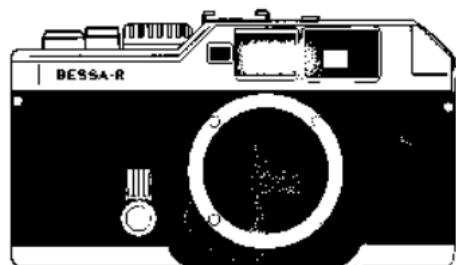


# INSTRUCTION MANUAL

*Voigtländer*  
Seit 1756

## BESSA-R

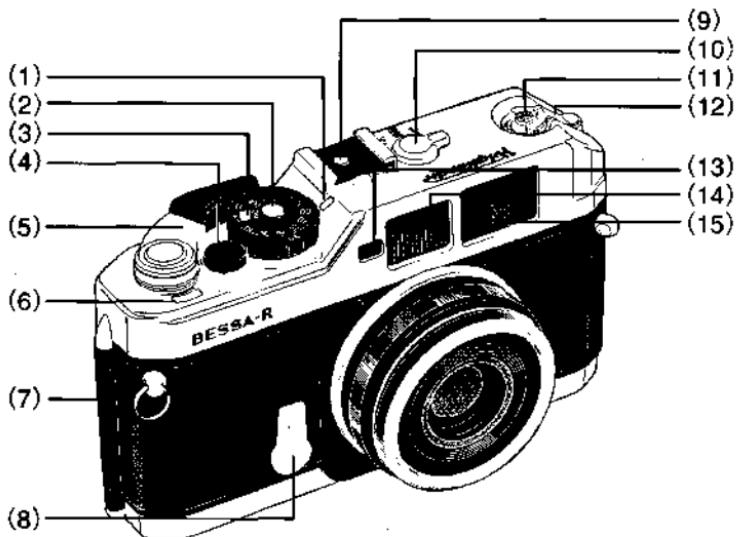


Congratulations on your selecting of Bessa camera. This is a compact and lightweight rangefinder camera with TTL exposure metering function.

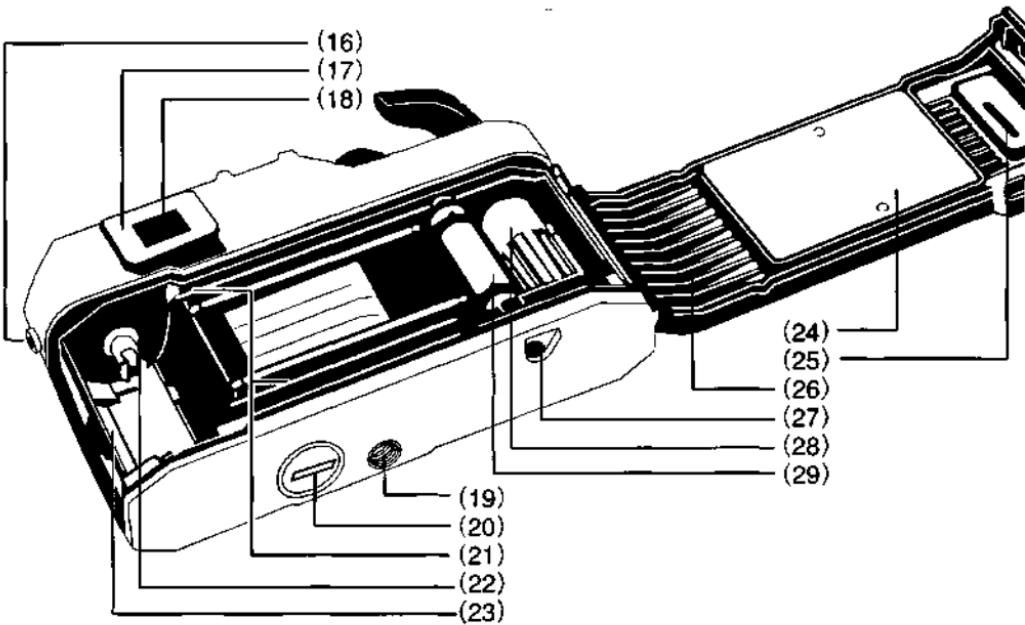
Quick and accurate focusing is possible; turn the focusing ring until the doubled images seen at the finder's center change to the single image.

# Description of Parts

- (1) Shutter Speed Index
- (2) Shutter Speed ISO/Filmspeed Set Ring
- (3) Filmspeed Window
- (4) Shutter Release Button
- (5) Film Advance Lever
- (6) Frame Counter
- (7) Neck Strap Eyelet
- (8) Self-timer Lever
- (9) Hot Shoe Contact/Accessory Shoe
- (10) Frame Selector Lever
- (11) Film Rewind Shaft
- (12) Film Rewind Crank
- (13) Rangefinder Window
- (14) Bright-line Frame Illumination window
- (15) Viewfinder Window

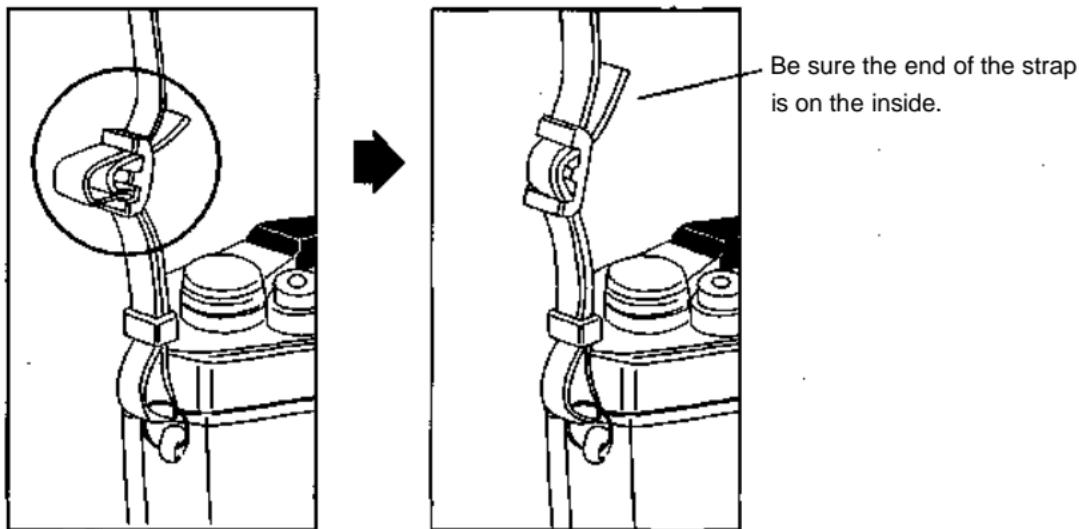


- (16) Synchro Contact
- (17) Finder Frame
- (18) Rangefinder Eyepiece
- (19) Tripod Socket
- (20) Battery Chamber Lid
- (21) Film Guide Rails
- (22) Rewind Fork
- (23) Film Cartridge  
Chamber
- (24) Film Pressure Plate
- (25) Film Cartridge  
Confirmation Window
- (26) Camera Back
- (27) Film Rewind Button
- (28) Film Take-up Spool
- (29) Film Sprockets



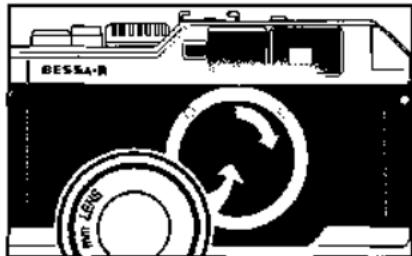
## Attaching Neck-strap

Attach the neck-strap to the camera as illustrated.



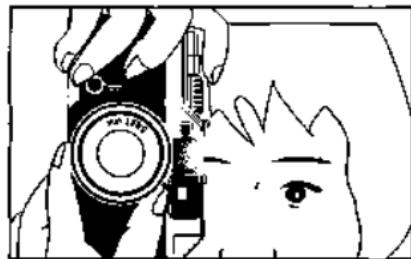
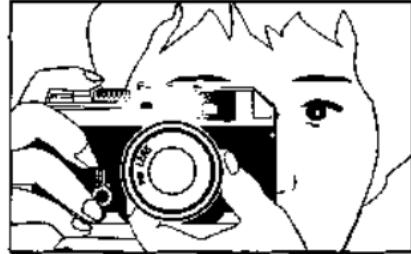
## Attaching/detaching Lens

1. Align the lens mount screw with that of the camera, then, turn the lens clockwise.
  - To detach or attach the lens from/to the camera, avoid the place under direct sunshine.
2. To detach the lens from the camera, turn the lens counter clock-wise.
  - Pay attention not to tighten the lens screw too strongly.



## Holding Camera

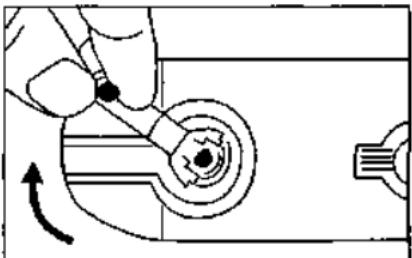
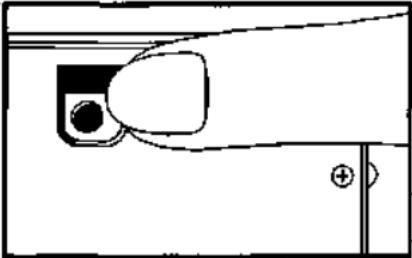
1. Hold the camera in the palm of the left hand so as to turn the lens focusing ring easily with fingers.
2. Hold the camera body lightly and place your right fore finger lightly on the shutter release button.
3. Press your left elbow lightly against your body and look through the rangefinder eyepiece to steady the camera against your face. Then relax your right arm holding the grip.



## Rewinding the Film

1. When the film is at its end, the advance lever no longer operates smoothly, check the frame counter (6) display. If the frame counter shows that all frames of the loaded film have been exposed, the film then needs to be rewound.
2. Press the film rewind button (27) on the camera base.
3. Fold out the film rewind crank (12) and turn it in the direction of the arrow.
4. Once the pressure eases, the film is completely wound into the cartridge.
5. Lift up the film rewind shaft (11) and pull it out to open the camera back (26). Now the film cartridge can be taken out.
6. Do this in a place away from direct sunlight.

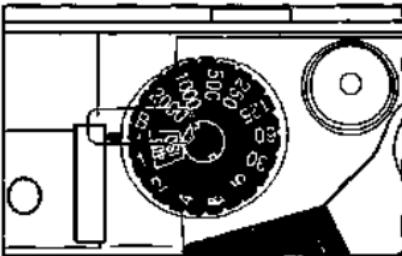
Note: If the film reaches the end of the roll during film advance, the film advance lever will lock. Rewind the entire roll, then complete the movement of the film advance lever and put it back into place.



## "B"(bulb) Setting

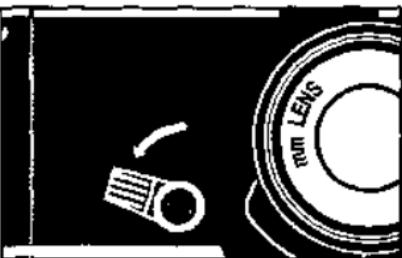
1. With the shutter speed set ring (2) set at "B" position, the shutter will remain open for as long as the shutter release button (4) is pressed.
2. This setting is useful when an exposure longer than one second is required, such as in landscape photography at night.
3. Be sure to use a tripod and/or cable release when using this long time shutter speed setting.

Note: We recommend that you remove the batteries from the camera at this setting to avoid wasting the batteries.



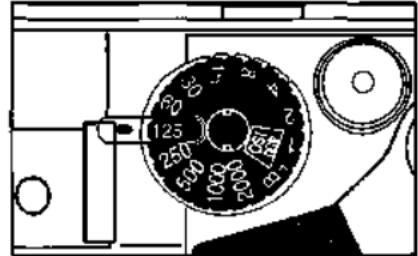
## Self-Timer

1. Wind the film advance lever (5) and fully turn down the self-timer lever (8) counterclockwise. Now the self-timer is ready to use.
2. Press the shutter release button (4) and the self-timer operates to release the shutter in approximately 10 seconds later.
3. Once the self-timer becomes ready, it is impossible to cancel it manually. So operate it only when needed.
4. The self-timer is very useful when you wish to include yourself in a picture, or you can use it in order to prevent camera shake in shutter releasing instead of using the cable release.



## Flash Photography

1. Simply fit the flash unit in the Hot Shoe (9).
2. Set the Shutter Speed Set ring (2) at 1/125 sec. or lower.
3. Set the corresponding aperture value from the Guide Number of your flash unit by operating the Aperture Ring value to use, follow the instruction given in the manual of your flash unit.



# Specifications

Type:	35mm camera with focal plane shutter and TTL metering system.
Film Format:	35mm film, 24x36mm
Lens Mount:	L-Mount
Shutter:	Vertically moving metal focal plane shutter B, 1-1/2000 sec.
Self-Timer:	Mechanical self timer with 10 sec operating time
Focusing:	Coincidence type
Exposure display:	mark LED....Over exposure warning mark LED....Good exposure indication mark LED....Under exposure warning
Exposure Metering System:	Center-weighted average metering By pressing Shutter release button
Exposure Coupling Range:	EV1-19 (ISO 100, F1.4, 1 sec.-F16, 1/2000sec.)
Flash Terminal:	X synchroic contact Synchronized at 1/125 sec or lower speed
Film Advance:	By single-lever action with 135° and 30° stand-off
Film Rewind:	By film rewind button and film rewind crank
Frame Counter:	Additive type with autoreset by opening the back cover
Film Speed Range:	ISO 25-3200 by 1/3 steps
Power Source:	Two 1.5V Alkaline batteries (LR44) or Silver batteries (SR44)
Dimensions:	135.5(W)x78.5(H)x33.5(D) mm
Weight:	395g

\* These specification and external appearance are subjected to change **for** improvement without prior notice.