LEICA SL3
LEICA SL3-S
LEICA SL3-P

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 Pre-Shot function for continuous shooting with electronic shutter:**
  The camera begins buffering images continuously as soon as the shutter button is pressed to the first pressure point and before the button is fully pressed. The user can choose whether the last 0.5 s, 1.0 s, or 1.5 s should be saved before shutter release. Once the shutter button is fully pressed, these images are saved to the memory card alongside the continuous-shooting frames captured afterwards.
- **New shutter settings for camera shut-down (Leica SL3-P only):**
  The mechanical shutter can now be automatically closed when the camera is switched off to better protect the sensor area from dust and foreign particles during lens changes. The shutter will by default remain open.
- **Support for FN buttons on L-Mount lenses:**
  The function button of compatible L-Mount lenses can now be custom assigned directly via the camera. Various functions are available for assignment depending on shooting and focus mode.
- **New lens profile:**
  Summicron-M 66 f/2

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IMPROVEMENT

- **Improved rendering when using live view magnification in EVF (Leica SL3-S/SL3-P only):**
  The image quality of the magnified Live View display in EVF was improved within the extended central image area – regardless of the selected focus mode. This improvement allows for a more precise assessment of the image sharpness.
- **Improved support for Multi-Shot recordings:**
  A new visual stability display facilitates hand-held shots. It shows camera movement and helps with holding the camera as steady as possible before and during shooting.
- **Improved L-Mount lens detection in Transport mode:**
  Lenses with manual toggling for Transport and Operations mode are now detected correctly. Relevant notification messages can therefore be reliably displayed.
- **Advanced support for L-Mount lenses without focus or aperture motor:**
  The camera automatically detects the equipment of the connected lens. Manual focus is used for lenses without focus motor. Available exposure modes are appropriately adjusted for lenses without aperture motor.
- **User-configurable rotation direction for the focus ring:**
  The rotation direction of the focus ring can now be user-defined for compatible L-Mount lenses. The user specifies the rotation direction for close-up or infinity shots.
- **Improved L-Mount compatibility:**
  Support for the functions "Focus Recall" and "Power Focus" for "SIGMA SPORTS 300–600mm F4 DG OS".
- **Improved Zoom function in Review mode:**
  Using the dial or FN button to magnify will automatically center the magnification view on the most recently used AF position.
- **Streamlined pairing process with the Leica FOTOS app:**
  The pairing status will now be displayed only via the status icons; additional connection notifications were removed.
- **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.

- **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.
- **Improved status display when powering down:**
  While images are still being saved, a message indicates that the storage process is ongoing. Once the process is completed, the camera will switch off automatically.
- **Improved exposure compensation when changing shooting modes:**
  In M-Mode, exposure compensation will now start at 0 EV. When changing back to **P**, **A**, or **S** the previously set value is automatically restored.
- **Streamlined creation of videos from image series:**
  The function "Create Video" is now directly accessible via the Overlay menu in Review mode, making access much faster and more intuitive.
- **Adjusted default shutter speed:**
  The standard shutter speed in the exposure modes **M** and **S** was changed from 1/250 s to 1/200 s.

TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Correction of a display issue in the Video Focus mode (Follow Focus):**
  An issue caused incorrect focus readouts with specific L-Mount lenses. The display was now corrected.
- **Bugfix in the Waveform display:**
  In Video mode, the Waveform monitor could not be deactivated via the assigned FN button once it was activated.
- **Display bugfix for 2 TB memory cards:**
  Previously, the storage capacity of these cards was displayed incorrectly in the Control Center as 1 TB. This issue was resolved.
- **Improved AF-Lock function:**
  An issue was resolved whereby AF-Lock was unavailable via the joystick in certain focus area modes when Eye/Face/Body or Animal Detection was active. AF-Lock is now also available when object detection is enabled.
- **A display issue during EVF/LCD toggling was resolved:**
  The relevant notification will now also be displayed in the Play menu and when multiple shots are displayed simultaneously.
- **Improved automatic white balance in continuous shooting:**
  An issue was resolved where the color rendering of individual frames within a continuous shooting session taken in Tungsten would at times deviate.

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.

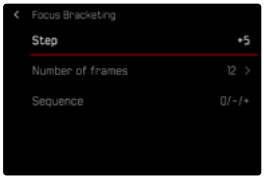
→ Switch the camera off and on again

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.

PRE-SHOT

The function Pre-Shot allows the capture of moments immediately before shutter release. The camera will capture continuous shots while the shutter button is pressed to the first pressure point (S1) and stores them in a temporary cache.

Once the shutter button is pressed down fully (S2), the images captured beforehand will be saved alongside the subsequent images from the continuous shooting. This function is particularly helpful for objects, where the decisive moment is difficult to judge in advance, e.g. for sports, animal, or action shots.

SETTINGS

The user can specify the length of time for continuous shooting before shutter release.

→ Select Drive Mode in the main menu

→ Select Continuous Shooting

→ Select a mode offering the Pre-Shot option

→ Select Pre-Shot

→ Set the desired duration
(0 s, 0.5 s, 1.0 s, 1.5 s)

- The number of shots saved before and after shutter release varies depending on the selected continuous frame rate and available buffer memory.

USE

→ Select a compatible continuous shooting shooting mode offering the Pre-Shot option

→ Set the desired duration

→ Press and hold the shutter button at the first pressure point (S1)

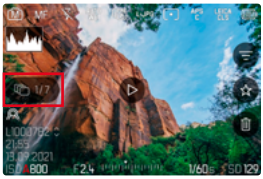
- The camera will begin to buffer continuous shots in the temporary cache. Focus and exposure are controlled in accordance with current shooting conditions.

→ Press down the shutter button fully (S2) at the desired moment

- Once the shutter button is fully pressed, these images buffered within the selected duration until S2 will be saved to the memory card alongside the continuous shooting frames captured afterwards.
- Should the shutter button not be pressed down fully, then the shots in the temporary cache will be discarded and not saved to the memory card.
- A display in the camera's LCD panel shows that the function is activated.

REVIEW

Pre-Shot images are displayed in playback as a single, associated group and marked with the corresponding icon.



When opening an image group, each shot in the series can be viewed individually. All recorded images will already be saved. Just like in any continuous shooting image series, individual shots can be selected and deleted.

DISPLAYING INDIVIDUAL SHOTS

→ Select the image group icon on the LCD panel

or

→ Press the joystick up/down

Notes

- The actual number of images saved before and after shutter release depends on the selected continuous shooting rate, the specified Pre-Shot duration, and the available buffer capacity.
- Pre-Shot is available in selected continuous shooting modes when the electronic shutter is used. Available serial frame rates depend on the camera model.

Camera model	Serial frame rate	Max. shots	0.5 s before S2	0.5 s after S2	1.0 s before S2	1.0 s after S2	1.5 s before S2	1.5 s after S2
Leica SL3	15 fps	60	7	53	15	45	22	38
Leica SL3-S	15 fps	175	7	168	15	160	22	153
	30 fps	175	15	160	30	145	45	130
Leica SL3-P	15 fps, 14 bit	70	7	63	15	55	22	48
	25 fps, 14 bit	70	12	58	25	45	37	33
	30 fps	70	15	55	30	40	45	25
	40 fps	70	20	50	40	30	60	10

- The longer the set Pre-Shot duration, the greater the proportion of images that may have been captured before shutter release.
- Pre-Shot will function with the electronic shutter only and ensures fast and silent continuous shooting.
- RAW and JPG images are supported according to the currently selected file format.
- The time required to save an image series depends on the chosen file format and the functions in use. The processing time may increase for JPG or JPG + DNG, as well as when Content Credentials is enabled (Leica SL3-P only). The shortest processing time is achieved when shooting in DNG format and using a CFexpress memory card.