

# Camera types and film formats

(35mm may be the most popular, but there are other fish in the sea)



# There are 4 major types of cameras

- The “View Finder” Camera
- The “Single Lens Reflex Camera”
- The “Twin lens Reflex Camera”
- The “View Camera”

The cameras that we use are  
35mm SLR cameras.



The SLR stands for “Single Lens Reflex”

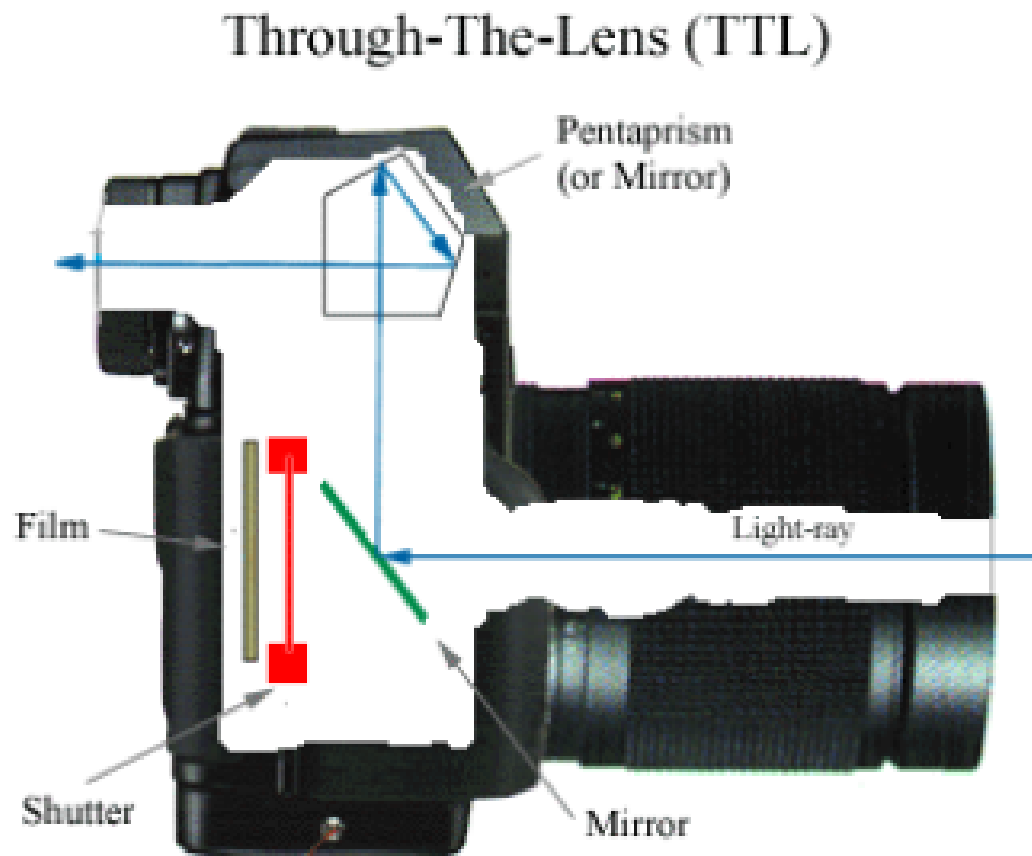
Some advantages to “SLR’s” include:

- Lightweight
- Interchangeable lenses
- Compact

Disadvantages include:

- Noisy Shutter! The mirror going up and down makes a noise
- Many working parts to break!

# What a single lens reflex camera looks like inside, how it works:



The single lens reflex camera may have auto-focus, aperture and shutter priority and other features, but is still a single lens reflex camera.

These almost always use 35 mm film, which refers to the height of the film stock, but not the recorded image.

# Some notes about Digital Cameras...

- Digital cameras have different sized sensors.
- This means that the sensor size is usually smaller than the image recorded by a 35mm film SLR
- Different cameras from the same company may have different sensor sizes
- Sensor size is different from resolution.
- Resolution is measured in (mega) pixels
- Sensor size is measured in mm
- The digital cameras used in this class are a APS-C equivalent, app. 24mm x 16 mm (for Nikon SLR's)
- This is considerably larger than the sensor size of a point and shoot camera
- DO NOT confuse sensor size with resolution! A larger sensor will almost always give a better picture than a smaller sized sensor with a higher megapixel count

## 2. The Twin Lens Reflex camera

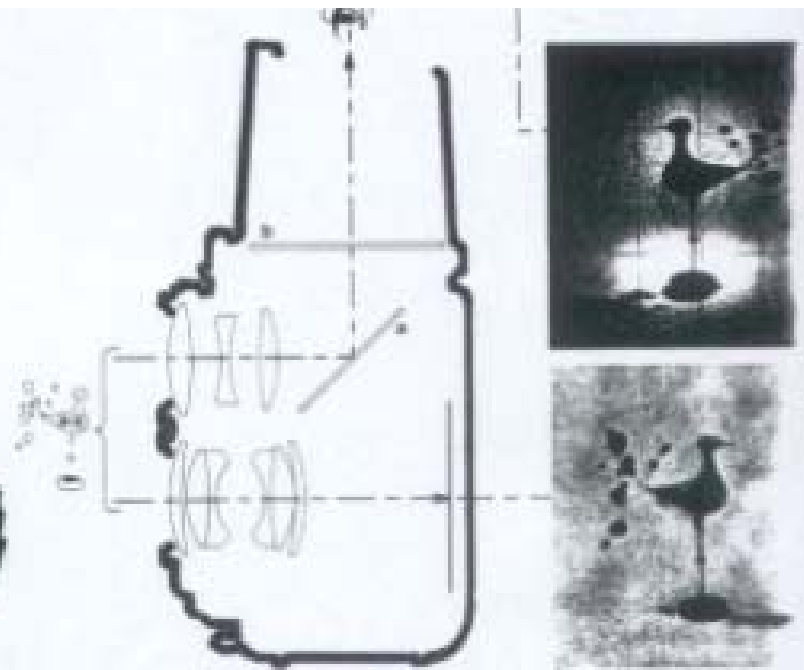
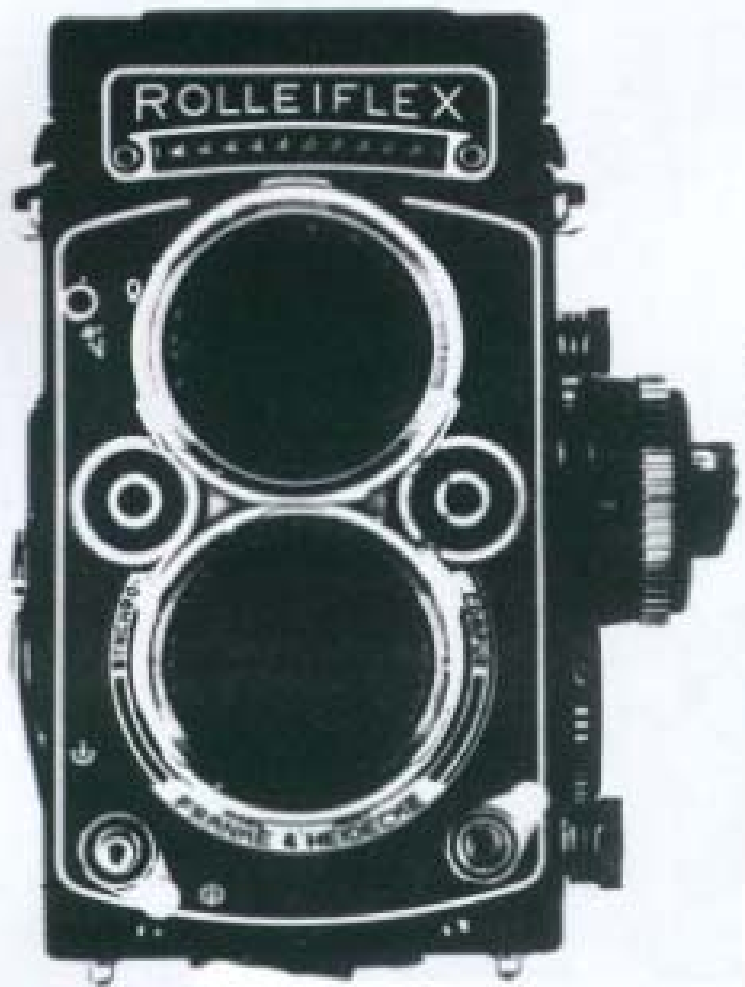
- Uses medium format film.
- This film is bigger than 35mm, usually  $2\frac{1}{4}$  " by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  "
- Allows for greater enlargement due to number of film crystals



# Disadvantages:

- Larger physical size
- Most TLR's do not have interchangeable lenses
- Reverse view in viewfinder
- Parallax error





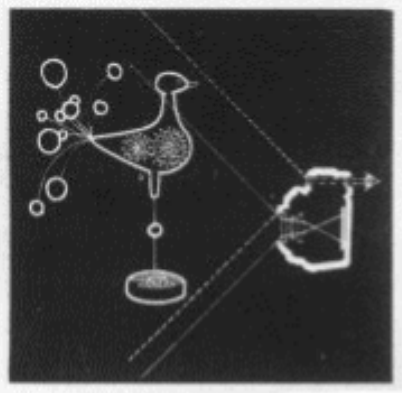
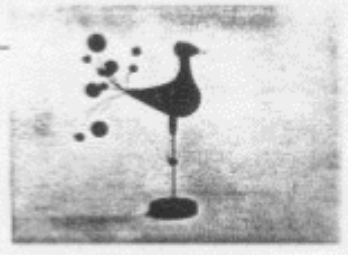
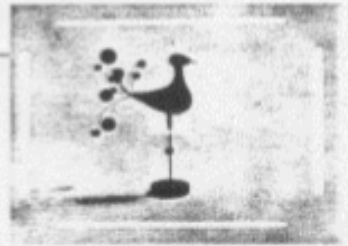
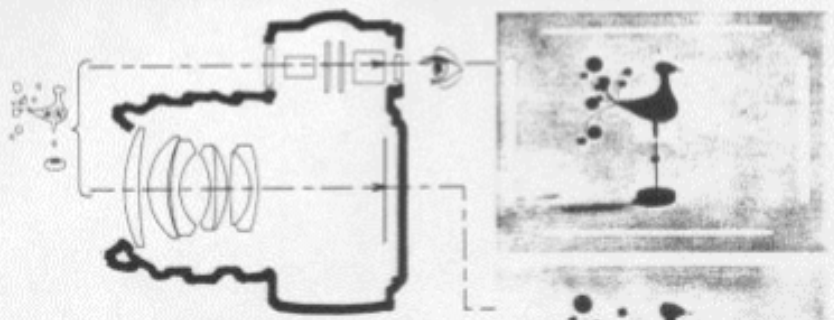
# 3. The Viewfinder Camera

## Advantages:

- No moving parts to break
- Extremely compact and lightweight
- Simple to operate
- inexpensive

## Disadvantages:

- “Parallax error” is unsuitable for close up photography
- Small viewfinder



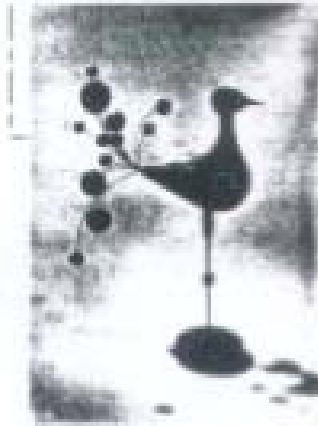
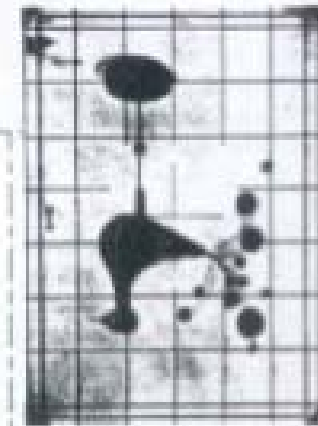
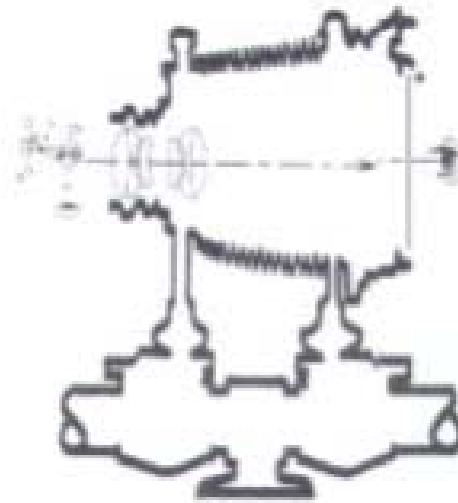
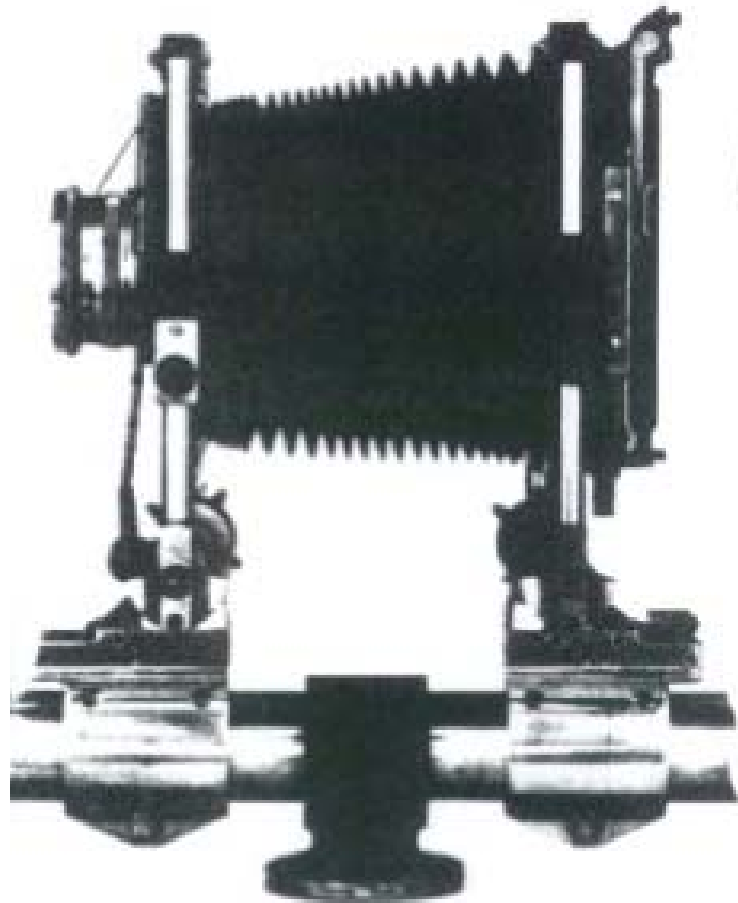
## 4. The view camera

The oldest and highest resolution type of film camera available



# How it works:

An emulsion of gelatin and silver is painted on a sheet of glass. This glass negative is sandwiched between plates, and attached to the camera back after the photographer has focussed his image on the ground glass.





# Advantages:

- “What you see is what you get” The image on the screen is the same as on the film
- LARGE negatives! Great for big enlargements
- Sharp images and little or no distortion

# Disadvantages:

- The cameras are HUGE! They weigh a lot
- Photographers have to hide under black cloth to see image on ground glass
- Slow
- Must use tripod
- Image is reversed on viewing screen