Impulse Series Camera
User Guide
IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

Note: This product is listed by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL). As a condition of listing, UL requires that basic safety information be provided.

As with any battery-operated equipment, observe these basic safety precautions:

1. Follow all of these instructions.

2. Do not use the electronic flash if it has been damaged, until it has been examined at an authorized Polaroid Service Center.

3. Do not disassemble the electronic flash. To reduce the risk of an electronic shock, service or repair work must be done only by an authorized Polaroid Service Center. Incorrect reassembly can cause electrical shock when the electronic flash is used again.

4. Do not immerse the electronic flash in water or other fluids.

PLEASE KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS

Please read this book cover to cover

We recommend that you take the time to read through this entire book so you are completely familiar with your camera system. It is especially important to know how to handle Polaroid film and pictures to ensure high quality results.
# Table of Contents

Important Safeguards ........................................................................................................ 2

The camera .......................................................................................................................... 4
Impulse ................................................................................................................................. 4
Impulse AF ........................................................................................................................... 4

To take a picture .................................................................................................................. 5
Load the film ....................................................................................................................... 5
Raise the electronic flash to activate the camera ............................................................... 5
Position your subject ........................................................................................................... 5
Take a picture ..................................................................................................................... 6

Other features .................................................................................................................... 6
The lighten/darken control ................................................................................................. 6
The self-timer (Impulse AF Only) ....................................................................................... 6
Sonar focusing (Impulse AF Only) ..................................................................................... 7
Camera care ....................................................................................................................... 7
Film care ............................................................................................................................. 7
Lens care ............................................................................................................................. 7
Picture care ....................................................................................................................... 7

To take better pictures ...................................................................................................... 8

Camera accessories .......................................................................................................... 8
Camera bag ......................................................................................................................... 8
Photofile 20 ....................................................................................................................... 8

Troubleshooting ................................................................................................................. 9
Possible picture problems and their solutions ................................................................. 9

Warranty .............................................................................................................................. 11
The camera

Impulse

Front View

Back View

Impulse AF

Front View

Back View

A - Electronic flash (shown raised).
A1 - Self-timer button (Impulse AF only).
A2 - Self-timer indicator (Impulse AF only).
B - Single-element, 113mm lens (protected by a lens cover when the flash is lowered).
C - Photocell (measures light from the scene).
D - Lighten/darken control.
E - Film exit slot.
E1 - Sonar rangefinder (Impulse AF only).
F - Film shade (protects the picture from light as it exits the camera).
G - Film door.
H - Film door latch.
I - Picture counter (counts down to show how many pictures are left in the film pack).
J - Green ready light (shows the flash is ready to fire).
J1 - Flash status light (red when the flash is charging; green when flash is ready to fire; Impulse AF only).
K - Shutter button.
L - Viewfinder.
M - Tripod socket (underneath the camera).
N - Neckstrap connector.
To take a picture

Load the film

1. Push the latch forward to open the film door.

2. Hold the pack by its edges, as shown.

3. Slide it all the way into the camera.

4. Close the film door. The camera ejects the film cover.

Raise the electronic flash to activate the camera

Note: Since the electronic flash is designed to be used for every picture, indoors and outdoors, the camera will not operate until the electronic flash is raised.

1. Push the top of the electronic flash down and release it. The electronic flash will come up automatically and the lens cover will move to the side to expose the lens.

2. When the light next to the shutter button is green, the electronic flash is ready to fire.

3. When you are not using the camera, push the electronic flash down. The lens cover will move to cover the lens.

Note: As mentioned, the flash is designed for every picture – indoors and outdoors – combining with the light from the scene to provide the right lighting for the best possible picture.

Position your subject

Indoors

Your subject should be within the camera’s flash range:

- Impulse – 4 to 10 feet (1.2 to 3m)
- Impulse AF – 2 to 14 feet (.6 to 4.25m)

For best results, your subject should also be near a light-colored background.

Outdoors

Your subject should be:

- Impulse – at least 4 feet (1.2m) away
- Impulse AF – at least 2 feet (.6m) away

(Be sure there are objects in front of your subject. See Sonar focusing, page 7.)
Take the picture

1. Hold the camera as you would a pair of binoculars.
2. Frame your subject in the viewfinder.
3. Press the shutter button all the way.
4. When the light next to the shutter button is green, the electronic flash is ready to fire again. If the green light goes off and you want to take another picture, lightly touch and release the shutter button to recharge the electronic flash.

When you have finished retaking the picture, return the control to the center position (c).

Note: Pictures taken of people in highly reflective beach or snow scenes often turn out too dark. Set the control all the way to the lighten setting (a) before taking this type of picture.

The self-timer (Impulse AF only)

The self-timer lets you get into your picture. To use this feature:

1. Place the camera on a tripod or other steady support.
2. Frame your picture in the viewfinder.
3. Push the self-timer button down and release it (d).

You now have 12 seconds to get into your picture. During the first 10 seconds, you will see a flashing red light (e) on the front of the camera.

Two seconds before the camera takes the picture, the red light will stay on to remind you to hold still and smile. If you want to stop the 12-second countdown, push the self-timer button down and release (d).

Other Features

The lighten/darken control

Use the lighten/darken control when you want to retake a picture to make it lighter or darker.

To take a lighter picture, slide the control all the way to the lighten setting (a).

To take a darker picture, slide the control all the way to the darken setting (b).
Sonar focusing (Impulse AF only)

When you take a picture, your camera uses sound waves to measure the distance to your subject.

A built-in computer then uses this measurement to provide the correct lens setting.

The sound waves travel to the central part of the scene (approximate area circled in white), so be sure there are no objects in front of your subject.

Film care

For best results, use 600 color film when the temperature is between 55°F (13°C) and 95°F (13°C). At temperatures below 55°F (13°C), keep the camera and film as warm as possible. Above 95°F (13°C), keep the camera and film as cool as possible. Store the film below 75°F (24°C), if possible. In its sealed box, the film can be refrigerated (not frozen).

Picture care

During the first 60 seconds of development, handle the picture gently. Fanning or bending the picture will disturb the development process.

At temperatures below 55°F (13°C), immediately place the developing picture (being careful not to bend it) in a warm pocket for at least a minute. In hot weather, keep the developing picture cool by placing it in shade.

Lens care

Avoid touching the lens. Remove dust and fingerprints by breathing on the lens and wiping it gently with a clean, soft, facial tissue. Do not use silicone-treated eyeglass tissues.

Camera care

Keep the camera free of water and sand. Avoid storing the camera in hot places.
To take better pictures

By following these three simple rules, you will take better pictures indoors and out:

• **Include color** — Look for color when framing the scene in the viewfinder or use colorful props.

• **Move in close** — You can take the most pleasing picture of people when they are 3 to 5 feet (.9 to 1.5m) from the camera.

• **Look for light-colored backgrounds indoors** — When your subject is near a light background, both are well lit by the flash.

Camera accessories

The accessories listed add to the versatility of your camera and to your enjoyment of your photographs. For information on these and other accessories, please contact your dealer or your nearest Polaroid office.

**Camera bags**

These durable, padded nylon bags hold a camera, film, and accessories. Each has an adjustable strap.

**PhotoFile 20**

This distinctively styled photo album holds 20 photos and offers easy flip-through viewing.
## Troubleshooting

### Possible picture problems and their solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repeated spots or bar pattern</td>
<td>The developer rollers inside the film door need to be cleaned.</td>
<td>Open the film door (do not do this in direct sunlight, when there is film in the camera). Clean the developer rollers with a lint-free cloth dampened with water, if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background to dark</td>
<td>The background was either too far from the subject or beyond the flash range.</td>
<td>Be sure the lighten/darken control is in center position. Place your subject near the background and keep both within the applicable flash range.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Impulse</strong> - 4 to 10 feet (1.2 to 3m)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Impulse AF</strong> - 2 to 14 feet (.6 to 4.25m)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsharp picture</td>
<td>The subject was too close to the camera.</td>
<td>Be sure your subject is at least 4 feet (1.2m) from the camera.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Possible picture problems and their solutions (cont’d)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsharp picture (Impulse AF Camera)</td>
<td>An object in the foreground prevented the sound waves from measuring the distance to the subject. The lens focused on the object, causing the subject to be unsharp and at times too dark.</td>
<td>The sound waves travel to the central part of the scene. Be sure there are no objects in front of your subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictures too blue or too red/yellow</td>
<td>Pictures taken at temperatures below 55° F/13° C can have a blue tint. Pictures taken at temperatures above 95° F/35° C can have a red or yellow tint.</td>
<td>In cold weather (below 55° F/13° C), keep the developing picture warm by placing it inside your pocket. In hot weather, keep the developing picture cool by placing it in shade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject too dark</td>
<td>The camera’s photocell measured the bright window light, causing the subject to be too dark.</td>
<td>Reposition your subject away from the bright background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When a bright source of light (lamplight, candlelight, etc.) is in the central part of the scene and in front of the subject, the camera’s photocell will measure the bright light, causing the subject to be too dark.</td>
<td>Move the source of light to one side of your subject so it is not part of the scene.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Featherlike pattern</td>
<td>When you fan or bend a developing picture, it disturbs the development process.</td>
<td>Handle the picture gently, by its wide white border, during the first 60 seconds of development.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Full one-year warranty**

**U.S. and Canada**

If your camera proves to be defective within the warranty period, we will, without charge, either repair it or, at our option replace it with a fully reconditioned or new camera.

The warranty period is one year from the original date of purchase. To verify the warranty period, you should keep the sales slip or other proof of the purchase date. Without this information, the warranty will be determined by the manufacturing date on the camera.

The repair or replacement of your camera is guaranteed for the remaining warranty period on your original camera.

The warranty does not cover damage caused by accident, misuse or tampering with the camera and a charge will be made for such repairs.

For warranty service or information, call our toll-free number listed below. If your camera is not working, our representatives will verify the problem and can ship a replacement camera to you quickly (within approximately two or three Polaroid business days in the U.S.).

**U.S. only:** This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights, which vary from state to state. This warranty excludes all consequential damages. Some states do not allow the exclusion of consequential damages, so the foregoing exclusion may not apply to you.

**Canada only:** The warranty and provisions do not affect your statutory rights.

For more information: From within the U.S., please call us toll-free at 1-800-343-5000, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 8 pm (Eastern time).

In Canada, call toll-free: 1-800-268-6970; in Toronto, call 675-3680.

**Americas Business Center**

If you have any questions about your camera or pictures, you believe your camera needs repair, or you need additional information, call us toll-free: 1-800-343-5000 from anywhere in the U.S.

Our representatives can be reached every weekday from 8 am to 8 pm, Eastern time. In Canada, call toll-free: 1 800-268-6970. In Toronto, call 675-3680.

Or, if you prefer, write to us. The address is: Americas Business Center, 201 Burlington Rd., Bedford, Massachusetts 01730. Please include a sample picture of the problem you are having with your camera.

Polaroid instant color film is sold in the U.S., Canada, and Latin America. Before traveling to countries outside the U.S. and Canada, call us toll-free to learn where film for your camera is being sold.