x 1972 pixels (5.8MP), 1968 x 1315 pixels (2.6MP), 1312 x 876 pixels (1.15MP). |
| Data formats | DNG™ (camera-manufacturer independent Digital Negative Format), 2 JPEG compression levels. |
| DNG™ file information | 16 Bit color depth, file size 10.2MB per exposure, |
| Storage media | SD cards with up to 4GB, complete list of compatible SD cards for the LEICA M8 available under: www.leica-camera.de/photography/m_system/m8 (as of market introduction) |
| White balance | Automatic, 6 presets, manual, color temperature setting from 2000K to 13.100K. |
| Color spaces | Adobe® RGB, sRGB, ECI RGB. |
| Viewfinder display | (at lower edge of viewfinder image)<br>LED symbol for flash status, four-digit seven-segment digital display with dots above and below (with automatic brightness control, adapts to the ambient brightness) for: Display of the automatically |

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| | determined shutter speed for aperture priority mode, information that metering memory lock is being used, information that an exposure compensation is set, warning that the metering or setting ranges are overshot or undershot using aperture priority mode, for counting down exposure times longer than 1s, and information that the SD card memory is full |
| | LED light balance with two triangular and one circular LEDs for manual exposure control. They indicate underexposure by at least one aperture stop, underexposure by $^1/_2$ an aperture stop, Correct exposure, overexposure by $^1/_2$ an aperture stop, overexposure by at least one aperture stop |
| | Triangular LEDs indicate which way to turn shutter speed dial and aperture ring for correct exposure. Flashing LED indicates lighting conditions above or below the metering range. |
| **Exposure metering** | Heavily center-weighted TTL- metering with preset working aperture. |
| Metering range | EV0 to 20 at room temperature, f/1, and ISO 160/23°. |
| Metering cell | Silicon photo diode with collection lens, positioned at the center in the camera bottom. |

**Flash exposure control employing M-TTL technology**

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| Principle | The necessary output for a correct exposure is determined by firing a pre-flash fractions of a second before taking the actual picture |
| Flash interface | M-TTL guide number control with pre-flash when using dedicated flash unit with SCA-3502 adapter (as of version 4) or LEICA SF 24D in hot shoe |
| Flash sync speed | Fast 1/250s allows creative full-stop photography even in bright ambient light |
| Manual | Flash sync speeds up to 1/250s and B available |
| Aperture priority | Auto Slow Sync: Automatic extension of the flash sync speed range to the longest speed according to the rule of thumb 1/focal length (only available with 6-Bit coded lenses). Limits selectable down to 1/8s for available light flash photography. |
| Flash firing moment | Selectable, 1st or 2nd shutter curtain (with dedicated flash units and SCA-3502 adapter or LEICA SF 24D) |

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| Flash exposure compensation | ±3 1/3 EV in 1/3 EV steps settable on the SCA-3501/3502 adapter. On the LEICA /SF 24D ±3EV in 1/3 EV steps or 0 to –3EV in 1EV steps can be set using computer control. |

**Shutter and release**

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| Shutter | Microprocessor-controlled metal blade focal plane shutter with vertical movement. |
| Shutter speeds | In aperture priority mode (A) steplessly from 32s to 1/8000s. Using manual setting 4s to 1/8000s in half steps, B for long exposures of any duration. |
| Shutter cocking | Cocking mechanism optimized for minimal noise, motor driven with friction transmission in the high-rev 1" gear and cam disc for sustained torque throughout cocking process. |
| Shutter release button | Three steps through pressing levels: 1. Camera electronics and exposure metering on – 2. memory lock (in aperture priority mode) – 3. shutter release. Integrated standard cable release thread. |
| Power supply | 1 lithium ion battery, nominal voltage 3.7V, capacity 1900mAh. |
| Interface | 5-pin mini-USB 2.0 High-Speed socket on left side of camera for quick data transfer to computer. Software-based camera remote control possible using LEICA DIGITAL CAPTURE |

**Camera body**

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| Material | All-metal body of high-grade magnesium alloy for sustained professional use, black leatherette cladding. Top and bottom covers of milled brass, black or silver chromium plated. |
| Tripod socket | DIN4503 - A 1/4 (1/4") tapped socket in bottom cover, in line with the center of the lens. |
| Dimensions (width x depth x height) | approx. 138.6mm x 36.9mm x 80.2mm |
| Weight excl. battery | 545g |
| Scope of delivery | Camera LEICA M8 (10 701 black / 10 702 silver, carrying strap with slip-stop (14 312), camera bayonet cap (14 195), lithium ion battery (14 464), battery charger with 3 mains plug adaptors (Euro, UK, USA) and car cable (14 463), USB connection cable, software: DVD with Capture One LE, CD-ROM with LEICA DIGITAL CAPTURE and user manual in all languages as PDFs, LEICA M8 printed instructions, LEICA M8 Warranty Card |


NEW LEICA M8 DIGITAL RANGEFINDER CAMERA
BACK VIEW
CONTROL WHEEL WITH ROCKER SWITCHES ON RIGHT; FUNCTION BUTTONS TO LEFT OF LARGE 2.5INCH LCD SCREEN. MILLED BRASS BASE PLATE REMOVES FOR ACCESS TO BATTERY AND SD FLASH CARD.