

# KIRON 70-210mm WITH ZOOMLOCK AND FOCUSTOP

THE highly regarded Kiron range of lenses have been with us for three years now. In that time they have introduced new focal lengths and new features.

They have also added two new words to the photographic vocabulary, Zoomlock and Focustop. Both of which feature on this lens.

Zoomlock, the first of the two to be introduced, consists of a small switch on the focusing/ zooming control. When this is pulled back the sliding action is locked in position so that the lens becomes, in effect, a fixed focal length model. But that focal length can be anything that the photographer wants — just so long as it suits the subject he is shooting at that time.

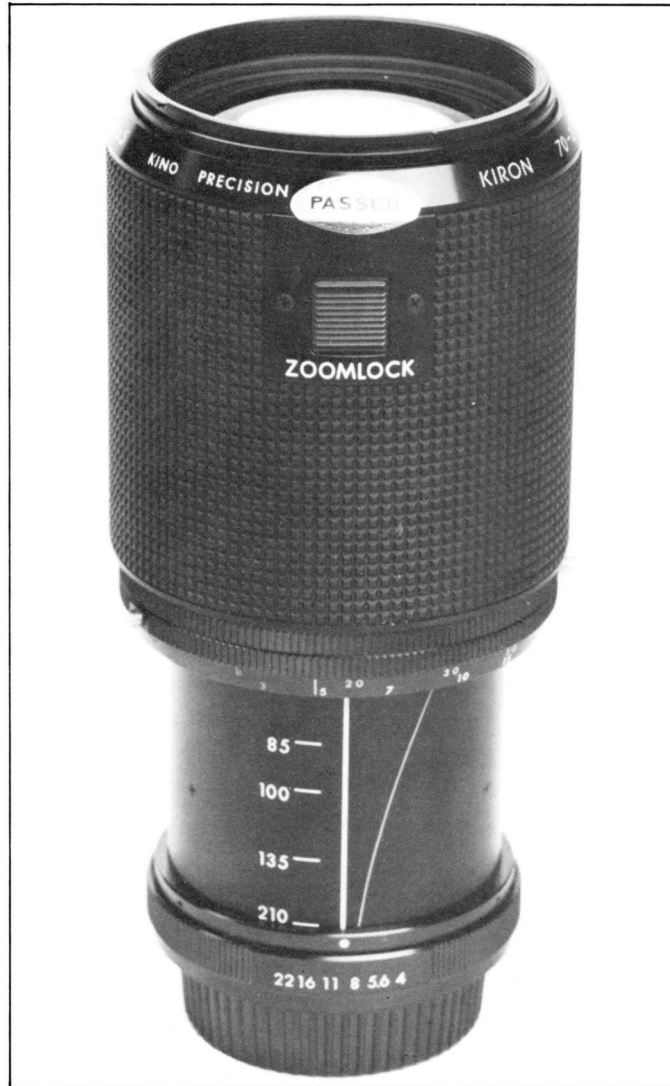
This proves useful when a particular type of shot is being repeated or when the lens is being pointed straight down, for instance in copying, when the whole zoom/focus assembly would otherwise be likely to "creep" down, changing the original set-up.

## BRAND NEW

Focustop is brand new and just as useful. This allows two extremes of focus to be set and locked into position. In front of the focusing scale are two rings, each of these has a small silvered button which, when pressed, allows the whole ring to turn. The button is then lined up with any focusing distance on the scale between 5m and infinity and released.

Thereafter whenever the main focusing ring is turned it will stop at the pre-set position.

The use of Focustop can best be described when a tennis match is used as an illustration. Say the photographer were behind the player serving. He would focus on the server and set one of the stops on that position. He would then focus on the player at the far end and lock that distance onto the scale. Then he could switch from end to end with a flick of the wrist,



certain that he would have sharp focus without having to turn and re-turn seeking a sharp image in the viewfinder. Most useful and one of those ideas that should have been thought of years ago.

In other respects the lay-out of the lens is conventional. The focus/zoom ring is large and well patterned to give a good grip, it has a positive yet light action that responds well under hard use.

Besides the two extreme focal lengths positions are marked at 85, 100 and 135mm. Beside the white line which zeros the focusing is a curved red index for infra-red focus, for use when using one of those films.

The focusing scale goes right down from infinity to the macro section in a single turn when repro ratios of 1:4 (quarter life-size) can be formed on the negative.

Another useful design feature is the non-rotating front element. So however much the zooming and focusing positions are adjusted the alignment of any mounted filters won't change. So if something like a graduated Cokin should be fitted there will be no need to keep rotating it for correct orientation.

The results given by the lens in use are first class. Central and edge definition are good and do improve a touch with stopping down. The contrast is as good as from any zoom lens around. Overall the test results were both sharp and punchy from macro right out to infinity.

Among focal lengths of zooms this, or something very close, is the 'top of the pops' with photographers. The Kiron not only offers superb results, which is what optics are all about, but also the two unique features of Zoomlock and Focustop which are easily used, needed by many photographers and, at times, indispensable. All in all a first class lens that should be the first choice of many photographers.

KIRON 70 210mm	
CENTRAL DEFINITION	8/10
EDGE DEFINITION	7/10
CONTRAST	8/10
IMAGE CONSISTENCY	8/10
OVERALL QUALITY	8/10
QUALITY RATING	39/50

## SPECIFICATION

**FOCAL LENGTH RANGE:** 70-210mm.  
**APERTURE RANGE:** f/4-22.  
**CLICK STOPS:** At stops and half stops to f/16 then at f/22.  
**CONSTRUCTION:** 13 elements in 9 groups.  
**ZOOMING ACTION:** One-touch.  
**CLOSEST FOCUSING:** 1.15m.  
**FILTER SIZE:** 62mm.  
**MOUNTS AVAILABLE:** Olympus, Canon, Pentax K, Minolta, Nikon, Yashica/Contax.  
**WEIGHT:** 868g.  
**DIMENSIONS:** 153x77mm.  
**PRICE:** £125.  
**DISTRIBUTOR:** Photopia International, Newcastle, Staffs. ST5 OSW.

## CAMERA CHOICE RATINGS

QUALITY  
VALUE FOR MONEY

9/10  
9/10