

## Setting the aperture of a reversed FD lens

When you remove an FD lens from a camera, the lens aperture always goes to f5.6. If you want to use an FD lens in reverse for macro photography, you need to overcome this. Here's how.

1. Hold the lens in your right hand with the rear mount towards you, and the red dot (A) at the 12 o'clock position.
2. Locate the automatic aperture pin at the 6 o'clock position (B). Place your right thumb against the side of this, ready to push in a clockwise direction.
3. Now go back to the red dot and find, slightly to the right, in the recessed flange, a small flat pin in a circular hole (C). Press down on this with the tip of a pen or pencil, at the same time applying pressure to right side of the aperture lever with your right thumb. You should feel the centre section of the lens rotate very slightly (hardly at all, in fact).
4. Look at the 4 o'clock position and locate a similar small flat pin in another circular hole (D). Press this down and apply more pressure to the aperture lever with your right thumb, moving it clockwise. You should find that the centre section of the lens will now rotate some distance and click into a new position.

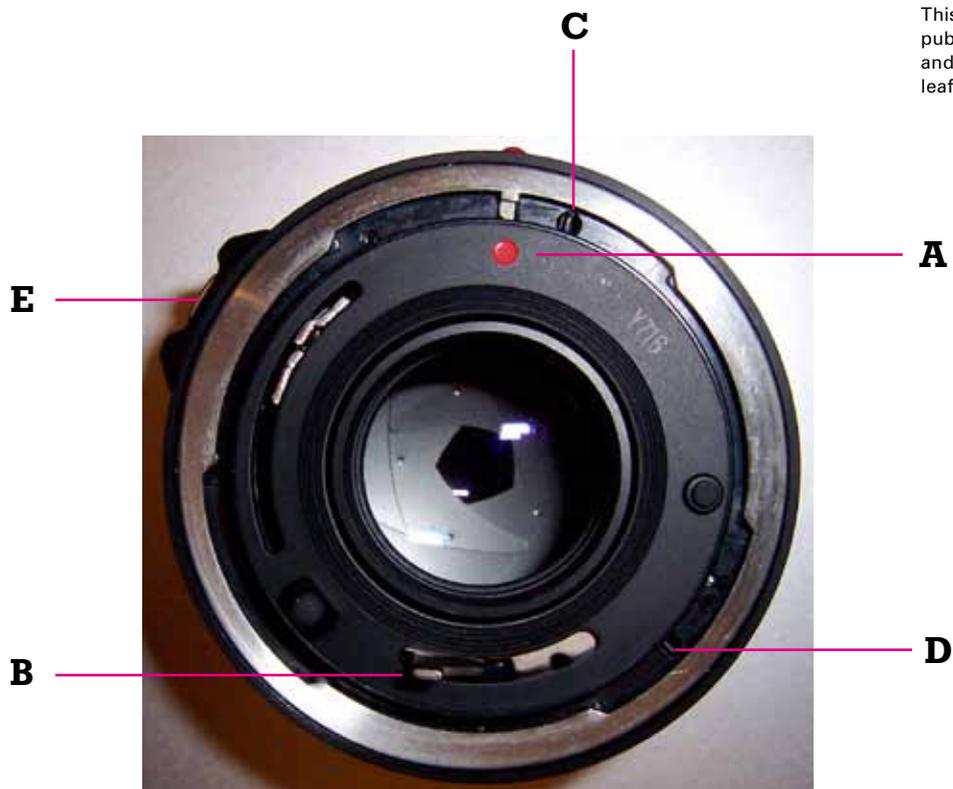
Don't give up if you can't do this right away. It's a fairly tricky procedure and needs a bit of practice.

When you finally get the centre section to turn, the lens will be set for manual aperture control. Pushing the aperture lever anticlockwise will stop the aperture down to the value set on the manual aperture ring on the lens.

Originally, a small piece of plastic called a manual diaphragm adaptor was supplied to hold the aperture ring in place. If you don't have this adaptor (and the chances are that it will have been lost over the years), put one end of a rubber band over the aperture lever and stretch the band to pull the lever. Attach the other end of the stretched band to part of the camera to keep the aperture at the value set on the aperture ring.

By following steps 1 to 4 (above) the lens will no longer mount directly to an accessory or camera. To return it to normal, press the silver release button on the side of the lens (E) and press the lens aperture lever anti-clockwise until the centre section rotates and clicks back into its original position.

*We tried these procedures recently (July 2011) on a couple of FD lenses. The lenses had not been used over the last few years and the movements were quite stiff. We found that a folded clean handkerchief placed against the aperture lever made it easier and more comfortable to apply the pressure needed.*



This item was originally published in autumn 1987 and was updated for this leaflet in July 2011.