

# WILSONWERKS ARCHIVES

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The Minolta Maxxum System is designed and produced to offer innovative functions and performance through the combination of Minolta Maxxum camera bodies, Maxxum AF lenses, Maxxum Flash Units and other accessories distributed by Minolta. We thus caution users that the attachment or use of incompatible lenses, flashes, or accessories may result in unsatisfactory performance or damage to the Minolta Maxxum cameras or their system accessories. For optimum performance throughout the life of the Minolta Maxxum cameras and their accessories and to obtain the benefits of future Minolta Maxxum system products, we recommend use only of lenses, flashes and other accessories distributed by Minolta for Minolta Maxxum cameras.



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**500  
si**



MINOLTA

**NEW  
MAXXUM  
500si**

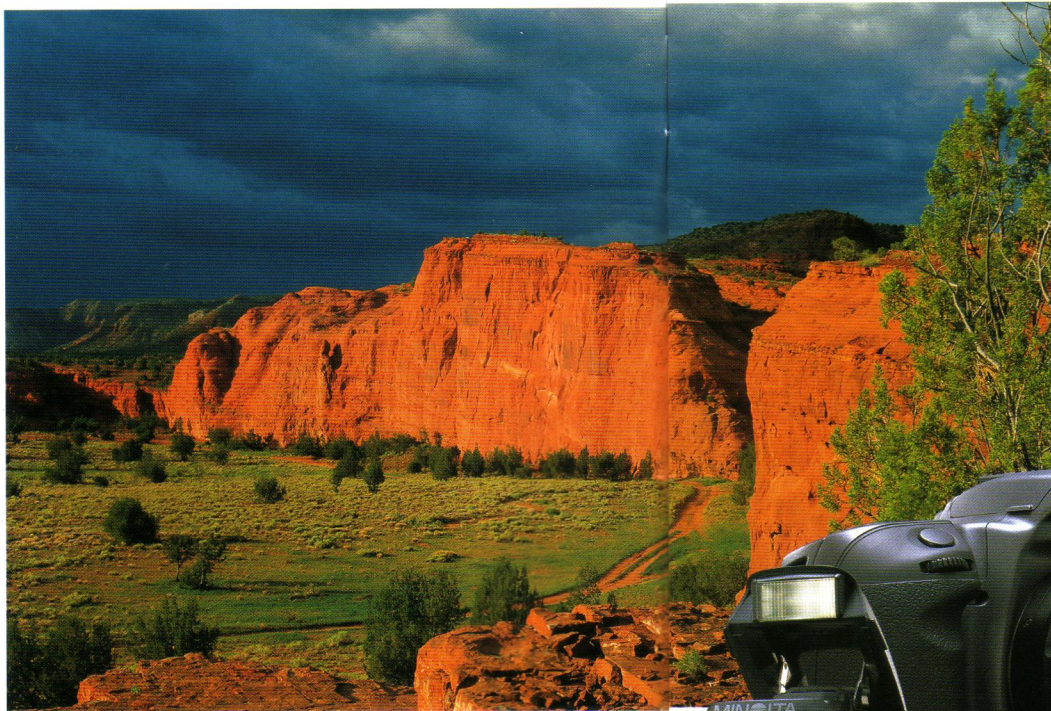
*The ideal introduction  
to creative AF SLR  
photography.*



ONLY FROM THE MIND OF MINOLTA  
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**SIMPLE ENOUGH FOR AN AMATEUR,  
THE MAXXUM 500si WILL ALSO  
MATCH WITS WITH A PRO.**



*Now, creating a great image has nothing to do with luck, thanks to the simplicity and sophistication of Minolta's Maxxum 500si. If that sounds like a paradox, consider this. The Maxxum 500si is loaded with the latest state-of-the-art features that can measure and accommodate for myriad variables of exposure and focus. And yet, all these features have been combined in a new whisper-quiet package so uncomplicated a complete novice can capture images of startling precision and proficiency. And, as the Maxxum 500si comes so wholly-equipped a photographer can actually develop and expand his talent, one can only imagine what it is capable of in the hands of expert.*



**NEW  
MAXXUM  
500si**



## Whether You're A Beginner Or Experienced, The Maxxum 500si Can Make You A More Creative Photographer.



*The beauty of the Maxxum 500si is the three-way camera control it gives you. Because this camera can be operated easily by beginners, yet at the same time it can meet the demands of experienced photographers. You can select the kind of operation you want simply by moving the Three-Way Selector with your thumb. Take your choice of Full Programmed Auto Operation, Subject Program Selection and Creative Exposure Selection.*

### **P** Full Programed Auto Operation

*The Maxxum 500si makes taking precisely-exposed pictures a snap. Just press the P-Button, point and shoot, The camera takes care of the rest automatically.*



### **Subject Program Selection**

*With this mode, you can select the setting that lets you photograph the effects that best suit a particular kind of scene. Choose Landscape, Portrait, Sports Action, Night-Portrait or Close-Up Mode.*

### **AS<sup>M</sup>** Creative Exposure Selection

*This mode gives you full creative control and expression by using the effects of aperture or shutter speed. Just set the camera to your choice of Aperture Priority, Shutter Priority or Manual Mode.*



# Full Programmed Auto Operation



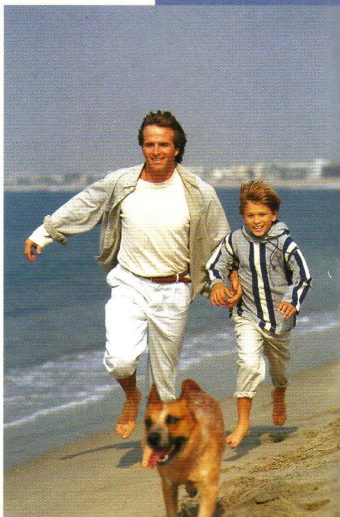
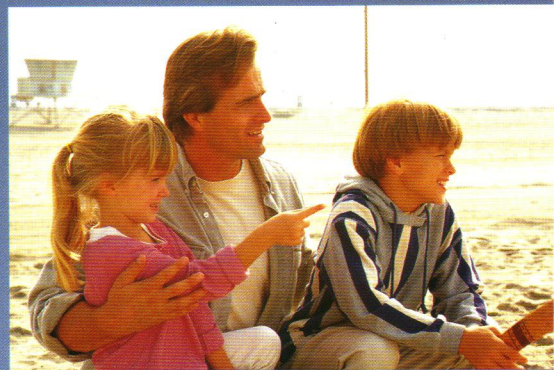
*This is the easiest way to take real SLR pictures with the Maxxum 500si. Just press the P-Button, point the camera at your subject, then press the Shutter-Release Button. Now you can experience the exciting world of SLR photography, expanded with wideangle and telephoto lenses. It's as simple as using a compact camera.*

## **Continuous Autofocus And Autoexposure**

*The Maxxum 500si's AF system maintains continuous focus even on very fast-moving subjects like children at play. So you can capture them as simply as subjects standing still. The autoexposure system adjusts the camera automatically to any scene or situation, even in difficult lighting conditions.*

## **Built-in Automatic Flash With Red-Eye Reduction**

*Simply raise the Maxxum 500si's built-in flash and you're always ready to take beautiful pictures within flash range. Backlit subjects or subjects in the dark are no problem the flash automatically fires. Flash portraits with Red-Eye Reduction are a simple matter of pressing the Flash-Mode Button.*





# Subject Program Selection



The Maxxum 500si's unique Subject Program Selection with five modes lets you easily achieve the effects that best suit a particular kind of subject or scene. Simply select the symbol of the mode you want to set, frame your shot in the viewfinder and press the Shutter-Release Button. The camera controls the rest. You can easily enjoy the excitement of using your own imagination in pictures only an SLR can provide-without any special expertise or operation.



**Portrait Mode**

**Landscape Mode**

**Close-Up Mode**

**Sports Action Mode**

**Night-Portrait Mode**

AF 35 - 70mm  
f/3.5 - 4.5

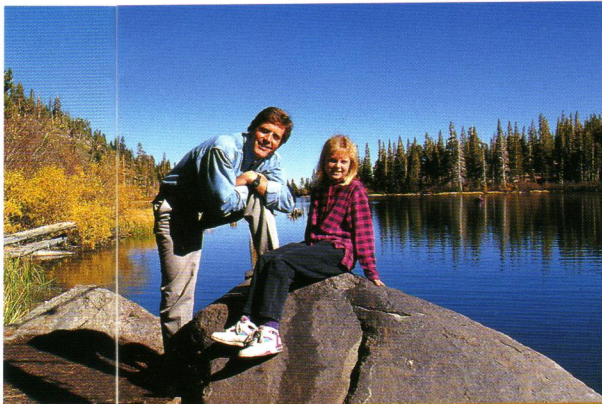


AF 70 - 210mm  
f/4.5 - 5.6



## Landscape Mode

This mode automatically adjusts the focus so that both your subject and the background are in sharp focus. Landscape Mode is ideal for photographing friends or family in front of a landmark or other interesting location

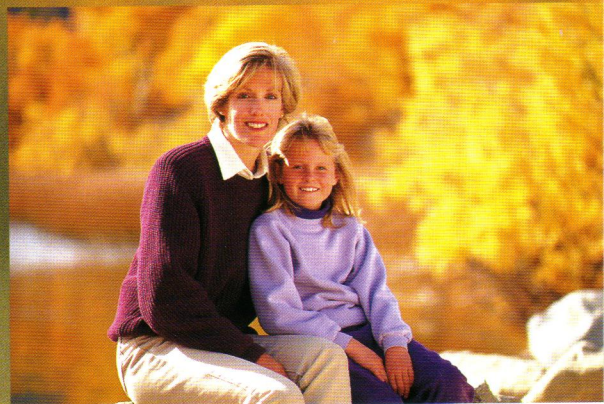


AF 35 - 70mm  
f/3.5 - 4.5 in  
Landscape Mode



## Portrait Mode

This mode automatically softens the background and allows your main subject to be center stage. Portrait Mode lets you compose a great portrait with remarkable ease.



AF 70 - 210mm f/4.5 - 5.6 in Portrait Mode





## Close-Up Mode

*With this mode the camera automatically captures beautifully-detailed close-up photographs of subjects like flowers and small insects, while it keeps the distracting background out of focus.*



AF 50mm f/3.5 Macro in Close-Up Mode

AF 70 - 210mm f/4.5 - 5.6  
in Sports Action Mode



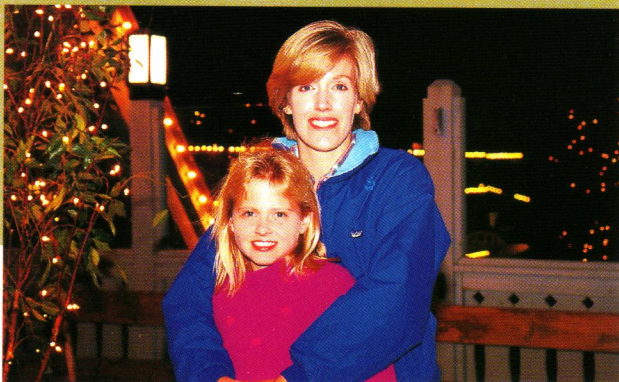
## Sports Action Mode

*This mode is ideal for freezing fast-moving subjects. You can create very impressive action photographs because the camera keeps focusing continuously and automatically with the fastest possible shutter speeds.*



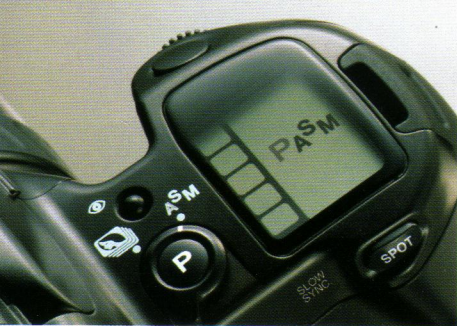
## Night-Portrait Mode

*This mode lets you take dramatic portraits in the evening, capturing both the night scene in the background and your subject in front. A tripod is recommended for best results.*



AF 35 - 70mm f/3.5 - 4.5  
in Night-Portrait Mode





# Creative Exposure Selection

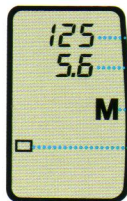
The Maxxum 500si is not just designed for beginners. Creative Exposure Selection is the best way for experienced photographers to explore new dimensions. By setting the camera to your choice of A, S or M Mode, you can easily tailor your own creative photos and check all the setting in the viewfinder. And, with exposure adjustment or Minolta's unique wireless flash control, you can create more sophisticated and dynamic photographs. In all, Creative Exposure Selection puts a greater degree of creative control in your hands.



AF 24 - 85mm  
f/3.5 - 4.5 in  
S Mode at 1 / 500 sec.

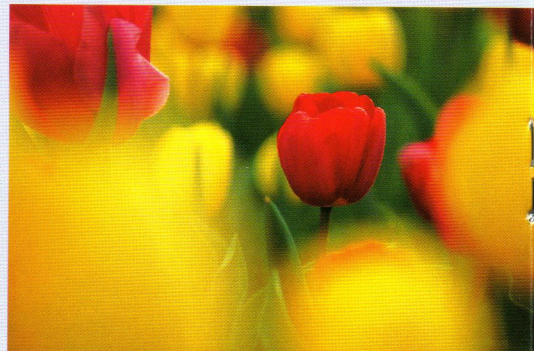


AF 100 - 300mm  
f/4.5 - 5.6 Apo in  
S Mode at 1/8 sec.



Shutter speed  
(1/ 125sec.)  
Aperture (f/5.6)

**M** Exposure mode  
(Manual Mode)  
Drive mode  
(Single Frame  
Advance)



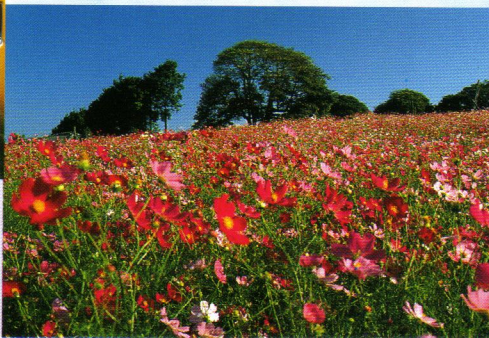
AF 100mm f/2.8 Macro  
in A Mode at f/5.6

**S** Mode (Shutter Priority)  
With Shutter Priority mode, you can precisely capture fast-moving subjects with a shutter speed up to 1/2000 sec., or blur either your subject or the area around it by manually selecting a slower shutter speed.

**A** Mode (Aperture Priority)  
With Aperture Priority mode, you can manually select an aperture setting to control how much of the background or foreground areas of a scene will appear in sharp focus.



AF 24 - 50mm f/4  
in A Mode at f/11

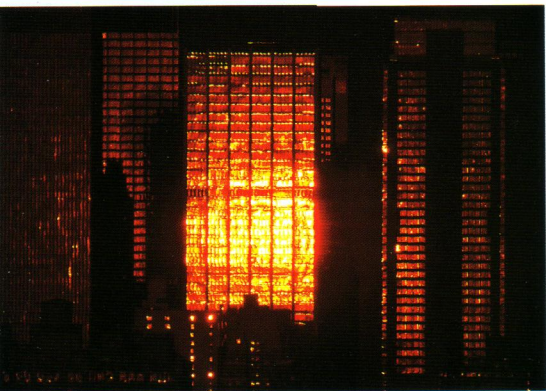




**M** **Mode (Manual)**  
*In Manual mode, you can achieve the creative effect you desire by manually adjusting both shutter speed and aperture settings.*



AF 28 - 80mm f/4 - 5.6  
in M Mode at f/5.6, 1/125 sec.



AF 80 - 200mm f/2.8 Apo G  
in M Mode at f/8, 1/1000 sec.

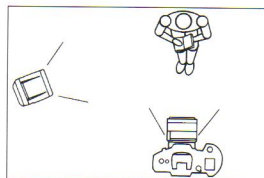
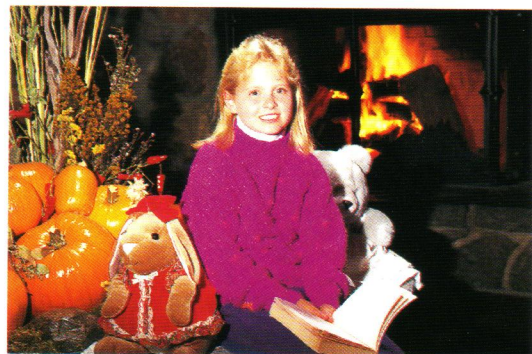


## **+/-** Exposure Adjustment

*Exposure Adjustment Control enables exposure changes in half-stop increments for up to three stops over or under normal exposure with the Maxxum 500si.*

## **W**ireless Off-Camera TTL Flash Control

*Take your Maxxum 500si flash pictures into new creative dimensions with this unique off-camera remote control. It lets you easily operate Maxxum Flash 5400HS or 3500xi in a variety of lighting situations with various subjects. For added convenience, ratio control is also automatic.*



2:1 lighting ratio between the 3500xi flash unit off-camera and the 500si built-in flash.



# Refine Your Creativity

Take creative photography a step further with these important features found on the 500si. Retain greater control over exposure, enhance night or bulb photography, and create trick photographs. The remarkable reduction in operating noise levels allows you to do it all without disturbing those around you.

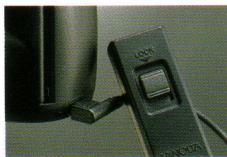
## Spot AE Lock

When photographing under rapidly changing lighting conditions or when the conditions become difficult, spot metering allows you to control exposure to emphasize any part of a scene.

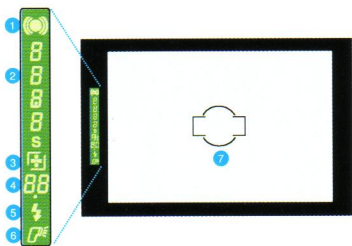


## Remote-Control Terminal

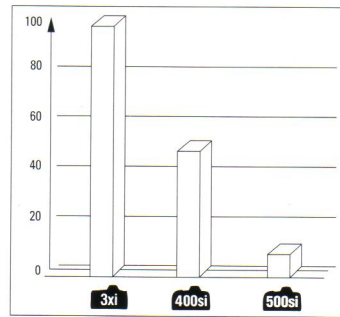
This terminal allows the remote cord (RC-1000 S/L) to be used, giving you remote-control photography. Shooting by remote control prevents potential camera shake when using a tripod for night or bulb photography.



## Full Information Viewfinder



- 1 Focus Signals
- 2 Shutter Speed Display
- 3 Exposure-Compensation Indicator
- 4 Aperture / Exposure-Compensation Display
- 5 Flash-Ready Indicator
- 6 Flash-On Indicator
- 7 Spot metering area



## Silent Mechanisms

The Maxxum 500si is extremely quiet. In particular, film rewinding noise been reduced by 90% (compared to the Minolta 3xi). So now you can photograph birds and animals without disturbing them. You can also shoot at sports events, weddings, graduations and museums with greater confidence.

## ISO Manual Setting

ISO sensitivity can be set manually as well as automatically. By choosing your own setting you can enhance ordinary photographs as you please and enjoy more creative photography.

## Large Size Body LCD Data Panel



- 1 Subject Program Selection Indicators
- 2 Shutter Speed Display
- 3 Exposure-Compensation Indicator
- 4 Aperture/ Exposure-Compensation Display
- 5 Red-Eye Reduction Indicator
- 6 Exposure-Mode Indicator
- 7 Manual-Focus Indicator
- 8 Battery Condition Indicator
- 9 Drive Mode Indicators
- 10 Self-Timer Indicator
- 11 Wireless/Remote Flash Indicator
- 12 Film-Cartridge Mark
- 13 Frame Counter
- 14 Double-Exposure Indicator



# Maxxum System Accessories

*Minolta's full line of Maxxum AF SLR lenses and accessories further expands the exciting world of photography for you with the Maxxum 500si.*

## AF Zoom Lenses

AF 24 - 50mm f/4  
 AF 24 - 85mm f/3.5 - 4.5  
 AF 28 - 70mm f/2.8 G  
 AF 28 - 80mm f/4 - 5.6  
 AF 28 - 85mm f/3.5 - 4.5  
 AF 28 - 105mm f/3.5 - 4.5  
 AF 35 - 70mm f/3.5 - 4.5  
 AF 70 - 210mm f/4.5 - 5.6  
 AF 70 - 210mm f/3.5 - 4.5  
 AF 75 - 300mm f/4.5 - 5.6  
 AF 80 - 200mm f/2.8 Apo G  
 AF 100 - 300mm f/4.5 - 5.6 Apo  
 AF 100 - 300mm f/4.5 - 5.6  
 AF 100 - 400mm f/4.5 - 6.7 Apo

## AF Zoom xi Lenses

AF Zoom xi 28 - 80mm f/4 - 5.6  
 AF Zoom xi 35 - 200mm f/4.5 - 5.6 Macro  
 AF Zoom xi 80 - 200mm f/4.5 - 5.6 Macro

## AF Power Zoom Lens

AF Power Zoom 35 - 80mm f/4 - 5.6 Macro

## Wideangle Lenses

AF 16mm f/2.8 Fisheye  
 AF 20mm f/2.8  
 AF 24mm f/2.8  
 AF 28mm f/2  
 AF 28mm f/2.8

AF 35mm f/1.4 G

AF 35mm f/2

## Standard Lenses

AF 50mm f/1.4

AF 50mm f/1.7

## Telephoto Lenses

AF 85mm f/1.4 G

AF 100mm f/2

AF 100mm f/2.8 SOFT FOCUS

AF 200mm f/2.8 Apo G

AF 300mm f/2.8 Apo G

AF 300mm f/4 Apo G

AF 400mm f/4.5 Apo G

AF Reflex 500mm f/8

AF 600mm f/4 Apo G

## AF Tele Converters

AF 1.4X Tele Converter II Apo

AF 2X Tele Converter II Apo

## Macro Lenses

AF 50mm f/2.8 Macro

AF 50mm f/3.5 Macro

AF 100mm f/2.8 Macro

AF Macro Zoom 3X - 1X f/1.7 - 2.8



## Diffuser

Close-Up Diffuser CD-1000

## Flashes

Maxxum Flash 5400HS

Maxxum Flash 3500xi

Maxxum Flash 2000xi

Macro Flash 1200AF Set-N

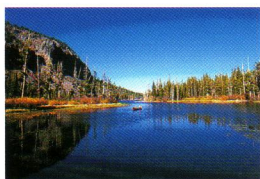
## Angle Of View

*Telephotos, Wideangles, Macros, Zooms. They change the way your Maxxum500si sees a scene. And they provide you with the right degree of coverage for each photographic situation.*

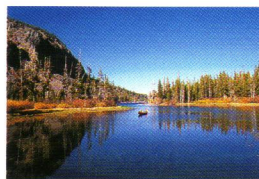


16mm

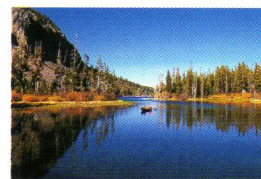
WIDEANGLE



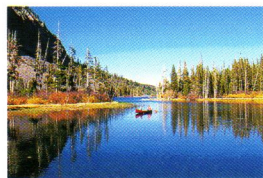
20mm



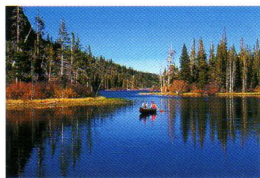
24mm



28mm

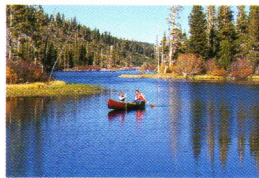


35mm



50mm

STANDARD



85mm

MIDDLE TELEPHOTO



100mm

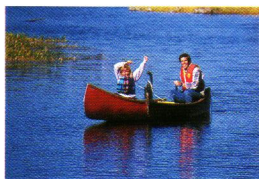


135mm

TELEPHOTO



210mm



300mm



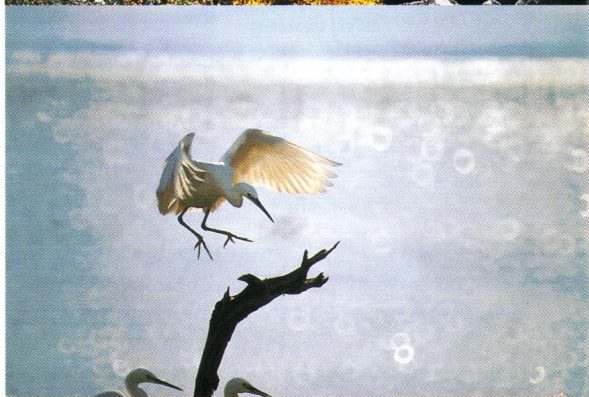
600mm





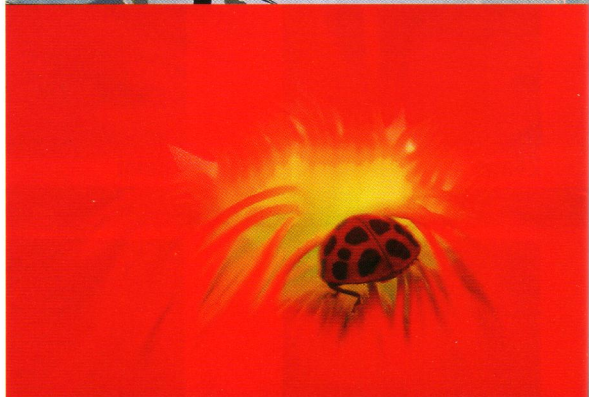
## Wideangle Photography

Wideangle lenses are particularly well suited for photographing groups of people or landscapes and give you an increased feeling of depth in your pictures. The photo (left) shows the picture angle of  $180^\circ$  diagonally taken with the AF 16mm f/2.8 Fisheye Lens.



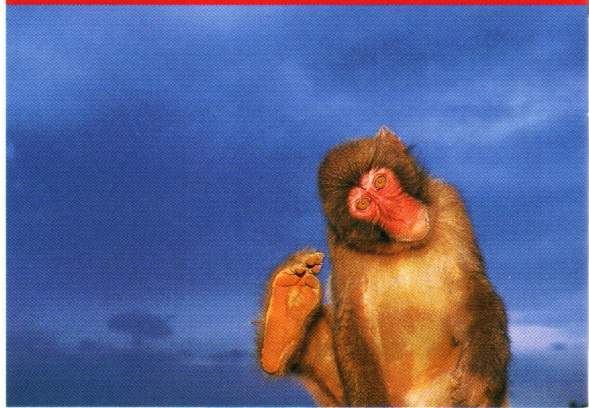
## Telephoto Photography

A telephoto lens allows you to shoot at a greater distance from your subject and also helps you isolate your subject from its surroundings, making it an excellent choice for portraits, sports, news and nature photography. The photo (left) was taken with the AF Reflex 500mm f/8, the world's first and only mirror lens with autofocus.



## Macrophotography

Maxxum's macrophotography accessories help you precisely and vividly capture flowers and small insects on a dramatic, larger-than-life scale. The Close-Up Diffuser provides soft lighting with the built-in flash. Other accessories include a choice of four macro lenses and Macro Flash 1200AF Set-N.



## Flash Photography

Maxxum offers one of the largest AF SLR flash systems available. With accessories like Maxxum Flash 5400HS, 3500xi and 2000xi, Minolta can meet your flash photography needs, from handling large amounts of light to using wireless remote control (5400HS, 3500xi) or a modeling light (5400HS).





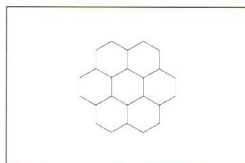
# Maxxum 500si Technology

## Autofocus System

The Maxxum 500si's wide focus area lets you easily focus on the most active subject. Low-light autofocus provides sharp focus even in very little light thanks to the camera's highly sensitive AF sensor. The flash AF auxiliary light automatically fires to ensure precise focus even in total darkness. And automatic focus-mode selection determines whether your subject is moving or still. If your subject is still, the focus lock is activated automatically by pressing the shutter-release button. If your subject is moving, Predictive Focus Control keeps focusing precisely and continuously to the instant of exposure.

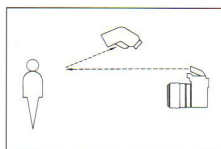
## Honeycomb-Pattern Metering

The Maxxum 500si's honeycomb-pattern metering precisely measures exposure levels in 8 separate areas of a picture to make sure your subject is correctly exposed. The uniform size and shape of the segments allows the metering pattern to match your subject.

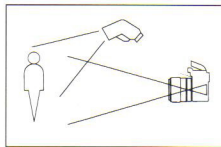


## Remote Off-Camera TTL Flash Control

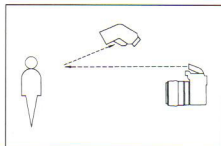
When you use a Maxxum Flash\* off-camera via remote control, the built-in flash and TTL metering control the flash exposure. You can manually set the off-camera flash to provide 2/3 and the built-in flash 1/3 of the light needed to expose your subject.



Start signal sent from Maxxum 500si.



Maxxum Flash starts firing.



Stop signal sent when TTL metering detects sufficient exposure at the film plane.

\*Available only with Maxxum Flash 5400HS, and 3500xi.

# Specifications

- AF System:** Minolta's through-the-lens (TTL) phase-detection system with one CCD sensor; focus mode; continuous AF; focus lock selectable automatically according to subject movement; auto/manual-focus switchable manually; predictive focus control for moving subjects; AF sensitivity range: EV -1 to 18 (at ISO 100)
- Metering:** TTL-type; 8-segment honeycomb-pattern silicon photocell (SPC); metering range: EV 1-20 (ISO 100, f/1.4 lens)
- Exposure Modes:** Programmed AE (P-mode), Aperture-priority AE (A-mode), Shutter-priority AE (S-mode), Manual (M-mode)
- Subject Program Modes:** Portrait mode, Landscape mode, Close-up mode, Sports action mode, Night portrait mode
- Built-in Flash:** Guide number 39 (in feet at ISO 100); flash coverage for 28mm lenses; recycling time: Approx. 2 sec.; pre-flash for Red-Eye Reduction and remote/wireless off-camera flash control available
- Film-Speed Setting:** Automatic setting for DX-coded films ISO 25-5000; Recommended range with flash: ISO 25-1000
- Exposure Compensation:** +/-3 EV (0.5 EV increments)
- Shutter:** Electronically-controlled, vertical-traverse, focal plane type; Range: 1/2000 to 30 sec., bulb; flash sync: 1/90 sec. or slower
- Film Transport:** Automatic with built-in motor drive; auto threading; auto advance to first frame; single-frame or continuous advance (1 frame per second) automatic rewind or manual start of rewind
- Viewfinder:** Eye-level fixed pentaprism; field of view: 90%; magnification: 0.75 (with 50mm lens at infinity); -1 diopter
- Self-Timer:** Electronic with approx. 10-sec. delay; cancelable
- Power:** 6-volt 2CR5 lithium battery; Automatic battery check when camera is turned on
- Dimensions:** 5-13/16 X 3-5/8 X 2-5/8 in.
- Weight:** 14-1/8 oz. without lens and battery

Specifications and accessories are based on the latest information available at the time of printing and are subject to change without notice.