



DiMAGE 7 UPGRADE SOFTWARE

9224-6766-11 H-A206

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Thank you for purchasing the Minolta DiMAGE 7 upgrade. This manual contains information specific to the upgraded model. To make full use of the camera's advanced features, read both the DiMAGE 7 manual and this upgrade manual.

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UPGRADE LIST

UPGRADED PERFORMANCE

Item	Contents		
Autofocus performance	Autofocus speed and sensitivity is increased up to approximately 1.5 times depending on the subject and focal length in use. Continuous AF performance in the movie recording mode is improved.	—	—
Image quality	Image quality in playback is improved.	—	—

Upgrade manual page
DiIMAGE 7 manual page

RECORDING MODE

Real-time histogram*	Real-time histogram is displayed by pressing the display-information button.	33	5
Quick View	Enlarged playback and scrolling between histogram displays (left/right controller keys) are added to Quick View.	34	—
File size and card capacity	Image-file size and CompactFlash card capacity is changed.	45	6
Manual exposure	Monitor image can be amplified so that image evaluation is easier in low light.	50	6
Drive modes	Drive mode remains selected when the camera is turned off and on (except for the self-timer and interval modes).	51	—
Continuous advance	The maximum rate of capture is improved. The maximum number of images that can be captured is changed.	52	7
Exposure bracketing	The exposure bracket can be adjusted between 1/2 or 1 stop increments in the basic section of the recording-mode menu.	54 80	—
Interval time-lapse movies*	A movie file can be created in the interval drive mode. The movie is played back at 4 frames per second.	56	7
UHS continuous advance*	A series of 1280 X 960 images can be captured at a rate of approximate 5 frames per second.	—	8
UHS continuous-advance movies*	A movie can be created from images captured in the UHS continuous-advance drive mode. The movie is played back at 5 frames per second.	—	8

* New feature

Item	Contents		
Camera sensitivity	Noise-reduction for bulb exposures.	61	—
Manual focus	Focus position is stored during auto power save as long as the lens zoom position is not changed.	71	—
Flash metering	Manual flash control for the built-in flash is added.	75	9
Flash compensation	Set by the Digital Effects Controller instead of the recording-mode menu.	78	9
Electronic keyboard	Characters with European accents are added.	88	10
Instant playback	Pressing the display-information button during instant playback hides the upper and lower guidance bars in the display; pressing the button again shows the bars.	89	—
Movie recording	The approximate total recording time with a 16MB CompactFlash card is 73 seconds. The capacity of other size cards changes accordingly.	91	—
Bulb exposures	The monitors will be blank for a period equal to the exposure time while noise-reduction processing is applied to the image.	92	—
Shutter-release button operation in single-frame advance.	After pressing the shutter-release button all the way down to take a picture, the focus and exposure will remain locked if the shutter button is returned to the partway down position and not released. The next picture can then be taken with the same settings.	—	—

PLAYBACK MODE

Histogram display	The left/right keys of the controller can be used to scroll between histogram displays.	94	—
Enlarged playback	Images can be magnified in 0.4X increments. Images are enlarged with the up/down key of the controller.	100	11
Compatibility with a non-upgraded model	Images captured with an upgraded model cannot be played back using a non-upgraded DiIMAGE 7.	—	—

MOVIE MODE

Item	Contents		
Night movie*	Black and white movies can be recorded under low light levels.	—	12
File format	Movie files are saved in the motion JPEG MOV format instead of the AVI format. The MOV file extension is used.	130	—

SETUP MODE

Folder organization	The standard folder names on a CompactFlash card are changed from “xxxMLT03” to “xxxMLT14”.	130	—
Date format folder*	Images can be placed in a folder indicated by the date of recording.	—	13
Display mode*	The displays controlled by the display-information button can be changed. Six displays are available.	—	14
Direct manual focus*	Manual adjustments can be made after the AF system has locked onto the subject.	—	14

* New feature

DATA-TRANSFER MODE

USB connection system requirements	Expanded to include the following operating systems: Windows XP Mac OS 9.1 - 9.2.2, Mac OS X 10.1 - 10.1.4	123	—
DiMAGE Image Viewer Utility	Images captured with upgraded model cannot be opened using the DiMAGE Image Viewer Utility ver.1.11 or earlier. Ver.1.20 or the DiMAGE Viewer can be used.	123	—

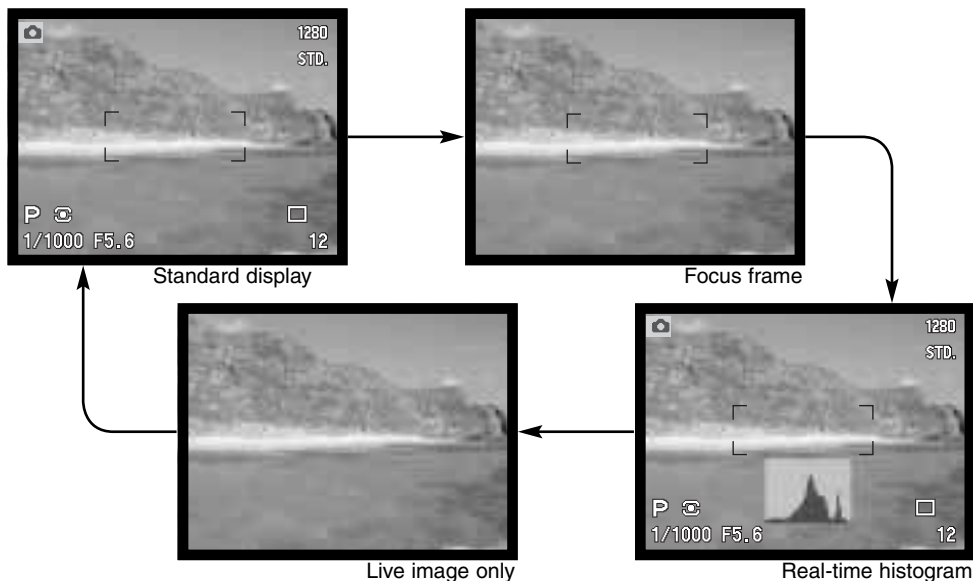
OTHERS

Scrolling on the menus	Scrolling is continuous on the menus. (ex. If down key is pressed when the lowest menu option is highlighted, the cursor moves to the top of the menu.)	—	—
PC Flash Adapter PCT-100	The camera does not need to be updated with the PC Flash Adapter CD-ROM to use this accessory.	—	—

REAL-TIME HISTOGRAM



In the center of the display switch, the display-information button controls what information is displayed with the live image. Each time the button is pressed, the display cycles to the next format: standard display, focus frame, real-time histogram, and live image only. The number of screens and their formats can be changed in the custom 1 section of the setup menu (p. 14 of this manual).



The real-time histogram shows the approximate luminance distribution of the live image. This histogram will not be accurate when the monitor image is amplified (p. 6 of this manual and p. 72 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual), or the built-in or a compatible Minolta flash unit is used. The histogram of a recorded image may not have the same distribution as the real-time histogram.

IMAGE-FILE SIZE AND COMPACTFLASH CARD CAPACITY

The number of images that can be stored on a CompactFlash card is determined by the size of the card and the file size of the images. The following chart amends the information in the DiIMAGE 7 manual.

Approximate file sizes.				
Image quality \ Image size	2560 X 1920	1600 X 1200	1280 X 960	640 X 480
RAW	9.6MB	—	—	—
Super fine	14.2MB	5.6MB	3.6MB	1.0MB
Fine	2.1MB	1.0MB	0.66MB	0.27MB
Standard	1.1MB	0.6MB	0.41MB	0.2MB
Economy	0.65MB	0.38MB	0.29MB	0.15MB
Approximate number of images that can be stored on a 16MB CompactFlash card.				
Image quality \ Image size	2560 X 1920	1600 X 1200	1280 X 960	640 X 480
RAW	1	—	—	—
Super fine	1	2	4	15
Fine	6	14	22	50
Standard	10	24	34	67
Economy	17	37	48	83

MANUAL EXPOSURE - M

If the monitor image is too dark because of the exposure setting, press the function button and display-information button (i+) at the same time to amplify the image; the M on the monitor will turn red. The AE system will maintain a bright image on the monitors, however, the image nor the real-time histogram will reflect the final exposure. Repeat the procedure to cancel the amplified display. When using the built-in flash, the monitor image is also amplified and does not reflect the ambient light exposure.

CONTINUOUS ADVANCE

The maximum rate of capture has been improved from 1.1 fps to 1.5 fps with full-size images with manual focus in manual-exposure mode.

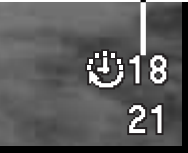
The maximum number of images that can be captured with different image-quality and image-size combinations is changed as listed below:

Image quality \ Image size	2560 X 1920	1600 X 1200	1280 X 960	640 X 480
Fine	5	8	11	25
Standard	7	12	17	34
Economy	11	18	23	42

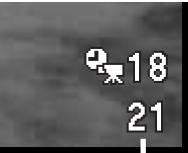
INTERVAL TIME-LAPSE MOVIES

The interval mode (page 56 of the DiMAGE 7 manual) makes a series of still or moving images over a period of time. The parameters of the interval series and the interval-mode options are set up in the custom 1 section of the recording-mode menu. Refer to page 80 of the DiMAGE 7 manual on how to use the menu. Settings for the length of each interval and the number of images in the series are the same for the movie and still-image modes.

Number of frames in the interval series



Still image - to create a series of still images specified within the parameters set on the recording-mode menu. Image size and quality can be changed.



Time-lapse movie - to create a movie specified within the parameters set on the recording-mode menu. The movie file is played back at four frames per second. Image size can be changed.

Frame counter

Time-lapse movies cannot be taken with the RAW or super fine image-quality settings. If image quality is set to RAW or super fine before selecting time-lapse movies, it is reset to standard.

When viewing time-lapse movies on a computer, the computer performance is important. On slower computers, frames may be dropped during the playback of movies recorded at 2560 X 1920 and 1600 X 1200.

UHS CONTINUOUS ADVANCE

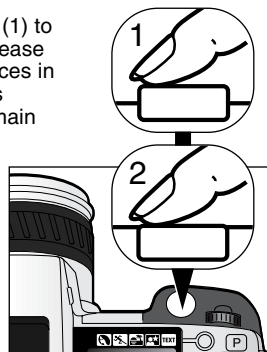
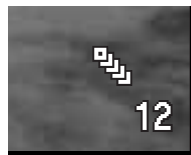
UHS continuous-advance mode allows a series of 1280 X 960 images to be captured at a rate of approximately 5 frames per second; image size is changed to 640 X 480 when the digital zoom is used. The number of images that can be captured at one time depends on the image-quality setting and the use of the digital zoom; see the attached table. This mode cannot be used with super-fine or RAW image quality, flash illumination, or Digital Subject Programs. If image quality is set to RAW or super fine before selecting the drive mode, image quality is reset to standard. Shutter speeds slower than 1/8th of a second cannot be used. If the low battery power indicator appears, the shutter cannot be released.

Image quality \ Image size	1280 X 960	640 X 480 (Digital zoom)
Fine	16	41
Standard	32	70
Economy	40	80

The UHS continuous-advance mode is set with the same procedure as the other drive mode with the function dial, function button, and control dial. Refer to page 40 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual.

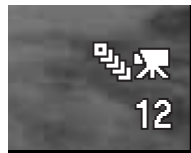
When the shutter-release button is pressed and held, the camera will begin recording images until the maximum number has been taken or the shutter button is released.

Compose the picture and press the shutter-release button partway down (1) to lock the exposure and focus for the series. Press and hold the shutter-release button all the way down (2) to begin taking pictures. Very bright light sources in the image may cause streaking. A recorded image may show black areas caused by a loss of data. After the series is captured, the monitor will remain blank while the images are saved.



UHS CONTINUOUS ADVANCE MOVIES

By turning on the UHS movie function in the custom 1 section of the recording-mode menu (page 80 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual), a separate VGA (640 X 480) movie file will be created automatically from the captured still images. When the function is active, the movie camera icon is displayed next to the UHS continuous-advance indicator on the monitors. The time required to make the movie file is approximately equal to the recording time, the monitor will be blank and the access lamp will glow during that period.



The movie file is played back at five frames per second.

FLASH METERING

Manual flash control with the built-in flash is added to flash metering. With manual flash control, the flash output can be set in three levels: full power, 1/4 power, and 1/16 power.

Manual flash is selected with the power level in the basic section of the recording-mode menu (p. 80 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual). Manual flash control is indicated on the monitors by M and the power level. Because no pre-flash is used, manual flash control can be used to fire slave flash units.



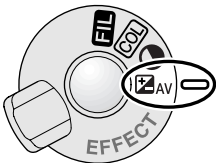
The chart lists approximate guide numbers for manual flash calculations. The following equations are useful in determining the guide number, aperture (f_n), or flash-to-subject distance required for exposure.

Guide no. (for distance in meters / feet)				
Manual flash	Camera sensitivity (ISO)			
	100	200	400	800
Full	8 / 26	11 / 36	16 / 52	22 / 72
1/4	4 / 13	5.6 / 18	8 / 26	11 / 36
1/16	2 / 6.6	2.8 / 9.2	4 / 13	5.6 / 18

Guide no. = f_n X distance

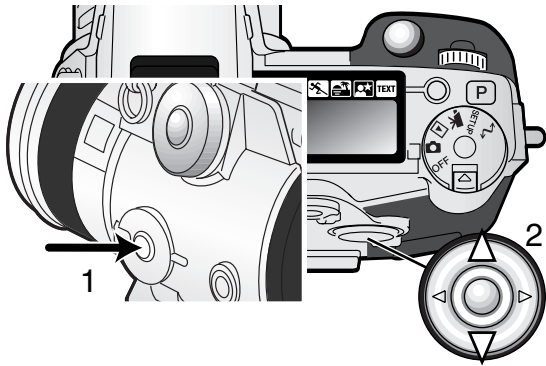
$\frac{\text{Guide no.}}{f_n} = \text{distance}$ $\frac{\text{Guide no.}}{\text{distance}} = f_n$

FLASH COMPENSATION



Flash compensation is set with the Digital Effects Controller instead of the recording-mode menu.

Set the digital-effects switch to the exposure-compensation position.

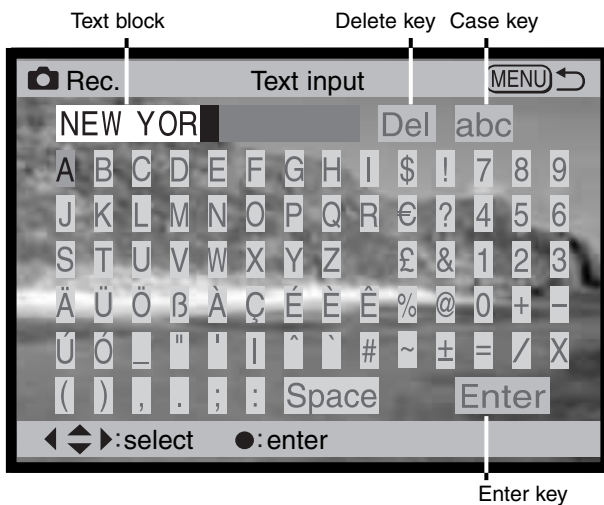


Press and hold the digital-effects button (1) in the center of the switch and adjust the flash compensation by using the up/down key of the controller (2).

Release the digital-effects button (1) to set the adjustment.

ELECTRONIC KEYBOARD

Characters with European accents are added to the keyboard and a new case key switches between upper and lower case. The electronic keyboard operation is the same as with the non-upgraded model.



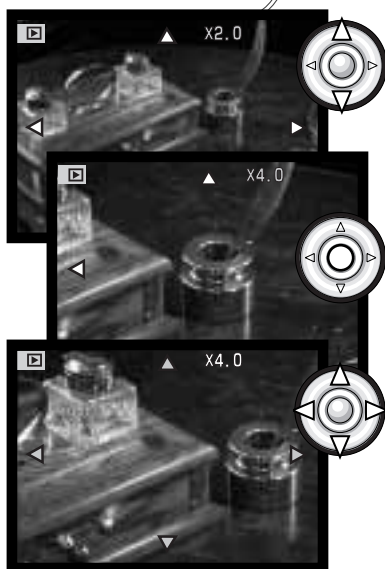
ENLARGED PLAYBACK



In single-frame playback, a still image can be enlarged for closer examination. Images can be magnified between 2.0X and 4.0X in 0.4X increments. 640 X 480 size images can only be magnified by 2.0X. RAW and super fine images cannot be enlarged.

With the image to be enlarged displayed, press the magnification button (1).

- The degree of magnification is displayed on the monitors.



Use the up/down keys of the controller to adjust the magnification.

Press the center of the controller to switch between the magnification and scroll functions.

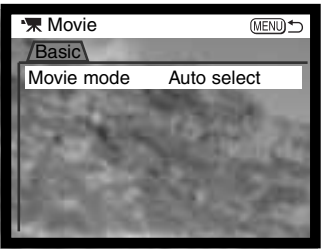
- The scroll arrows or magnification display will turn blue to indicate the active function.


When the scroll arrows are blue, use the four way key to scroll the image.

- Press the magnification button to exit the enlarged playback mode.


NIGHT MOVIE

The movie mode, standard movie, night movie, and auto select, is selected in a new movie-mode menu. The following describes how to navigate the menu.






Press the menu button to activate the menu.




Use the up/down key to highlight the option whose setting needs to be changed.




Press the right controller key to display the settings; the current setting is indicated by an arrow.

- To return to the menu options, press the left key.



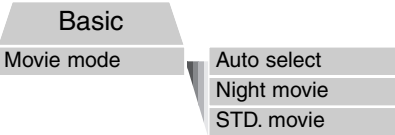
Use the up/down keys to highlight the new setting.



Press the controller to select the highlighted setting.

Once a setting is made, the cursor returns to the menu options and the new setting is displayed. To return to the movie mode, press the menu button.

The movie mode option selects the type of movie recorded. Standard movie produces a color image. Night Movie can record under low light levels and produces a black and white movie file. Auto select automatically switches between the two movie modes depending on the lighting conditions. When recording, the mode is fixed. While Night Movies can be recorded under normal conditions, bright outdoor lighting may be beyond the exposure control range.



While recording standard or night movies, “rEC” appears in the frame counter on the data panel. The countdown in seconds is only displayed on the monitors.

DATE FORMAT FOLDER

All recorded images are stored in folders on the memory card. Folder names come in two formats: standard and date. These are selected in the custom 1 section of the setup-mode menu (page 114 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual).

Standard folders have an eight character name. The initial folder is named 100MLT14. The first three digits are the folder's serial number, which will increase by one each time a new folder is created. The next three letters refer to Minolta, and the last two numbers indicate the camera used; 14 indicates an upgraded DiIMAGE 7.

A date folder name also starts with the three digit serial number and is followed by one register for the year, two register for the month, and two registers for the day: 100YMMDD. The folder 10120720 was created in 2002 on July 20th.

With the date folder format selected, when an image is recorded a new folder with the day's date will be created. All images recorded that day will be placed in that folder. Images recorded on a different day will placed in a new folder with the corresponding date. To playback the images in a different folder, that folder must be selected. When a new folder is created, the serial number in the image-file name is reset to 0001 unless file number memory is active. For more information on folder organization and file names, see page 118 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual.



100MLT14
(Standard)



10120720
(Date)

DISPLAY MODE



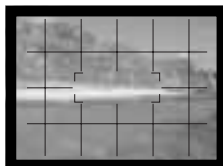
Standard display



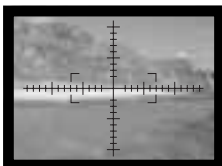
Focus frame only



Real-time histogram



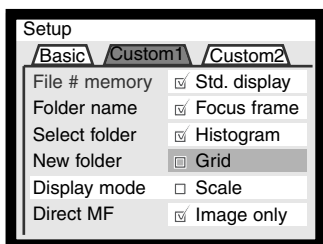
Grid



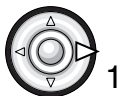
Scale



Live image only



Display-mode settings with a check mark are included in the display cycle. To change displays used, highlight the setting using the controller, and then press the right key (1) to check or uncheck the box.

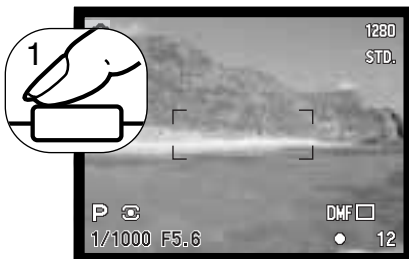


The recording mode displays activated by the display-information button (+) can be selected in the custom 1 section of the setup menu (page 114 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual). The display cycle is the same as the order shown on the menu.

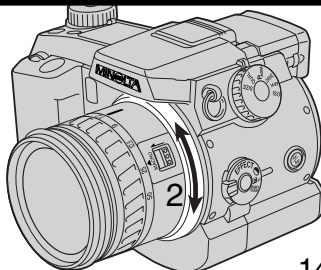
DIRECT MANUAL FOCUS

Direct manual focus allows manual adjustments to be made after the AF system has locked onto the subjects. Direct manual focus is activated in the custom 1 section of the setup menu (p. 114 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual). Direct manual focus is canceled when continuous AF or manual focus is in use.

After composing the image, press the shutter-release button partway down to lock the focus and exposure (1); the shutter speed and aperture display will turn black and the focus signal will turn white. "DMF" will be displayed next to the drive-mode indicator.



While pressing the shutter-release button partway down, the camera can be manually focused until the shutter button is released. The approximate focusing distance is displayed next to the frame counter. Electronic magnification can be used while direct manual focus is active. If AF/AE toggle is the selected setting for the AF/AE lock button operation, pressing the lock button once will lock the focus and the focusing ring can then be used without the need to continually hold the shutter-release button.



MENU LIST

	Same as the non-upgraded DiIMAGE 7
	Upgraded DiIMAGE 7 only

Recording-mode menu

(page 81 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual)

Basic	
AF mode	AF Single
	AF Continuous
Metering mode	Multi-segment
	Center weighted
	Spot
Flash mode	Fill-flash
	Red-eye
	Rear flash sync.
Flash metering	ADI flash
	Pre-flash TTL
	Full power
	1/4 power
	1/16 power
Exposure bracket	1.0, 0.5, 0.3 Ev
UHS movie	On
	Off

Custom 1	
Memory	1
	2
	3
	Store memory
Interval	1 - 10, 15, 20, 30, 45, 60 min.
Frames	2 - 99 frames
Interval mode	Still image
	Movie
AF/AEL button	AF/AE hold
	AF/AE toggle
	AE hold
	AE toggle
Magnification button	Digital zoom
	Elec. mag.

Custom 2	
Sharpness	Hard (+)
	Normal
	Soft (-)
Color mode	Color
	B&W
Data imprint	Off
	YYYY/MM/DD
	MM/DD/hr:min
	Text
	Text + ID#
Instant playback	Off / 2 sec / 10 sec

Playback-mode menu

(page 103 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual)

Same as the non-upgraded DiIMAGE 7.

Movie-mode menu

Basic	
Movie mode	Auto select Night movie STD. movie

Setup-mode menu

(page 115 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual)

Basic	
LCD brightness	1 (low) - 5 (high)
EVF brightness	1 (low) - 5 (high)
Format	Enter
Power save	1, 3, 5, or 10 min.
Beep	High tone
	Low tone
Language	Off
	English
	Deutsch
	Français
	Español

Custom 1	
File # memory	Yes / No
Folder name	Std. form
	Date form
Select folder	(Folder names)
New folder	Enter
Display mode	Std. display
	Focus frame
	Histogram
	Grid
	Scale
	Image only
Direct MF	On
	Off

Custom 2	
Reset default	Enter
EVF autoSwitch	Auto EVF/LCD
	EVF auto on
	Enter
Date/Time set	Enter
Date format	YYYY/MM/DD
	MM/DD/YYYY
	DD/MM/YYYY
Video output	NTSC / PAL

Transfer-mode menu

(page 125 of the DiIMAGE 7 manual)

Same as the non-upgraded DiIMAGE 7.