

STEPHEN FINKEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Minolta XG-2 (Also known as XG 7 & XG-E)

The XG was the first model of this series to be introduced in 1977. All models were available in chrome and black finish. The XG is bigger but lighter than the recent cameras like the XE or SR-T series.

The XG has a center-weighted metering system with two CdS cells and a matte-Fresnel-field focusing screen with a horizontal split-image spot surrounded by a micro prism field. The back with a memory holder and a DIN/ASA conversion scale is compatible with the later available Data Back G. The bottom of the camera has connector for the Winder G.

The flash is the same as the XD series and has a second small contact. This contact synchronizes the camera with a dedicated Minolta X-Flash like the Auto Electro flash 200X. In A mode with powered-up flash, the camera automatically sets the shutter time to 1/60s and the blinking LED serves as a flash ready signal. Besides the X-contact in the flash, it has a flash terminal at the lens bayonet. Next to it is a socket for an electronic cable release like Remote Cord S or L or a mechanical cable release. The camera doesn't have a stop-down button.

The Minolta XG is a dual-mode camera. It has an aperture-priority mode "A" which is metered. Metering is done by pressing the shutter button halfway. The shutter speed then selected by the camera is shown in the viewfinder by a red LED. In the "A" mode you can "force" the camera to under- or overexpose your pictures by up to two stops. The manual mode is non-metered.

