LEICA SL3-P

FIRMWARE UPDATE 4.2.1

NEW

- **False Color (Video):**
  New assistant for color-coded rendering of brightness values directly in Live View. It allows a precise exposure evaluation, specifically for skin tone.
- **HDMI mirroring including user interface:**
  The camera monitor can now be mirrored via HDMI, including all on-screen icons. A new menu option (Mirror via HDMI) allows easy activation/deactivation of this function.
- **Lens Profile:**
  Support for the new Leica Noctilux-M 1:1.2/35 ASPH.
- **Extended AF subject detection (vehicle):**
  Two options have been added to the menu AF Detection to allow for vehicle detection. The user can specify the detection of entire vehicles or specific vehicle parts.

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IMPROVEMENT

- **Improved HDMI settings:**
  In Live View, an optimized (reduced) HDMI resolution will now be used to reduce heat build-up. Once shooting starts, the camera will automatically switch to full resolution. A relevant menu was added.

- **Revised video settings selector:**
  The video format selection was fundamentally optimized. A new filter system now facilitates finding the correct settings significantly faster and more conveniently.

- **New shooting modes:**
  New modes with 15 fps and 25 fps at 12 bit were added. These offer a reduced rolling shutter effect for improved image quality with rapid movements.

- **Firmware update display:**
  All update-relevant messages will now be displayed automatically displayed on screen regardless of the EVF/LCD setting.

- **New "full screen mode" in Review mode:**
  In addition to the existing profiles, a new view is now available that displays the image without any information or icons. This view appears between Info Profile 4 and Info Profile 1.

- **Optimized Leica Looks user interface:**
  The Leica Looks interface for adjusting individual parameters was revised for additional ease of use. Settings can now be adjusted more quickly and more intuitively.

- **Lens lists:**
  The M- and R-lens lists will no longer be stored in the user profile. These settings will therefore remain accessible from within any profile.

- **Optimized electronic shutter response time:**
  The shutter release lag during continuous shooting with the electronic shutter (15 fps and higher) has been significantly reduced, allowing for faster image capture more when the shutter button (S2) is pressed down fully.

- **Improved Tracking Framelines display:**
  In AF Mode, Tracking will display the framelines in the color of the respective detection status. Green markers will show that the camera has successfully completed focusing if no person or animal is detected.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- A problem with vignetting correction in combination with the "Leica Noctilux-M 1:1.2/50 ASPH." lens profile was fixed, which could previously result in incorrect over-compensation.
- An issue was resolved where icons in the Control Center (CC) could be missing after importing user profiles.
- A bug was fixed that could cause horizontal red lines to appear in the EVF under certain lighting conditions when the shutter button was pushed to the first pressure point (S1) (SL3 only).
- The Stabilization option was removed from the function list for FN buttons to avoid misunderstandings. Instead, the only selectable option is now Image Stabilization.
- An issue was corrected where the audio level meter for the left channel in Video Mode would – under certain conditions – show incorrect peaks.

FIRMWARE UPDATES

Leica is continuously working on the further improvement and optimization of your camera. Since many camera functions are entirely controlled by software, some of these improvements and additions to the functional scope can be installed in retrospect. Leica offers firmware updates at irregular intervals, which you can download from our website.

Leica will notify you of any new updates, once you have registered your camera. Users of Leica FOTOS will also be automatically notified about firmware updates for their Leica cameras.

There are two options for installing firmware updates.

– via the Leica FOTOS app (recommended)
– via the camera menu

Finding the currently installed firmware version

→ Select Camera Information in the main menu

- The current firmware versions are displayed.

More information about registering, firmware updates and how to download them to your camera, as well as any amendments and additions to this manual can be found in the customer area of our website at:

https://club.leica-camera.com

EXECUTING A FIRMWARE UPDATE

Any interruption of a running firmware update may cause serious and irreparable damage to your equipment!
You will therefore have to take particular note of the following, when carrying out a firmware update:

- Do not switch off the camera!
- Do not remove the memory card!
- Do not remove the rechargeable battery!
- Do not detach the lens!

Notes

- A warning message will appear if the battery is insufficiently charged. Recharge the battery and then repeat the process described above.
- You will find additional device and country-specific registration marks and numbers in the Camera Information submenu.

PREPARATION

→ Fully charge and insert the rechargeable battery

→ Any stored firmware files on the memory card must be removed

- We recommend saving any images on the memory card and reformatting it before the update.
  (Caution: Loss of data! All data stored on the memory card will be lost during formatting.)

→ Download the latest firmware version

→ Save the download to the memory card

- The firmware file must be stored in the main directory of the memory card (not in a sub-directory).

→ Insert the memory card into the camera

→ Switch the camera on

UPDATING THE CAMERA FIRMWARE

VIA LEICA FOTOS APP

Leica FOTOS will notify you when firmware updates are available for your Leica cameras.

→ Follow the instructions provided by the Leica FOTOS app

Notes

- Leica FOTOS Version 4.8.0 or higher is required for the camera firmware update function.
- A warning message will appear if the battery is insufficiently charged. Recharge the battery and then repeat the process described above.

VIA THE CAMERA MENU

→ Preparation

→ Select Camera Information in the main menu

→ Select Camera Firmware Version

→ Select Start Update

- A prompt with information about the camera is displayed.

→ Check the version information

→ Select Yes

→ Select Yes/No

- The update will start automatically.
- The lower status LED will flash during this process.
- Once the process has completed successfully, a relevant on-screen message and prompt to restart the device will appear on screen.

→ Switch the camera off and on again

UPDATING THE LENS FIRMWARE

Where available, firmware updates can be performed for Leica SL lenses and for all other lens types by L-Mount Alliance.

Firmware updates for Leica SL lenses are generally uploaded alongside the latest version of the camera firmware and will not have to be implemented manually. Provided an SL lens is attached during the camera update, it will automatically receive the latest firmware version. Where that is not the case, a relevant prompt will appear when a lens is attached to a camera with updated firmware for the first time.

The instructions provided for camera firmware updates apply.

→ Preparation

→ Select Camera Information in the main menu

→ Select Lens Firmware Version

→ Select Start Update

- A prompt with information about the camera is displayed.

→ Check the version information

→ Select Yes

- The update will start automatically.
- The lower status LED will flash during this process.
- Once the process has completed successfully, a relevant on-screen message and prompt to restart the device will appear on screen.

→ Switch the camera off and on again

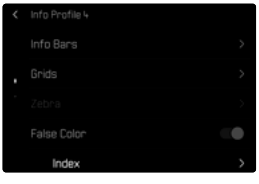
FALSE COLOR

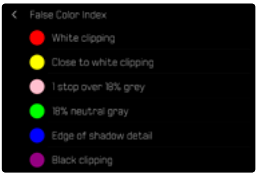
False Color is an exposure tool for video recording. It displays the exposure values of individual pixels as a colored overlay on the screen image, with each color representing a specific brightness range.
This allows exposure to be evaluated with exceptional precision – independent of ambient light or screen settings. False Color is particularly useful for accurately exposing skin tones and helps reliably prevent over- or underexposure.

→ Select Capture Assistants in the main menu
→ Select a profile
→ Select Settings
→ Select False Color

HIGHLIGHT COLOR

The color can be user-specified. This setting will apply for all info profiles.





→ Select Capture Assistants in the main menu
→ Select a profile
→ Select Settings
→ Select False Color
→ Select Index
  • A color key for the brightness ranges is displayed.

Note

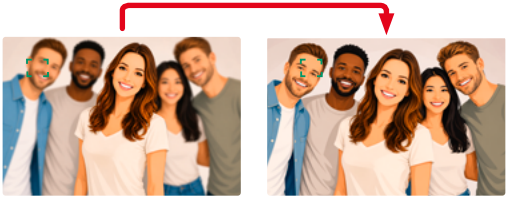
• When False Color is active, other assistants (Zebra, Focus Peaking, Level Gauge, Histogram, and Framelines) are automatically disabled.

AF DETECTION (AUTOMATIC SUBJECT RECOGNITION)

The camera automatically detects various objects – including people, animals, and vehicles – and focuses specifically on eyes, faces, bodies, or vehicle parts. The main subject remains reliably in focus, even if there is movement or a brief obstruction. Automatic subject recognition provides precise and continuous focus tracking in every shooting situation.

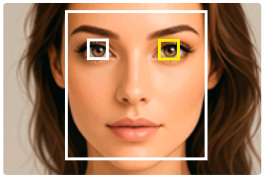
→ Select AF Detection in the main menu

→ Select the desired setting
(Off, Human (Eye/Face/Body), Human (Eye/Face), Animal (Body), Animal (Eye/Body), Car, Car (Parts))



When face detection detects an eye, the focus will be on that eye. Should more than one eye be detected, then the user can choose the eye to focus on. The currently selected eye will be highlighted.

→ Press the joystick in the desired direction



In Car detection mode, objects that are further away or moving quickly are prioritized.

→ Select AF Detection in the main menu

→ Select Car

Car (Parts) detection is suitable for closer details of the vehicle or driver (bodywork components, helmet etc.).

→ Select AF Detection in the main menu

→ Select Car (Parts)

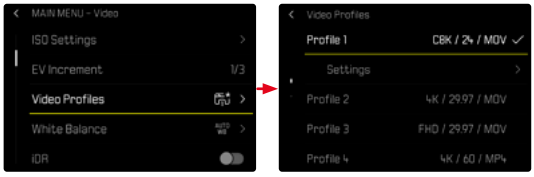
VIDEO FORMAT

The available video formats are preset within modifiable video profiles. However, due to the large number of possible combinations of resolution, frame rate, codec, and additional parameters, the selection process can quickly become difficult to navigate. To simplify configuration, a guided filter view is available. It walks the user through each setting step by step. With every selection, the list displays only those video formats that are compatible with the parameters already chosen. Unsupported combinations are automatically hidden. This allows the desired video profile to be assembled precisely and efficiently – without conflicting settings or lengthy trial and error.

SETTING THE VIDEO FORMAT

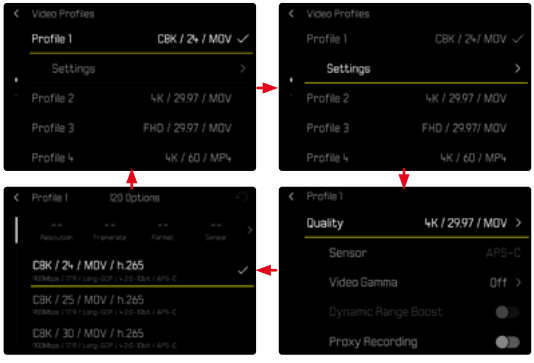
Via the Control Center

Via the menu



→ Select Video Profiles in the main menu
→ Select a profile

Profile editing



→ Select Video Profiles in the main menu

→ Select a profile

→ Selecting the desired filter setting

- The filter display at the top of the screen provides information at each step about remaining selectable options.

INFO PROFILES

Up to 4 independent profiles can be used, plus an additional full-screen mode. The desired function can be selected and adjusted individually for each profile. During operation, the switch between info profiles is done via direct access. In factory settings, that will be the **FN** button. It allows quick switches between various views.

The following profiles are predefined in the factory settings:

Profile	Factory Settings	
1	Info bars only (Top / Bottom)	
2	Full screen view (all auxiliary displays Off)	
3	Info Bars (Top / Bottom + Right), Clipping/Zebra, Focus Peaking, Histogram	
4	Info Bars (Top / Bottom + Right), Grids, Clipping/ Zebra, Level Gauge	
5	Full-screen image without displays	

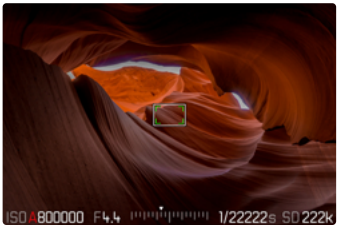
AF DETECTION

AF FRAME IN TRACKING WITH ACTIVATED AF DETECTION

In AF mode, AF Detection with activated object detection (person or animal) adapts the display of the tracking frame to the current detection and focusing status.

Behavior in detail

Once the camera detects a suitable object (person or animal), tracking is activated and displayed accordingly. When the shutter button is pressed to the first pressure point without a suitable object being detected in the image field, tracking will remain inactive.



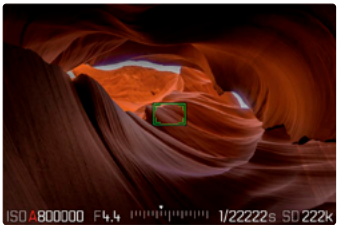
In that case, green markers (corners of the frame) will show that the camera has successfully completed focusing. The frame remains white.

This color coding allows for quick visual confirmation of whether Tracking was activated, or an alternative focusing option was implemented.

AF FRAME IN TRACKING WITHOUT AF DETECTION

When detection mode for persons or animals is not activated, the AF frame signals successful focusing by way of a color change.

Once focus is confirmed, the frame and corners of the AF field will switch from white to green. A green display signals successful focusing on the selected object.



LEICA LOOKS

CUSTOMIZING LEICA LOOKS

Leica Looks are individually customizable.

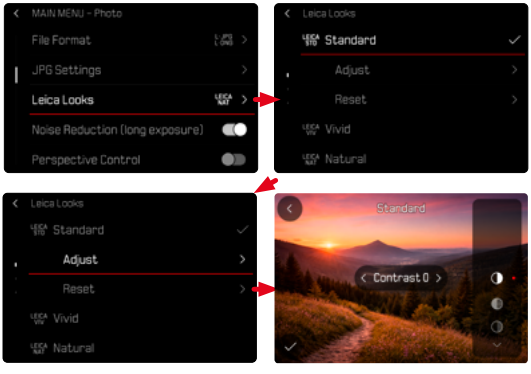
LOOKS CONFIGURATION FRAME

Customizable	Only intensity	Not customizable
Core Looks (Standard, Vivid, Natural, Monochrome, Monochrome High Contrast)	**Essential Looks** (Teal, Chrome, Eternal etc.)	**Artist or Partner Looks** (Greg Williams)

Note

- This information may change with the addition of new Leica Looks.

→ Select Leica Looks in the main menu
→ Select a profile
→ Select Customize
→ Select Contrast/Highlight/Shadow/Sharpness/Saturation
→ Select the desired level (-2, -1, 0, +1, +2)
→ Intensity can be set as a percentage as needed



HDMI SETTINGS

HDMI-related settings have now been consolidated into their own menu group. HDMI Audio activates/deactivates the HDMI audio output. HDMI Resolution specifies the HDMI output behavior (e.g. automatic adjustment or fixed resolution).

Note

- The HDMI Audio menu item, which was previously available as a standalone setting in the camera menu, is now part of the new HDMI Settings menu group. This centralizes all HDMI-relevant options, making them easier to access and more clearly organized.

HDMI RESOLUTION

To prevent the camera from overheating during extended use, the HDMI output resolution in Live View can be reduced automatically. In Live View, the HDMI signal is output at a reduced resolution. This adjustment occurs automatically as soon as the camera is connected via HDMI, and no recording is in progress. A corresponding notification is displayed.

Once recording is started on the camera, the preset recording resolution is used and output over HDMI accordingly.

→ Select HDMI Settings in the main menu

→ Select HDMI Resolution

→ Select the desired setting
(Auto, Full)
  – Auto: the Live View display is rendered with a reduced resolution.
  – Full: the Live View display is rendered with full resolution. A noticeable reduction in heat build-up

Note

- The reduced resolution applies exclusively to Live View operation and is intended to minimize heat buildup, particularly during extended use in conjunction with external screens or recorders.

MIRROR LCD PANEL IMAGE VIA HDMI TO EXTERNAL SCREEN

This function allows the camera's entire screen image to be output over HDMI to an external screen.

The full settings menu and a live feed with information overlays can be shown via HDMI, identical to the display on the camera LCD panel. This output is intended primarily for on-set monitoring when the HDMI port is not being used for external recording.

→ Select Camera Settings in the main menu

→ Activate/ deactivate Mirror via HDMI.