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Tamron develops SP AF60mm F/2.0 Di II MACRO 1:1

Life-size macro lens designed exclusively for digital SLR cameras with APS-C size image sensors* that features a fast maximum aperture of F/2

Tamron Co., Ltd announces the development of the **SP AF60mm F/2.0 Di II LD (IF) MACRO 1:1 (Model G005)**, a life-size macro lens designed exclusively for digital SLR cameras with APS-C size image sensors* that offers a fast maximum aperture of F/2.0.

Covering an equivalent angle of view of 93mm when converted to the 35mm format*, the SP AF60mm boasts a wide maximum aperture of F/2.0, one stop faster than the F/2.8 maximum aperture found on conventional macro lenses in the same class. In the demanding world of macro photography – possible down to 1:1 life-size with this lens – focusing is enhanced to pinpoint accuracy, and the additional light transmitted means an extra-bright viewfinder, allowing easy framing and focusing even in low light. When shooting in the world at large, the shallow depth of field at F/2 delivers attractively dramatic blurred background effects, extending the usefulness of the SP AF60mm to portraiture and product photography.

This new life-size macro lens is expected to be made available in mounts for Canon, Nikon (with built-in AF motor) and Sony. Price and launch dates will be announced soon.

Notes

* Tamron's conversion value is 1.55x.

* Di II lenses are designed exclusively for use with digital SLR cameras equipped with APS-C size image sensors and employ an optical system optimised for the characteristics of those digital cameras. Di II lenses are not designed for use with 35mm film cameras or digital SLR cameras with image sensors larger than 24mm x 16mm.

* The special note "APS-C size equivalent" is hereinafter omitted.

Development Concept

Tamron's macro lenses SP AF90mm F/2.8 Di MACRO 1:1 (Model 272E) and SP AF180mm F/3.5 Di MACRO 1:1 (Model B01) are world-renowned for their outstanding optical performance for 35mm film and full-frame digital SLRs. In particular the Tamron SP AF90mm macro lens, upgraded seven times since its introduction in 1979, has been highly valued by many photographers not only for its sharp macro rendition, attractive out-of-focus effects and and easy-to-use focal length, but also as an ideal portrait lens.

As APS-C size DSLRs increase in popularity, Tamron has recognised that there are many photographers who wish to enjoy macro photography with a 90mm-equivalent focal length. The SP AF60mm medium telephoto macro lens meets their needs and goes a step further by providing the extremely fast maximum aperture of F/2.0. The versatile SP AF60mm is suitable not only for life-size macro photography but also for portraiture. Its 93mm-equivalent focal length provides a good perspective and framing of a human subject; its fast maximum aperture provides attractive blurred backgrounds and promotes natural-light photography,

Print-resolution image at <http://highres.maxwell.com.au/tamron>



Specifications

Model Name	G005
Focal Length	60mm
Maximum Aperture	F/2.0
Angle of View	26°35' (APS-C size equivalent)
Lens Construction	14 elements in 10 groups
Minimum Focus Distance	0.23m/9.1"
Maximum Magnification	1:1
Minimum Working Distance	100mm (3.94")
Filter Diameter	55mm
Overall Length	80mm (3.15")*
Maximum Diameter	73mm (2.9")
Weight	400g
Diaphragm Blades	7
Minimum Aperture	F/22
Standard Accessory	Lens hood
Mounts	For Canon, Nikon (with built-in AF motor) and Sony

*Values are those of a Nikon-mount version of this lens.

The cosmetic design, specifications and performance are subject to change without notice.

allowing handheld shooting in light levels twice as dim as possible with lenses having a maximum aperture of F/2.8. And of course, as a high-performance Tamron SP lens, the photographer can be confident of a high-quality result even at the maximum F/2.0 aperture.

Optical Features

1. Medium telephoto 1:1 life-size macro lens featuring a fast maximum aperture of F/2.0 that strikes a fine balance between attractive out-of-focus effects and sharpness

The SP AF60mm is a medium telephoto macro lens designed for APS-C size digital SLR cameras that realises the fast maximum aperture of F/2.0 for the first time in the world**. Tamron's optical designers have successfully controlled complex movements of respective lens groups in order to limit the changes in aberration characteristics due to the fast maximum aperture. The result: outstanding subject depiction that is uniformly sharp from the centre to the periphery. As the maximum aperture of F/2.0 provides a shallower depth of field than conventional F/2.8 lenses, the SP AF60mm lens enables greater accuracy of focusing, whether automatic or manual. The SP AF60mm, developed with Tamron's long heritage of macro lens design know-how, maintains a well-balanced relationship between sharp image performance and beautiful out-of-focus background effects.

2. Employment of special low-dispersion glass elements

The lens employs two large LD (low dispersion) glass elements in its first group to thoroughly compensate for various aberrations and attain high optical quality.

3. Working distance of 100mm, the longest distance among lenses in this class**

Tamron has realised the long working distance of 100mm from the front element of the lens to the subject in 1:1 life-size macro photography. The long working distance allows the macro photographer to keep a sufficient distance from subjects like timid, flighty insects and other tiny animals that are more likely to startle and flee if the lens is moved in too close. The longer working distance also minimises the likelihood of the lens barrel shading the subject from the light – especially camera-mounted flash – as often occurs with macro lenses with shorter working distances.

4. Meticulous countermeasures against ghosting & flare

Tamron has employed new BBAR (Broad-Band Anti-Reflection) multi-layer coatings in order to ensure optimal performance in all photographic situations. The new coatings enhance light transmission in both the short and long wavelength ranges, a condition that was thought incompatible with conventional anti-reflection coating technology. In addition, internal surface coatings (coatings on cemented surfaces of lens elements) provide improved sharpness, superb colour reproduction and superior colour balance.

Mechanical Features

1. Lightweight and compact macro lens boasts F/2.0 fast maximum aperture

As a lens with a fast F2.0 aperture can easily become bulky, Tamron's mechanical engineers thoroughly reviewed the internal constructions of conventional macro lenses and improved the accuracy of many of the new lens' components. By employing high-precision injection-molded engineering plastic parts with high reliability, Tamron created a compact lens body measuring only 73mm (2.9in) at its maximum diameter and weighing a mere 400g (14.1oz).

2. Internal focusing system for enhanced ease of use

The lens employs an internal focusing (IF) system, in which the overall length of the lens does not change during focusing. Because the front group of the SP AF60mm does not alter its position, the lens is particularly easy to use in close focusing ranges.

3. Full-time manual control mechanism

Delicate focusing control is essential in macro photography. The lens incorporates a full-time manual control mechanism that enables the user to manually adjust focus without engaging the AF/MF switchover button, even when in the autofocus mode. The large focus control ring ensures a solid grip and precise control when focusing manually.

4. Simple, attractive outer design

The new outer design of the SP AF60mm is more refined and smoother in its overall contours. Concavity, convexity and variations in its profile have been minimised, complementing the style of the latest digital SLRs. The subtle matte finish of the lens barrel further enhances the high-quality appearance of the lens.

** As of 1 February 2009, according to Tamron's research of 50–60mm life-size macro lenses

More information

phone 1300 882 517
email sales@maxwell.com.au
web www.tamron.com