

Bulk Film Loading: Intro

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Bulk Film Loading

Bulk film loading is easier than you might think. Just make sure you have all the materials you need ready to go before you start. Also, pay attention to the way things need to be assembled. This can mean the success or failure of your final roll.



Precautions

As with all undeveloped film, it is imperative that you take the necessary precautions not to expose more film than is needed to assemble the cassettes. Also keep in mind that the film needs to be warmed up before use in the camera, so don't expect to roll the film and be able to snap pictures right away. Expect to roll the film and let it sit out for a few hours before using it. Conversely, don't forget to put the Bulk Film Loader back into the refrigerator after using it. This will help to maintain a longer film shelf life.



Bulk Film Loading: Materials Needed

Materials Needed:

- Tape
- Scissors
- Bulk Loading Cassette(s),
labeled correctly,
unassembled
- Bulk Film Loader
- Empty film canister(s) and lid(s)



NOTE:

The spindle inside of the loading cassette might still have a tag of film attached to it. This can be removed from the spindle and discarded.

To Unassemble the Cassette:

1. Hold the cassette in the palm of your hand, post side towards the floor.
2. Push up on the post with your thumb and pop the lid off the other end. Be careful not to let the lid go flying off!



Bulk Film Loading: Preparing the Cassette

Lay Out All Pieces on the Table

1. Make sure the cassette case is laying so that the flat part is on top. HINT: Run your finger from the top of the case toward the table. If your finger hits a groove, try the other side. Your finger should slide smoothly off the lip.
2. Set the spindle on the table so that the post is on the left and the flat part is on the right.



Open Bulk Film Loader

1. Move latch on left side towards you.
2. Open the lid by applying upwards pressure with your index finger to semi-circular lip of the lid.
3. Pull the lid off of the loader and set it to the side.



Bulk Film Loading: Preparing the Cassette

(continued...)

Assemble the Cassette

1. Pull about a 1.5 inch tab of film out of the Bulk Film Loader.
2. Making sure the spindle post is still on the left, take a 0.5 inch-2.0 inch piece of tape and secure the film tab around the spindle.
3. Pick up the empty cassette case so that the flat part is still on top. Slide the post end of the spindle into the cassette, fitting the film into the lip.



Replace the End Cap (on the Cassette in the Loader)

1. Squeeze the cassette together with your thumb and middle fingers. HINT: This will make the case smaller so you can slide the cap on easier.
2. Fit the indented side of the cap over the end of the cassette. This can be a little tricky at first. The cap lid should be seated solidly around the cassette.



Bulk Film Loading: Inserting the Cassette

Insert the Cassette

1. Slide the right handle (rolling handle) on the bulk loader out.
2. Pull the handle on the left (stabilizing handle) out and hold it with your left hand. With your right hand, slide the post side of the cassette between the pegs of the stabilizing handle. Release the stabilizing handle, making sure that the post is seated inside the yellow posts.
3. Push the rolling handle in so it is firmly in place. It should slide into the hole at the end of the cassette's flat end.
4. Turn the rolling handle just a little to make sure the film is taught.
5. Replace the lid of the bulk film loader. Make sure the latch on the left is in place.



Bulk Film Loading: Rolling the film

Rolling the Film

1. Set the counting dial on the left side of the bulk film loader to "0".
2. Hold the round end of the bulk film loader against your stomach to stabilize it. Wrap your left thumb around the lid of the loader to make sure it doesn't pop off. Wrap your left hand index finger around the top of the loader, holding the stabilizing handle firmly in place. Arc your hand so that the counting dial is free to move. Place the rest of your left hand fingers along the bottom of the loader.
3. Turn the rolling handle away from you to start the film rolling. Each time you hear a "click", a frame has passed. Count the clicks until you have reached the total number of frames desired for that roll. (i.e.- if you want a 36 exp. roll of film, count 36 clicks.) If you get lost, look at the counting dial on the left side of the loader. The dial will keep track of total frames for you.
4. When you have reached the total amount of exposures desired, add 4 frames (clicks) at the end. This makes up for the exposed film at either end.



Bulk Film Loading: Finishing Up

Finishing

1. Remove the bulk loader lid.



2. Pull the rolling handle out to release the right side of the cassette.



3. Pull the stabilizing handle out to release the left side of the cassette.



4. Remove the cassette from the loader and release the stabilizing handle.



Bulk Film Loading: Finishing Up

(Continued...)

Finishing

5. Pull the film cassette away from the bulk loader about 2 inches, pulling the extra film with it.



6. Cut the excess film, making sure to cut between the holes on either side. Set the freed cassette on the table and replace the lid of the bulk film loader. Set the bulk film loader aside.



8. With the smooth part of the film cassette still on top, cut a "notch" starting on the left side of the film tag. See photo for what this should look like.



9. Wrap the tail of film around the cassette and tuck it into the canister.

10. Don't forget to put the bulk film loader back into the refrigerator!

