

Holga 120 WPC (Wide Pinhole Camera)

By C. Gary Moyer

Welcome to the Toy Box. In each issue of *Light Leaks*, we hope to bring you some unusual toy cameras and take them for a test drive. Our reviews will be based on years of experience using the worst cameras the world of photography has to offer. Our high tech testing methods include: figuring out where the film goes, pointing the camera at a subject and tripping the shutter. In this issue, we feature The Holga 120 WPC (Wide Pinhole Camera).



MANUFACTURER: Universal Electronics Industries • DATE: 2008 • FORMAT: 120mm film
PRICE: \$50 US • SUMMARY: Plastic wide angle pinhole camera



TECHNICAL DETAILS

- 120° view angle
- f/135 pinhole
- 6x9 and 6x12 sized negatives
- Plastic build

ATTRIBUTES:

- Nice vignette with 6x12 mask
- Wide angle
- Big negatives

The Holga factory is really working overtime and bringing some great new camera models to the table. The Holga 120 WPC is really a unique model. You can shoot either eight 6x9 or six 6x12 shots per roll of 120 film. It's light weight, easy to use, and can be had for \$50 US. If you are ever looking to get into pinhole photography this camera will be a great start. Just like a regular Holga, film loading is a snap except for one confusing item, the frame number switch on the camera back. When shooting 6x9 format, you have to set the selector switch to 16. When shooting 6x12 format, you set the switch to 12. Since the camera back is fairly wide, it seems to bow out a little bit in the center. I do suggest taping it up if you don't like light leaks. Turn the film advance wheel to number 1 for your first shot. Thereafter you need to turn to the next odd number to prevent overlapping of your shots. Setting up the camera on a tripod is a must due to the length of time required for pinhole photography exposures. There is a small bubble level on the top of the camera that will help with keeping the camera square. Composing is done with three small plastic pins on the top that you can use as a rough guide for composing your shot. Another item you need is a cable release which screws right into the shutter button. As far as exposure times go, there is a handy guide on the back of the camera for using 100 ISO film, but you can make exposure adjustments when using different speed films. During the testing of this camera, I did have one item that failed. The foam pieces used for the film chamber came undone during film advancing. Make sure to test your foam pieces prior to shooting by pulling on them. You may need to apply a stronger glue to hold them in place. In closing, remember that pinhole photography is not about pointing and shooting. It's



about taking your time, setting the camera up, and taking long exposures. The Holga 120 WPC is a great camera that will make you stop and smell the roses. 📷

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