



## **Book Descriptions:**

# **canon video camera user manual**

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With Relay Recording, the camcorder automatically switches video recording from the internal drive to the SD memory cards when the memory becomes full. Video can be copied from the XA10's internal drive to removable SD memory cards. That makes it easy to insert the card into your computer or HDTV's card reader and view your recorded footage immediately. When recording has continued for 12 hours, it will stop and then restart, automatically. The maximum memory capacity and recording time can be substantially increased by the combination of the internal memory and the size of the SD memory card chosen. For example, the XA10's 64GB of internal memory, combined with two removable 64GB memory cards, would give 192GB in total memory capacity, and 73 hours 30 minutes of recording time at LP setting. MXP and FXP modes record in 1920 x 1080 and require a Class 4 or higher SDHC or SDXC Card. Double Slot Recording allows recording to two SD cards simultaneously, providing an automatic backup while shooting. The XA10 features the AVCHD codec. AVCHD Advanced Video Coding High Definition was announced in 2006 and is quickly becoming the standard for professional camcorders. In addition to professional grade camcorders, AVCHD is very popular in the consumer market and as a result most nonlinear editing software, both professional and consumer, have full support for the codec; this makes for easy compatibility with the XA10 no matter what system the user chooses. AVCHD is used for encoding Bluray discs, meaning the XA10 is ideal for capturing content for delivery in this format, as well as making conversion to webbased content in H.264 format easy. Additionally, the XA10 records up to 24Mbps, the maximum bit rate of AVCHD, at 1920 x 1080 and 420 color space for sharp, vivid, and fully professional quality image capture. The XA10 features a Genuine Canon 10x HD Zoom Lens which offers a 35mm equivalent of 30.4mm 304mm.

It delivers unsurpassed image quality, the versatility of a wide angle of view and smooth and

professional looking background images thanks to a sophisticated 8blade iris. A dedicated manual focus ring allows accurate and precise control. SuperRange Optical Image Stabilizer The XA10 also incorporates a SuperRange Optical Image Stabilization system lens shift with four modes Standard, Powered, Dynamic and Off. Standard Lens shift is controlled so that the maximum compensation angle is constant from wide angle through telephoto. Powered Vibration is suppressed at the telephoto end of the range, where shake is most apparent due to high magnification. Dynamic Stabilization changes throughout the zoom range to minimize more pronounced shaking. This is especially useful at wideangle focal lengths when walking. Enhanced Auto Focus When shooting high definition video, sharp focus becomes more critical than ever. Canons proprietary Instant AF system combines an external AF sensor with Canons legendary auto focus system for fast and accurate focus. Together, the two sensors reduce focusing time even in lowlight, low contrast, or high brightness situations and improve focusing performance on difficult subjects. The XA10 gives you a choice of five AF modes for different shooting applications Instant AF changes focus as rapidly as possible, for those applications in which quick focus is more important than other considerations for example, in news gathering or documentary work. Medium AF changes focus at a speed which is softer and smoother than Instant AF, but faster than would likely be possible manually. Normal AF changes focus at a speed that appears natural and doesnt distract the viewer. Face AF tracks focus on faces when present. The user selects the face to be tracked. If the chosen tracked face is not present in a shot, the subject in the center of the screen will automatically be brought into focus.

Face Only AF automatically tracks the chosen tracked face in focus but, should that face leave the scene, will reset focus to manual mode. Minimum Object Distance When shooting with the XA10, the minimum focus distance is 20mm 0.78 inches at the wide macro end and maintains 60cm 1.97 feet throughout the entire zoom range. The additional blades also reduce diffraction of light passing through the iris, allowing for the use of smaller apertures while maintaining image quality. The high sensitivity and wide dynamic range of this sensor are what demanding users expect from Canon. The XA10 Professional Camcorder features Canons powerful DIGIC DV III Image Processor, which provides enhanced shading, lifelike tonal gradations, and lower power consumption. Onthego videographers will appreciate the ability to track one subject in a crowd of people. Smart Auto Smart Auto uses the power of Canon's DIGIC DV III Image Processor to intelligently detect and analyze faces, brightness, color, distance, and movement, and then automatically selects the best settings for the scene. Among the 38 scenes available in Smart Auto, a standout is Tele Macro. Tele Macro automatically zooms the lens of the camcorder to the telephoto end, setting the minimum object distance to approximately 1.3 feet from 3.3 feet. This gives you the opportunity to shoot spectacular closeups with the dramatic look of a shallow depth of field. A 3.5inch, 922,000 dot LCD monitor provides an ample, accurate area for critical focus confirmation and approximately 100% field of view. The display opens on the left side of the camera body. Simply select the point of interest on the Touch Panel LCD and you will have the subject in sharp focus, regardless of where in the frame it moves during the shot. The exposure will be perfectly adjusted for subject and conditions. Touch Focus Touch Focus allows the user to pinpoint a specific area to focus on.

This function is similar to the Push AF feature found on other professional camcorders, but can target a subject anywhere in the frame. Touch Exposure Touch Exposure enables exposure to be locked or compensated for the area touched by the user. EVF The XA10 Professional Camcorder features a 0.24inch, 260,000 Dot Color EVF and approximately 100% field of view coverage for comfortable viewing and accurate judgment of composition. Brightness, contrast, color and backlight are adjustable. Focus Assist Functions Edge Monitor Focus Assist System With Canons Edge Monitor Focus Assist system, a green monitor is shown at the bottom of the LCD Display. The green waveform shows overall focus of the image, and the height raises to indicate the area in focus. Through this dynamic focus feedback, you can intuitively tune focus in a scene and quickly change the zone of focus. A detachable handle provides the pro shooter with expanded audio performance

and added flexibility. Removing the handle allows the camcorder to be made more compact for convenient storage when travelling. It does so by removing the infrared cutoff filter from the optical path. Its specially designed lens coating allows the infrared light to pass through to the image sensor. Additionally, the XA10's detachable handle features an infrared emitter with a diffuser to shoot pleasing infrared imagery even in complete darkness. For nature videographers or law enforcement users, the benefits of a compact, high performance camcorder for shooting in such conditions is obvious. Without the need to add lights, the shooter may remain hidden from their subjects. Also, the XA10 gives the option of recording in green or white light mode. The XA10 Professional Camcorder offers a wide array of functions to provide the professional shooter with an exceptional level of control. Custom Key and Dial A Custom Key and Dial feature allows you to assign functions to an easily accessible key and adjust the settings with a control dial.

In this mode the key has no effect. Manual exposure When manual control is selected, the dial can adjust aperture, shutter speed, or gain. Select items to adjust, such as aperture or other settings, with the key. Exposure Lock can be set on or off as can the AGC Limit. Focus and Exposure Aids To further enhance focusing capability, the XA10 also features Focus Assist. It includes enlargement, which helps in capturing your subject in razorsharp focus. It works by providing a 2x magnification of your subject, which is automatically cancelled when you start recording. Also included is color peaking, which shows the shooting object's focused areas in actual colors. With Canons Edge Monitor Focus Assist system, a green monitor is shown at the bottom of the LCD Display. Typically only found on expensive external units, the XA10 has a waveform monitor built right into the camera. The waveform monitor shows a detailed view of overall image brightness. Composition Aids With the Level Marker feature, its easy to keep the camcorder level for more accurate framing. The Grid Marker provides a reference grid in your viewfinder. Depending on the background color of your shot, you can choose between two different colors for better viewing contrast. Advanced Control The XA10 features full manual exposure, as well as aperture priority Av, and shutter priority Tv modes. Either color bars or color bars and test tone can be selected and recorded using a menu. The color bars comply with the SMPTE standard. 12 dB, 18 dB or 20 dB can be selected as the test tone. The white balance control has 6 available presets settable through a variety of day and artificial light conditions Daylight, Shade, Cloudy, Tungsten, Fluorescent H, and Fluorescent, as well as two manual white balance settings. Color temperature may also be manually set from 2,000K to 15,000K in 100K increments for more precise adjustment. Gain may be manually set from 0 dB to 24 dB in 1 dB increments.

Additionally, Auto Gain Control Limit allows you to set the maximum gain limit for the image sensors sensitivity. With this function, brightness and noise can be balanced as required, and image quality can be maximized in low light situations. Power zoom is available in Constant and Variable settings in 3 modes Fast approx. 1.9 60 seconds, Normal approx. 3.0 180 seconds and Slow approx. 4.0 285 seconds. To provide added control, there are 16 predefined steps in Constant mode. The XA10 records in Full HD 1920 x 1080 in a variety of frame rates. The XA10 is also capable of recording in several different bit rate modes 24Mbps, 17Mbps, 12Mbps, 7Mbps, 5Mbps allowing the user to balance quality versus recording time for specific applications. In addition to the standard interlaced frame rate of 60i, the XA10 can also capture video in PF30 Frame Rate PF30 is the ideal frame rate for video viewed on the Internet. It is also an excellent choice for frame grab during playback. Video is recorded in 60i. Native 24p Frame Rate A must for serious filmmaking work, Native 24p matches the frame rate of a traditional film camera giving the same cadence and temporal motion. When Cinema Shooting Mode is selected on the XA10, it is possible to use one of nine different cinematic filters to customize the look and feel of the image. This provides users with almost limitless creative control. When Cinema Standard is selected, color depth, softening and contrast can also be adjusted. HDtoSD Downconversion allows you to convert recorded high definition video to standard definition files while safely preserving the original HD video. These standard definition files make it even more

convenient to share video online. Canon camcorders are not guaranteed to support Eye-Fi card functions, including wireless transfer. In case of an issue with the Eye-Fi card, please consult with the card manufacturer.

Canon makes no representations or warranties with respect to any third party accessory or product mentioned herein. The XA10 Professional Camcorder offers a builtin stereo microphone to capture highquality audio. It offers a significant reduction in noise at medium and low frequencies. The microphones direction can be adjusted four different ways to match your needs and taste. Choose from Monaural Single point direction Normal Stereo Wide Provides a more enhanced, separated stereo effect than normal Synced with Zoom Directionality is adjusted to match the zoom position In addition, the frequency response characteristics of the microphone can be adjusted between low, midrange and high frequencies. Normal Provides a balance throughout all frequencies Lowrange emphasis Excellent for recording live music with impact Attenuate low frequencies Reduces ambient noise and the sound of traffic outdoors, such as wind, cars, and so on Midrange emphasis Ideal for capturing peoples voices Low and high range emphasis Record live music with balanced lows and highs The Automatic Attenuator feature prevents high volume distortion and optimizes audio quality in situations when sound levels quickly change. It automatically keeps the audio clean and even. Additionally, two XLR audio inputs with phantom power can be found on the detachable handle. Both the builtin Microphone terminal and XLR terminals have the option for automatic or manual audio level control. This device is not, and may not be, offered for sale or lease, or sold or leased, until authorization is obtained. The XA10 suggests specific shots to tell the story and helps keep them organized. Optional Canon WDH58W Wide Converter Optically matched for the XA10's HD lens, the WDH58W Wide Converter provides a magnification factor of 0.8x increasing wide angle capability to approximately 24mm 35mm equivalent. Intelligent Battery System The XA10 Professional Camcorder is compatible with Canon's Intelligent Lithiumion batteries.

These batteries communicate remaining running time down to the minute so the user is wellinformed at all times. Support for 27 languages Supported are Czech, Danish, German, Greek, English, Spanish, French, Italian, Hungarian, Malay, Dutch, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Finnish, Swedish, Turkish, Russian, Ukrainian, Arabic, Farsi, Thai, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese, Korean, and Japanese. 1 Year Parts and Labor Limited Warranty See full review Lon.TV Onsite Associates Program All orders are shipped safely with USPS Priority or FedEx. We take actual photos of every item we sell. To calculate the overall star rating and percentage breakdown by star, we don't use a simple average. Instead, our system considers things like how recent a review is and if the reviewer bought the item on Amazon. It also analyzes reviews to verify trustworthiness. Please try again later. NM 4.0 out of 5 stars It is pretty much a five star item with only a few areas of improvement needed. The main question you should ask yourself is if this is the right piece of gear for you. Not only in terms of choosing between camcorders, but also whether you should get a DSLR over a Camcorder. This is something I will address under a separate paragraph below. Now would this camera be the filming tool of a professional. The answer is yes and no. Yes if you are starting your business, you are on a budget, you are filming mostly events, and you dont mind the few extra steps this camera demands for achieving high end results. If you are filming everyday and you have a real production budget, then you should look into something more robust and flexible. While it can be used by pros, the camera squarely does not meet broadcast standards, which includes 422 color spacing, 50 mps codec, and interchangeable lenses among other things. That been said, this camera is absolutely not for beginners. It DOES possess all the functions and features of a professional camera, esp. for sound.

So if you just want to film your kids at Christmas, your holiday at a resort, Disneyworld or some other stuff like that, this camera is not for you because you would waste your money for advanced capabilities you will never use. And you will find it way too complicated too for what you want to

film. There are now plenty of affordable and rather excellent cameras out there for the consumer who wants to shoot in HD. The Vixia line or your midrange DSLRs will do the job great. If you want a camera that meets broadcast standards and remains small and cheap, the XF100 is the way to go. The learning curve for proper image and sound at the highest level is pretty steep. Once you have mastered all the functions and controls on the camera, you will definitely be able to produce images that will blow everybody away. The sound quality is as good as the microphones you will connect, and there's no limit there. **WHY I GOT THE XA10** I got the XA10 to film a documentary on carpentry in Pakistan. I have a full time job so I can only shoot during the weekend. When you do a documentary, sound is just as important as images, so XLR inputs were really critical for me. Because I travel a lot and also do mountaineering videos, the 2.2 pound ultra compact camera was also a key factor. The fact that you can even remove the handle makes it ideal. **ALTERNATIVES** The XF100, the XA10's big brother, is the obvious upgrade. Sony recently unveiled the NEXV900 which will have a full frame sensor. It will cost more, of course, but the full frame sensor is an exciting feature. They don't have XLR inputs but you can equip them later with add-on parts and modules. **THE IMAGE** The image quality is very good. It is almost like when you walk into the TV section of a Best Buy store and you look at those crazy good images from a BluRay disc and you go WOW. It is that clear. Keep in mind that the sensor in the camera is the same that you find in the broadcast level XF100. The colors are bright and vivid.

The contrasts are sharp. The details of every shot are clean. The lens on the camera is pretty good, so what you film comes out clean. I used the camera in a number of situations and what strikes me is how incredibly crisp and sharp the images are, along with contrasts and colors. It is very sports like, very vivid and bright. That is not a flaw in any way this is just the style of the camera and it might please some but annoy others. For example, folks who love the smooth, flatish, velvety, and brushed up look of the 5D Mark II might find the image overwhelming. I like it and there's ways in post to edit the image to your liking. You could also manually adjust the camera to get more toned-down images. The inaccuracy is very subtle and can be easily adjusted in post. With regards to the RGB curves, I found that the spreads are nicely and accurately laid out. The skin tone line is also neatly where it should be, especially if you manually adjusted the white balance correctly when filming. So overall the image is good and accurate. **THE CODEC** The XA10 records the footage in the AVCHD codec, which has both advantages and shortfalls. AVCHD codec is a compressed version of your images like JPEG compresses photos which will result in some quality loss not much, but still there is some quality loss, the most visible aspect being some distortion at the far sides of the image when the footage was taken when the camera was oscillating both vertically and horizontally when the subject had a lot of movements or details. The solution is simply to film on tripod or with any form of stabilization. AVCHD is also one of the most efficient compression codecs out there at the moment so while some quality loss is going to occur, as with any compression, it is less bad than others. If you want to record non-compressed or RAW footage, you'd have to look into a whole different and much more expensive setup than this. AVCHD is also known as MPEG4 or H.

264, making it the most commonly used codec on web-based video communities and editing software, so you will not have to buy super high-end editing programmes. **THE RATTLE NON ISSUE** The handle DOES rattle if you shake the camera but the mics you will plug into the XLR jacks will not pick up the sound esp. The only way to hear the rattle would be by using only the camera's built-in mic, keep the XLR handle on, and literally jump or run around with the camera, which is a shooting setup that makes no sense and would result in unusable footage anyway. Also, why would you use the built-in mic if you have XLR inputs. If you do want to do that, you can remove the handle, and the problem is solved. So the rattle thing is really not an issue and I think that people who complain about it have yet to understand how to use the camera. The aperture can be set at a maximum of 1.8, which is plenty for shallow DOF, but because the zoom control is electronic, it can be a bit difficult to control the DOF when moving the camera in a hand-held situation. But with some fiddling

of the camera settings and practice, you should figure it out, but it will remain difficult to achieve. I found that the image transmitted to the LCD is a correct representation of what is filmed and reliable enough to use for adjusting your filming setup. Believe it or not, the infrared function is great. At first I ignored it as a gadget for attracting consumers but I tried it a few times out of curiosity and it produces very interesting footage and the quality is not bad at all. Try filming someone smoking a cigarette in the dark you can see everything clearly and the cigarette will light up in a beautiful flare. I like to have one mic channel 1 one the camera with another one channel 2 near the sound source a 25 foot xlr cable is good enough I think. The builtin mic is ok and has advanced features for quite a lot of control, but it is not to be used if youre aiming for broadcast sound standards.

It can work pretty well if your sound source is close to the camera and if there is very little sound interference around it, but the sound is not amazing. There is also a mic jack you could use for a 3.5mm mic or wireless mic. This 3.5mm jack input is very useful and it can be manually adjusted with the cameras equalizer settings boosting of low, high or mid level frequencies, depending on what you are recording. You can also mount both XLR mics and a 3.5mm mic on the camera and by the press of a button on the handle you can switch from one sound recording system to another. So sound is a major strength of this camera. OTHER CHARACTERISTICS The camera is very small, lightweight, compact, easy to carry, easy to mount on a tri or monopod, easy to set up, and easy to activate. On top of this, it is solidly built and feels sturdy. If you plan to climb a big, remote mountain, this is the camera to buy. Or if you want to use it for travel documentaries, you can easily carry it around and not freak people out when pulling it out from your bag it does look like a handycam, which is great for not attracting attention. If you dont need XLR sound, remove the handle and you have a tiny device then it becomes pretty much the same as the Vixia HF G10. You can store 64GB on the cameras hard drive and some more on two SD cards. Thats almost 9 hours of filming at the highest quality level. Plus it is all flash data so importing the footage to your computer is fast and does not require transcoding or anything. Plug and Play. MiniDV's are now a thing of the past. The LCD screen is good and accessing the menu for all the functions and control is not perfect but with practice it becomes a straightforward thing. There is an HDMI OUT output option so you could use a separate screen if you need a bigger reference monitor. This is great value for money. As far as I am concerned this is a small revolution. When you think how much capability this little beast packs up, it is impressive.

I mean, XLR inputs, full HD, full manual controls, good codec, huge storage, super compact, etc. If you film for television, you can record at 60 frames per second interlaced, which is good, although I would assume that people buying this camera will use the internet for distribution, so the 30 fps progressive will be preferred. MAIN NEGATIVE POINTS The recording speed is set at a maximum of 30 frames per second progressive so theres no slow motion capacity here. That is really too bad. The image can be a little noisy when shooting in very low light I mean, dark places but you could manually adjust that or add a spotlight or two. Now low light can mean different things to different people. This camera will do well in most low light condition but is definitely no match for 5 digit ISO settings now available on some DSLRs. In any case, my opinion on low light capacity is that a camera is a device that captures light so if there is no light, you should either not shoot or add light. The headphone jack is not conveniently located on the camera and its output is not loud enough, making using headphone difficult. To deal with that, the audio levels can be monitored on the LCD screen. The good thing about the internal mic and the 3.5mm mic input is that you can manually set the maximum audio levels to your desired recording input for example you can set it to 12db and it will never record louder than that. This is kind of annoying. Below are areas where improvement would be welcome. None are real deal breakers because you can find your way around them with practice. The auto focus is bad. This is the cameras main flaw. What happens is that the auto focus will slightly change from parts of a scene to another during certain filming situation when you are

zooming in a lot on a subject that moves or when a certain scene has a lot of details like a Persian tapestry or something. It confuses the camera easily.

This can be overcome by using the manual focus or with some of the autofocus assistance features like face detection which works well and focus tracking you can lock the focus on a moving object and the camera will keep focusing on it while the object moves this also works pretty well. The focus assistance feature in manual mode is good. You can also preset your focusing for scripted scenes. Zooming. There are three ways to zoom a small lever on the handle; a bigger lever on the camera's body which has also variable speed control and the remote control. All three can be customized in how they zoom. It takes practice but you will end up being able to have relatively smooth zooming but it will never replace the good old, manual, efficient and easy way to focus with a lens ring, and that sucks. But again, you will learn how to get around it. Pretty much all functions and controls are only accessible from the LCD screen. You have to go through the menu to find what you need and then adjust everything on the screen. It is really annoying in the beginning but with practice it becomes fast and easy. DSLR or XA10 It depends. If you are going to do lots of run and gun, if you need extreme portability, if sound is important, if you are making a travel documentary with sound, if you want to film longer scenes, if you are a one man show and if you want to just open the camera and within a minute start filming, get an XA10. If you don't mind rigging your DSLR with a mountain of add-ons, are going to film heavily scripted material, if you want every shot to be artsy following careful planning of every scene, if you want to shoot in low light, if your shoots are going to be short, if sound is not going to be critical, then you might want to get a DSLR. The problem is that you will spend way more money on gear and also way more time setting your stuff up than just using the camcorder. To be honest, the ideal is to have both.