LEICA Q3
LEICA Q3 43
LEICA Q3 MONOCHROM

FIRMWARE UPDATE 5.0.0

NEW

- **New shooting mode (Focus Bracketing):**
  The camera automatically generates a series of images with offset focus positions. The number of images, focus increment, and capture sequence can be freely customized.
- **New video formats at low Bitrates:**
  The choice of video formats was expanded to include additional, more storage-efficient Long GOP options. Lower bitrate image file formats are now available across multiple resolutions and frame rates – including 8K and C8K.
- **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 and specific vehicle parts.
- **HDMI mirroring including user interface:**
  The camera's screen image can now be output via HDMI with all on-screen icons included.

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IMPROVEMENT

- **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 is pressed down fully (S2).
- **New FN functions for AF Detection:**
  A customizable FN button can now be assigned to enable or disable object detection instantly. All existing functions for the selection of the various detection types remain unchanged.
- **Firmware update display:**
  All update-relevant messages will now be displayed automatically displayed on screen regardless of the EVF/LCD setting.
- **Notification for significantly diminished batteries:**
  The camera will now display an appropriate warning message when a BP-SCL6 with a significantly diminished battery condition is used. This message can be permanently suppressed as needed.
- **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 new view is displayed in the Info Profile list between Info Profile 4 and Info Profile 1.
- **Revised multi-item selection in Playback mode:**
  Multiple images can now be selected at once and then deleted or marked as favorites. The operating sequence is now clearer and more intuitive.
- **Expanded customization options in the Control Center:**
  Additional functions from the FN dropdown list can now be added directly via the Control Center. These new functions are Touch AF, Touch AF in EVF, AF Frame Size, Auto ISO Settings, Clipping, and Focus Peaking.
- **Simplified video creation from grouped images:**
  The function Create Video is now directly accessible via the Play Menu, making access much faster.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Revised Clipping display in Leica Looks:**
  A bug was fixed, which caused the Clipping display to not function correctly in all Leica Looks.
- **Revised EVF/LCD toggle in Playback mode:**
  A bug was fixed where toggling between EVF and LCD via an assigned FN button caused the status display to disappear in Playback mode. The display now mirrors the behavior in Live View.
- **Improved storage of the focus frame position:**
  An issue in the AF modes Zone and Multi-Field was resolved. A focus frame that was reset to the center of the image will now remain centered even after switching the camera off and on again, or after a toggle to and from Playback mode.

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.

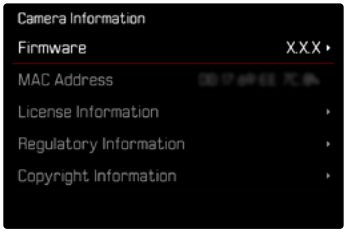
There are two options for installing firmware updates.

– 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 version is displayed in the Firmware menu item.



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!

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

- A warning message will appear if the battery is insufficiently charged. Recharge the battery and then repeat the process described above.
- Alternatively, firmware updates can also be installed via the camera menu.

VIA THE CAMERA MENU

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

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.

UPDATING THE CAMERA FIRMWARE

→ Preparation
→ Select Camera Information in the main menu
→ Select Firmware
→ Select Start Update
  • A prompt with information about the camera is displayed.
→ Check the version information
→ Select Yes
  • The prompt Save profiles on SD Card? appears.
→ Select Yes/No
  • The update will start automatically.
  • The 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

Notes

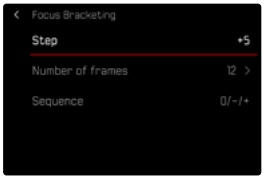
- Date & time, as well as the preferred language will have to be set up again after the restart. Relevant prompts will appear on screen.
- These settings will be applied automatically if the update is loaded via Leica FOTOS.

SHOOTING MODES

FOCUS BRACKETING

In Focus Bracketing, the camera will automatically generate an image series with incremental focus position. Using an appropriate software, the individual shots can then be fused into a single image with enhanced depth of field.
This function is particularly useful for macro, product, and landscape images, for which the desired depth of field cannot be achieved in a single shot.





FINE TUNING

The following settings can be customized for Focus Bracketing.

→ Select Drive Mode in the main menu
→ Select Focus Bracketing
→ Select Settings
- The submenu appears.

SELECTING A NUMBER OF SHOTS

The user can specify any number of shots between 2 and 999.

SETTING THE INCREMENT

The setting option Steps specifies the increment in which the focus position between two sequential shots will change. The larger the value, the greater the increment. The following shooting examples may serve as a guide for the increment selection.

→ Select 0/+
- Specifies the size of the focus position change between sequential shots.
  - Steps 1–3: For high magnifications and very low depth of field, e.g. extreme macro shots, insects, water drops, or shots with a wide open aperture.
  - Steps 4–5: For e.g. product images, tabletop, flowers, and detail-rich studio shootings.
  - Steps 6–10: For e.g. landscape, architecture, and objects with great spatial depth; especially for shots with smaller aperture.

SETTING THE SHOT SEQUENCE

The shot sequence specifies the direction and sequence in which the focus position will change during continuous shooting. The series will begin at the current focus position.

→ Select 0/–/+
- The series will begin at the current focus position and then shift the focus alternately in front of and behind the starting point.

USE

→ Setting the focus for the desired starting position

→ Select Focus Bracketing as the recording mode

→ Specify the Number of frames, Steps, and Sequence

- The relevant settings for image rendering, i.e. exposure, ISO, white balance, aperture, and resolution will remain unchanged during continuous shooting.
- The recorded images will be saved in sequence and then grouped in Playback mode as a contiguous image series.

Each shot in the series will have a slightly different focus plane. Using an appropriate software, the individual shots can then be fused into a so-called focus stack. The result will be an image with continuous sharpness from the foreground all the way to the background.

Notes

- For the most consistent results, it is advisable to use a tripod and to choose the initial focus position carefully.
- Pressing any button brings up a menu via which the image sequence can be stopped. If the sequence is stopped early, all images recorded up to that point remain saved.

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 supports precise and continuous focus tracking.

→ Select AF Detection in the main menu
→ Select Car, Car (Parts) for vehicle recognition
→ Select Off to deactivate

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)





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 camera menu as well as the live view with all on-screen information can be output via HDMI. The rendering will match the display on the camera's LCD panel exactly. This output is intended primarily for on-set monitoring, provided the HDMI port is not being used for external recording.

→ Select Camera Settings in the main menu

→ Activate/deactivate Mirror via HDMI