

# polaroid



## Polaroid Mod Instant Camera

User Manual

# Polaroid Mod Instant Camera



## Camera Functions

- A** Flash
- B** Camera Lens
- C** Shutter Button
- D** Self-timer LED
- E** Light Meter
- F** Film Shield
- G** Mode Dial
- H** Brightness Dial
- I** Film Door Button
- J** Flash ON|OFF
- K** Film Counter LED
- L** Self-timer
- M** Viewfinder
- N** Strap attachment points

## Film Counter Display

- Unlit → Camera is off
- 0 → No film
- 1-8 → Photos remaining
- → Darkslide is inside
- 1 → Exposure 1 of Double Exposure
- 2 → Exposure 2 of Double Exposure
- door → Film door open
- L → Lens select failure
- c → Object too close
- b → Battery Low (flashing 5x)
- Brighter +½ EV
- Neutral
- Darker -½ EV

# Getting Started

## 1. Open the Polaroid Mod box and check that you have everything you need:

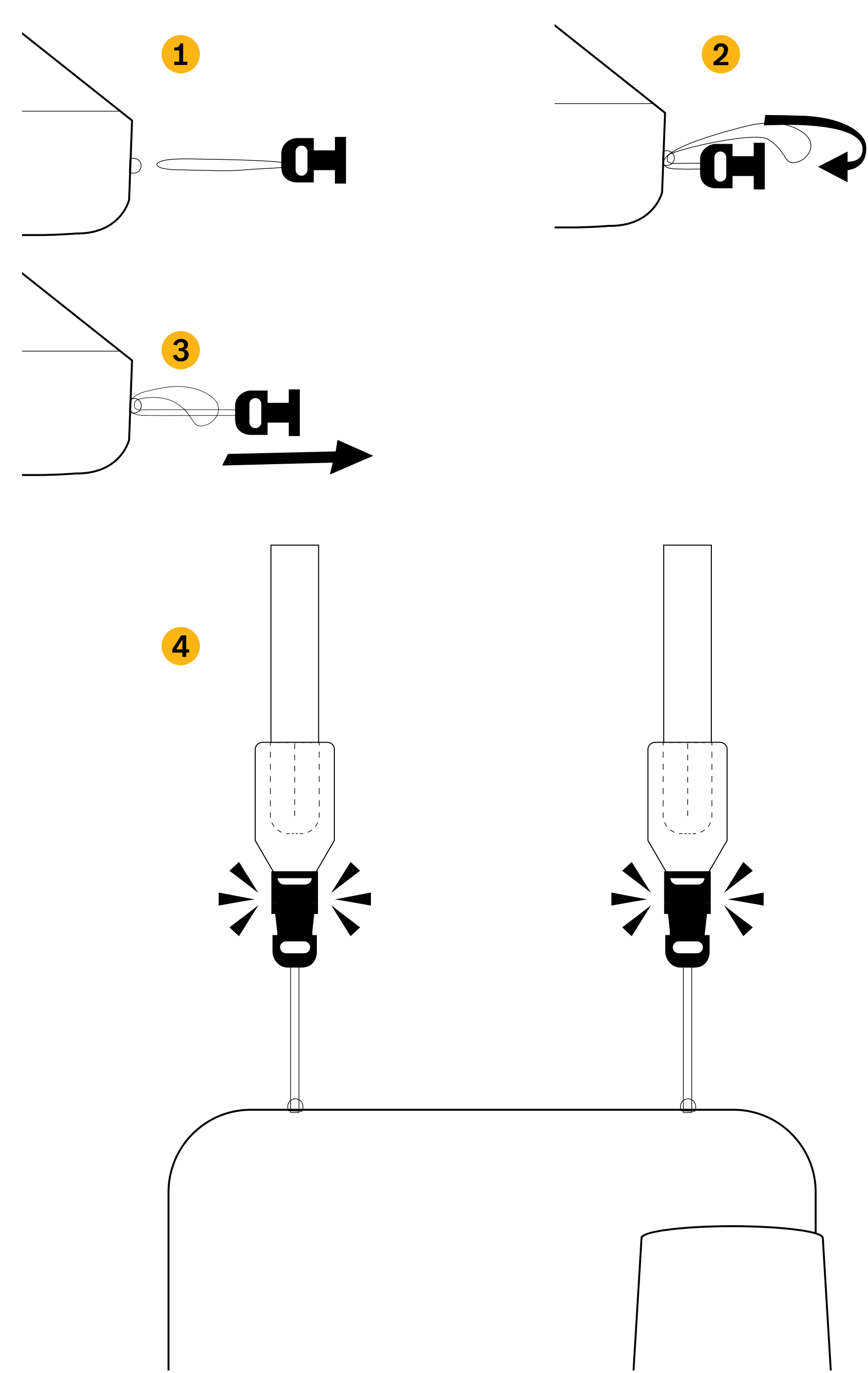
- Polaroid Mod Camera
- Quick Start Guide
- Camera Neck Strap
- Split Filter Accessory
- Safety & Compliance booklet

## 2. Charge your camera

For safe transportation, the Polaroid Mod won't be fully charged when you receive it. To charge it, use any standard USB-C charger (5V/1A). We don't recommend charging via a laptop. The battery level indicator LED will blink while the camera is plugged in and charging. It will turn off once the camera is fully charged.

A full charge usually takes about 2 hours through a wall socket with a USB power adapter. A fully-charged Polaroid Mod will have enough power to shoot 15 packs of film, depending on usage. Remember to turn off the Polaroid Mod after use to save battery life.

## 3. Attach your neck strap



## 4. Find your instant film

The Polaroid Mod uses i-Type and 600 instant film. Get that iconic Polaroid frame in color, black and white, or with our special edition frames. [Find your next film here](#). Then you're ready to take your first Polaroid photograph.

# How To Take Your First Photo

## 1. Turn Mode Dial to auto

The film counter display will show the number '0' because there is currently no film in the camera.

## 2. Insert your film pack

Push the film door button to open the film door, then insert the film pack into film chamber of your camera. Push the film pack all the way in with the darkslide facing up and the tab facing toward you. Close the film door. The darkslide will eject. Remove the darkslide and allow the film shield to roll back in. This shield is designed to protect images from light as they develop, so don't remove it. If the darkslide has not ejected, remove the film pack and re-insert it to make sure it is pushed all the way into the back of the camera.

We recommend using i-Type film as the camera is optimized for use with this particular film.

To make sure the camera always displays the right film count, always finish the film pack before inserting a new one. If you decide to switch packs anyway, be aware that one photo will be wasted as it will be exposed to light. That's why every pack has a darkslide.

## 3. Set the flash mode

In any situation where you are not shooting in bright, direct sunlight, we recommend using the flash to achieve the best shots. That's why the flash will trigger by default every time you use the Polaroid Mod.

Shooting without the flash can give you some beautiful results as well, but remember you need another source of light to make sure your photo will turn out. To shoot without the flash, press the flash button on the back panel once. After taking the photo the flash will be reenabled. To disable the flash until you power off the camera, double press the flash button.

## 4. Position yourself

Make sure you are at least 55cm (1.8ft) away from your subject.

## 5. Aim at your subject

The Polaroid Mod uses a viewfinder located on the left side of the lens barrel. To aim at your subject, simply align your eye with the viewfinder barrel and use the image you see to compose your shot.

6. Press the shutter button

Press the shutter button to take your photo. The photo will be ejected from the slot at the front of the camera as soon as you let go of the shutter button. You will see that the photo will be covered with a film shield to protect it from light.

7. Remove the photo

Gently lift the film shield so it rolls back into the camera. Remove the photo and place it face down to continue shielding it from light as it develops. Don’t shake it! Check the back of your film packet for the correct developing times.

8. Turn Mode Dial to off

To turn off the Polaroid Mod.

Tips for Making Great Photos

Natural light

Light is your best friend when it comes to instant photograph, so we recommend to always use the flash. However, on a sunny day outdoors, you don’t need to use your flash at all. Make sure not to shoot towards the sun, shoot with the sun behind you instead, facing your subject directly or side-on, to give you a bright and clear picture without shadow on your subject. For the best results without the flash, the most important thing to remember is to keep your camera as steady as possible. For example, by holding your camera with both hands and putting your elbows on a table.

Framing

Be aware that your photo will not exactly reflect what you see through the viewfinder. For subjects closer than 1.2m (3.93ft) you should adjust your aim slightly up and to the left.

Composition

It’s possible to change the photo composition after focusing on your subject. The shutter button has two positions. First half-press the shutter button, then change the composition and fully press to take the photo.

Special Features

Self-Timer

Get yourself in the photograph with the self-timer. Tap the self-timer button once. The LED will light up orange, indicating that the self-timer is activated. Once you have framed your photo, press the shutter button. The orange LED will blink to indicate the self-timer countdown. You have 9 seconds before the photo is taken. To make self-timer photos without flash, first activate the self-timer, then press the flash button. If you change your mind, you can cancel the self-timer by pressing the self-timer button again.

Brightness Dial

Fine-tune the feel of every shot with the Brightness Dial. Adjust exposure to shape mood, add atmosphere, and give your images the look you want.

Double Exposure

Blend two shots into one image for artistic overlays.

The display will show "1." to take the first shot and "2." to take the second.

TIP: Keep your first shot darker to allow layering. Use contrasting subjects.

Motion Freeze

Capture movement by recording motion first and flashing at the end of the exposure.

Compose your shots in a relatively dark environment - great for night scenes, parties, etc.

TIP: Contrasting lights enhance the effect.

Light Painting

Use long exposure to capture light movements.

Move a sparkler, or another light source through the frame to create trails and shapes.

TIP: Keeping the camera still is key. Use a tripod or steady surface for extra help.

Split Shot

Attach the Split shot accessory. Divide your image into two halves and capture both in one frame.

The display will show "1." to take the first shot. Rotate the accessory 180° and take the second shot "2.".

TIP: Think about how the two halves will meet. Try pairing contrasting subjects.

Flash

Double tap to disable flash until the camera is powered off.

Charging

Above the USB-C slot sits the battery level indicator LED.

Battery Level Indicator LED

|          |                                              |
|----------|----------------------------------------------|
| No Light | → Camera is off                              |
| Green    | → Charged (Enough for 15 packs of film)      |
| Orange   | → Medium battery (Enough for 1 pack of film) |
| Red      | → Low battery                                |

To charge the camera, insert a charging cable into the USB-C slot. Once you do that, the LED light will let you know how much charge you have remaining.

**Battery Level Indicator LED (While plugged in)**

- No Light** → Camera is fully charged
- Green** → Charging, battery almost full
- Orange** → Charging, battery is half full
- Red** → Charging, battery is low

**Cleaning**

To clean the lens, use a microfiber cloth designed for that purpose. This will ensure that you do not scratch the lens or leave behind any strands that may impact the quality of your photos.

Spotted marks on your photographs?  
Dirty rollers could be one of the reasons.  
When you take a Polaroid photograph, the film goes through two metal rollers. This is where the developer paste is spread between the negative and positive components of the photo before it exits through the film door.  
If these rollers are dirty or just a little uneven, the chemistry will not spread evenly across the photograph and you get small marks. To clean the rollers, open the film door compartment of the camera (the film can remain in the camera while cleaning) and grab a soft, damp cloth. Rotate the rollers by turning the black plastic gear on the bottom left and wipe the cloth across the rollers as they move. Make sure the rollers are dry before you use your camera again. We recommend that you check the rollers between every pack of film, and clean them every 2-3 packs even if they look perfectly clean.

**Troubleshooting**

**1. My Polaroid Mod won’t eject my photo or darkslide.**

Make sure your Polaroid Mod camera is charged. The camera’s battery level indicator LED will blink red if it doesn’t have enough charge to operate. If this is the case, you should recharge your camera then try again.

**2. The flash doesn’t fire when I take a photo.**

The Polaroid Mod automatically turns the flash on when you power on the camera.  
If it’s not firing, press the flash button once until you see the lightning bolt illuminate. When taking photos make sure you don’t accidentally press the flash button.

**3. My photo turned out too dark.**

Polaroid cameras love light, so the more light you have the better.  
Make sure you are not shooting towards the sun. When shooting towards sunlight, the excessive light may cause the camera to overcompensate when exposing the image, creating an image that is too dark to expose your subject properly. If you’re taking photos inside and you don’t want to use the flash, make sure you find another light source – or use the flash. The flash is also useful at night-time, dusk, and cloudy days.

**4. My photo turned out blurry or fuzzy.**

Make sure you are at least 55cm (1.8ft) away from your subject. When shooting, make sure you hold the camera steady, especially in low light conditions, and have a strong light source to illuminate your subject.

**5. The film counter display shows the wrong number.**

The display resets to ‘8’ every time a cassette is inserted. If a part-used cassette is inserted, the camera will display ‘8’ and countdown as each photo is taken. When you next insert a full film pack, the counter will correctly show 8 remaining photos.

**6. I took the first shot of a double exposure photo, but I changed my mind.**

Switch off your camera, press and hold down the shutter button. Switch on the camera again and the film count will display “-”. Continue to hold the shutter button for over 10 seconds until the film is ejected.

**Can’t find what you’re looking for?**  
**Browse our frequently asked questions.**

# Customer Support

We’re here to help.  
Get in touch using the details below.

**USA/Canada**  
usa@polaroid.com  
+1 212 219 3254

**Europe/Rest of World**  
service@polaroid.com  
00 800 577 01500

**Polaroid International B.V.**  
1013AP Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

For more detailed and up-to-date information, visit  
polaroid.com/help

# Warranty

You can find the warranty for the Polaroid Mod here:  
polaroid.com/warranty

# Technical Specifications

**General**  
Dimensions  
162mm (L) ×111mm (W) ×98mm (H)

**Weight**  
520 grams (without film pack)

**Operating Temperature**  
40–108°F / 4–42°C, 5–90% relative humidity

**Compatible Film**  
Polaroid i-Type and 600 film in both color and black & white, including special editions.

**Battery**  
High performance lithium-ion battery, 750mAh, 3.7V nominal voltage, 2.775Wh

# Materials

**Outer shells**  
Polycarbonate + ABS plastics

**Lens**  
Optical grade polycarbonate lens, coated

**Shutter system**  
Custom design using precision step motor

# Optical System

**Lens**  
Fixed focus lens

**Focal length**  
Standard lens: 103 mm  
Portrait lens: 95 mm

**Field of view**  
41° vertical, 40° horizontal

**Flash System**  
Vacuum discharge tube strobe

Safety Information

Caution Risk of electric shock – Do not open/ Disassemble the motorized roller system

- Do not disassemble the device unless following authorized repairs guides published by Polaroid or authorized service providers using the recommended tools. The device can lose functionality if not fully disassembled and reassembled in accordance with these guidelines.
- Do not immerse the device in water or other fluids.
- Do not operate the device in a high humidity environment or very dusty environments.
- Do not attempt to tamper with, adjust or remove the battery unless taking the precautions in authorized repair guides.
- Do not attempt to remove the door itself as it is connected electronically to the body of the device. Doing so is unsafe, will likely damage your device, and will void your warranty.
- Do not insert metal objects into the device.
- Do not insert any objects into the rollers or gears.
- Keep small children and infants away from device to avoid them being injured by the device’s moving parts.
- Do not use or store the device near any heat source or any type of equipment that generates heat, including stereo amplifiers.
- Do not use the device near flammable or explosive gases.
- Do not charge the device if you notice any unusual odors, noise or smoke.
- Do not attempt to disassemble the film’s battery or modify it in any way (if using 600-type film). If battery fluid gets in your eyes, immediately rinse your eyes with fresh, cold running water and seek medical attention immediately.
- Do not cover the flash.

Battery and Charger

- This device uses a custom lithium-ion battery that is mounted inside the camera body and is user serviceable. Battery replacement can be done by authorized service providers or by following the repair guides published by Polaroid using genuine Polaroid replacement parts sold by authorized repair providers. The battery will provide many years of service if properly used.
- Power consumption varies depending on the environment the device is used in and how the device has been stored. Used immediately after full charge, the battery will power the processing of up to 15 film packs.
- Once the battery energy level falls below a certain level, the device will no longer process film. The LED will blink and signal when it needs to be recharged. This is to avoid a photo getting stuck as it is being processed through the roller system.
- The rechargeable battery is not fully charged at the time of purchase. Charge the battery fully with a USB-C charging cable. This usually takes 1-2 hours (can vary depending on usage).
- Cameras have been tested to work with standard mobile phone power adapters. While it can be charged with other adapters e.g. computer power adapters, TVs, cars etc., correct operation cannot be guaranteed.
- When the device is no longer in use, please recycle it properly.

Usage Environment

- To protect the high-precision technology contained in this device, never leave the camera in the following environments for extended periods of time: high temperature (+42°C/108°F), high humidity, places with extreme changes in temperature (hot and cold), direct sunlight, sandy or dusty environments such as beaches, damp places, or places with strong vibrations.
- Do not drop the device or subject it to severe shocks or vibrations.
- Do not push, pull or press on the lens surface.

Compliance

Important directions for using Lithium–Ion Batteries

1. Do not throw into fire.
2. Do not short circuit.
3. Do not disassemble.
4. Do not continue to use when damaged.
5. Dispose correctly after use.
6. Keep away from water.
7. Do not charge when the temperature is below freezing.

EU Declaration of Conformity

Hereby, Polaroid International B.V. declares that the Polaroid Mod analog instant camera is in compliance with the essential requirements of the Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (2014/30/EU), Low Voltage Directive (2014/35/EU) and RoHs Directive (2011/65/EU) and other relevant provisions, when used for its intended purpose.

FCC Compliance Statement

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Caution

The user is cautioned that changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user’s authority to operate the equipment. This equipment must not be co-located or operated in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.

Note

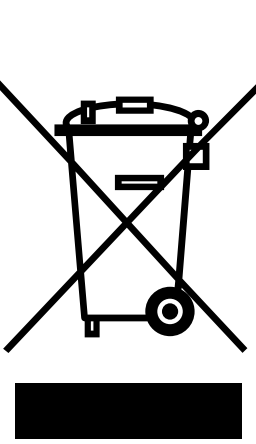
This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help
- This equipment complies with FCC radiation exposure limits set forth for an uncontrolled environment. End user must follow the specific operating instructions for satisfying RF exposure compliance.

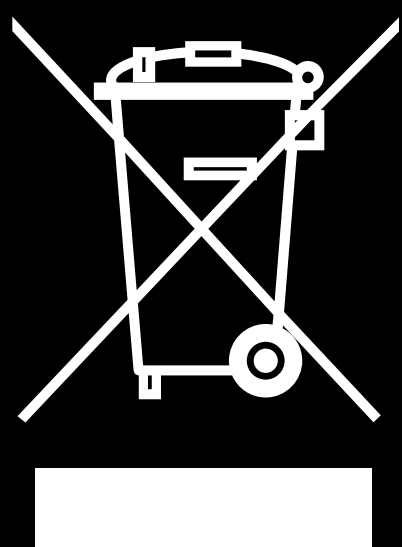
Industry Canada (IC)

CAN ICES-003(B)/NMB-003(B)

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rule and Industry Canada license–exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.



This symbol means that according to local laws and regulations your product should be disposed of separately from household waste. When this product reaches its end of life, take it to a collection point designated by local authorities. Some collection points accept products for free. The separate collection and recycling of your product at the time of disposal will help conserve natural resources and ensure that it is recycled in a manner that protects human health and the environment.



End of life disposal warning: When the product has come to the end of life, dispose of it in accordance with local regulations. This product is subject to the EU directive 202/96/EC on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and should not be disposed as unsorted municipal waste.

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