



# Camera Inspection Checklist

## External Inspection

### Cameras

- ☐ Check all of the surfaces. Look for dents and major dings.
- ☐ Check the leatherette (if it has it), make sure it is not peeling from the body. Is it dry? Are the grips ok?
- ☐ Is everything secure? No loose fittings?
- ☐ Sniff test. Does it smell smoky or moldy?
- ☐ Make sure serial numbers match any accompanying documentation.

### Lenses

- ☐ Check the barrel, is it marked? Heavily? Signs of being dropped? If so, walk away.
- ☐ How is the focus? Too tight? Too loose?
- ☐ Aperture. Is it snappy? Or loose and wiggly?
- ☐ Check the mount. Are there signs of oil? If there are you might have an issue.

## Internal Inspection

### Cameras

- ☐ Fire the shutter. How does it sound? If the camera has a motor then check if it sounds strained or tired.
- ☐ Check the film advance. How smooth is it? If it is auto then listen to it carefully. Listen for clicking or sounds of strain. \*If possible load a roll of film to check the takeup gears and alignment.
- ☐ How are the speeds? Check the 1 sec. against your watch.
- ☐ Fire the shutter at different speeds with the back open. Look out for shutter capping.
- ☐ For rangefinder cameras check the rangefinder alignment with the lens. Check against text or graphics.
- ☐ Open the camera. Check the light seals. Check the internals for dust or damage.
- ☐ With bellows or cloth shutters, check for holes with your phone torch.
- ☐ If applicable, check battery compartment for corrosion.

### Lenses

- ☐ Check the inside of the lens with your phone torch for dust and mould. Slight dust is OK, mold is not OK.
- ☐ Check the aperture. Is there oil on the blades? This could be a bigger issue.
- ☐ Is there clouding? Don't mistake a bit of dirt for clouding. Clean the lens carefully and check.
- ☐ Mount the lens to a camera and make sure the mount is tight.

### Final Note

- ☐ **Follow your head, not your heart**