

Camera Setup

The N80 requires a few adjustments and preliminary steps that you'll want to deal with before attempting to take pictures, especially if you have one of the date imprinting models (N80QD, F80D). In this section, I'll also tell you what to do if your N80 suddenly balks at taking pictures (see "Resetting the Camera," on page <26>).

Power

The N80 uses two 3 volt, CR123A or DL123A lithium batteries. (The SB-50DX Speedlight also uses these batteries; if you want to standardize on batteries for both your camera and external flash, the SB-50DX is your Speedlight of choice.)

Note: CR123A batteries, while relatively common, are not available as ubiquitously as are other standard batteries, such as the AA size Nikon uses in virtually all of its professional gear. If you're planning to travel with your N80, you should carry several extra sets of batteries with you.



There's a yellow label in the battery compartment to help you remember the orientation of the batteries, and the silver piece on the hinged door also has + and - markings.



The CR123A batteries are inserted one at a time into the camera:

1. Turn the camera OFF [5].
2. On the bottom of the N80, slide the small indented button on battery compartment door away from the edge of the camera (indicated by the little arrow on the door). The battery compartment door should spring open when you do this.
3. Insert the batteries. One battery goes into the camera with the negative end first (the plain end; the positive terminal of the CR123A battery has a small metal knob on it), the other positive end first. The orientation is clearly marked on a label inside the chamber.
4. Once both batteries have been inserted, press the door down—it should lock into place.

Note: If your N80 is a data imprinting model, the main camera batteries also power the date and time function. Date and time are maintained during battery changes for up to 15 seconds. If it takes you longer than that to change the camera batteries, or if you leave dead camera batteries in the camera, you'll have to reset the date and time values again after inserting fresh camera batteries (see "Date Imprint," on page <23>).

The N80 has one power option available, the MB-16 battery pack. This accessory (see "N80 Accessories," on page <155>) allows the use of AA batteries at the expense of adding bulk and weight to the camera.

Battery Life

You'll probably be surprised to learn that the N80 uses about the same amount of energy when it sleeps between shots as it does when it is turned OFF. Thus, it makes no sense to turn the camera OFF between shots during a shooting session. It does, however, pay to turn the power OFF if you won't be using the camera for several hours.

You *do* use significant power when you're metering or focusing a scene, though even then the power consumption of