The Olympus M-1 is what happens when an entirely fresh concept in 35mm SLR system photography is backed up by one of the world’s leading all-round optical manufacturers. The freshness lies in the new basic approach to the design, function and inter-relation of each part of the camera and of each unit of the 280-piece system.

The back-up comes from over half a century of Olympus technology encompassing the whole sphere of high grade optical equipment, such as microscopes and medical equipment, where precision is a matter of microns.

The result is a landmark on the photographic scene. An attractive-looking, top performance camera to answer every need of the most demanding professional, yet with a lightness, compactness and ease of operation that set new standards in the camera maker’s art.

In fact, the finely engineered insides of the M-1 take up about a third less volume than you might expect, giving overall external dimensions of 136 x 83 x 81mm (5.4 x 3.3 x 3.2 in.), and, with a standard F1.8 lens attached, total weight is a mere 660 grams (23.3 oz.).

This drastic miniaturization was made possible by 5 years of research into design & function, remorselessly trimming off useless bulk while scrupulously maintaining, or even increasing, essential structural features. The M-1 solves three of the most annoying SLR problems; weight, size and noise level. Noise level is cut to half or even less with 20 special noise reducing devices on the shutter and mirror system.

Prime attention has been given to ruggedness and durability in the M-1, with thorough testing of every part down to the smallest spring and screw. Special materials are used unsparingly, for instance to reduce wear in moving parts of the shutter mechanism and to insure smooth ball-bearing function over a wide temperature range. The lens mount is of extremely tough and long-lasting stainless steel.

Final proof of reliability is provided by the rigorous 100,000-time testing of the camera’s vital shutter, winding and mirror mechanisms at temperatures from −20°C to +50°C.

In addition to being the most comprehensive 35mm photographic system ever, the System features the same compactness, lightness and ease of handling as the M-1 itself. It boasts some 30 lenses of impeccable quality from 8mm fisheye to 1,000mm telephoto, including world firsts such as a 24mm F2 super wide-angle lens and a full set of four macro lenses.

There is a compact, lightweight motor drive system offering speeds up to 4 frames per second. There are also close-up, macrophoto and photomicro systems, all completely compatible.

The M-1 and the System set new standards in 35mm photography, by realizing the traditional Olympus standard of excellence.
Pentaprism housing
Rational design makes the housing far smaller and silver coating makes the optics brighter than conventional pentaprism.

Rewind crank
Large size for easy handling.

X and FP flash terminal
X, FP terminal for electronic flash or bulbs.

Mirror-up lever
Locks mirror in ‘up’ position to prevent shock while taking shallow depth-of-field pictures as in photomicro and macrophotography, and to prevent continuous shock during high-speed motor drive operation.

Rewind release lever
Positioning on the front permits film changing even with copying equipment or motor drive attached.

Self-timer
Delay from 4 to 12 seconds. Can be stopped or reset freely during operation.

Lens mount flange
Of wide diameter stainless steel allowing use of bigger mirror. This cuts down internal flare and gives a better viewfinder image. Extra-tough interchangeable lens mount guarantees permanent tight fit.

Exposure Counter:
Progressive and automatic reset type.

Film Rewinding:
Rewind crank and shut reset type rewind release lever.

Exposure Measurement:
Through-the-lens open aperture light measuring method (2 CdS built in), needle setting in viewfinder.
ON/OFF exposure meter switch. Automatic warning mechanism incorporated against insufficient brightness and switch-off.

Light Measuring Range:
EV2-17 (ASA 100 with F1.4 standard lens).

Battery:
1.3-volt mercury battery 1 pc. (Eveready E625, Mallory RM625-R, GE No. 625 or equivalent).

Film Speed Scale:
ASA 25-1600 with lock button.

Self-Timer:

Rear Cover:
Interchangeable with Recorda Back and 250-Film Back.

Hot Shoe Socket:
Olympus hot shoe (optional) attachable.

Filter Size:
49mm screw-in type for F1.8 and F1.4.

Size and Weight:
55mm for F1.2 standard lens.
(with F1.8 standard lens) 136 x 83 x 81mm 660gr.
(with F1.4 standard lens) 136 x 83 x 86mm 720gr.
(with F1.2 standard lens) 136 x 83 x 97mm 800gr.
(Body only) 136 x 83 x 50mm 490gr.
Design Highlights

Interchangeable Focusing Screens
A choice of focusing screens greatly increases the versatility of a photographic system. The M-1 uses a new, straightforward method to change the focusing screen by taking it out from the front of the camera. It eliminates the troublesome and expensive pentaprism replacement system.

The system range of 12 different focusing screens fully meets the requirements of telephotography, macrophotography, photomicrography, etc.


Through-The-Lens Open Aperture Light Measuring
This sophisticated light measuring system utilizes the same light that falls on the film. It operates at maximum lens aperture and uses 2 highly sensitive CdS cells. For correct exposure it is only necessary to center the needle in the viewfinder by adjusting the shutter speed and aperture rings.

Shutter and Mirror
Noise and vibration are little more than half that of conventional SLRs thanks to the four ball bearing shutter mechanism. A newly developed lightweight curtain drum cuts down noise and acts as an air damper for the shutter and mirror mechanisms, further reducing noise and vibration while increasing durability. The outstandingly large mirror gives a full image field with any lens from 8mm fisheye to 800mm super telephoto.

Size and Weight
The Olympus M-1 is concrete proof that a camera can deliver top performance without being a burden to carry around. By making use of the most modern knowledge and materials, Olympus designers have done an eye-opening job of weight-paring, and far from sacrificing either quality or versatility, in many respects they have improved on both. This can be seen by the fact that while economizing on size and weight wherever practicable, they have never allowed this to diminish ease of operation or performance. Some parts have actually been made larger than their conventional counterparts in order to maximize performance.

With an F1.8 lens the M-1 measures 136 x 83 x 81mm (5.4 x 3.3 x 3.2 in.), and weighs 660 grams (23.3 oz.), a reduction in size and weight of about 35% compared to conventional SLRs.

Lenses
Every lens in the system features superb resolution, light weight and small size. The sharp resolution is guaranteed by Olympus experience in precision optical technology and design, while ample attention is paid to functionality and easy operation as well as to minimizing size and weight.

For example the 100mm lens is about the same size as a conventional standard lens, but far from this meaning a drop in quality, if anything it is even improved.
The Photomicrography Group
In photomicrography Olympus blends two of its main specialties, cameras and microscopes. A unique photomicrography stand for vibration-free use at high magnifications is one of twenty odd units designed for use with a wide variety of Olympus microscopes. This group has an important role in scientific and industrial research work.

The Lens Group
A generous range of fully super-precise objective lenses from 3 to 1000mm, wide-angle, macro, crossed travel, All-Olympus, or Nikon attachment, 2, 3, and 4 Macro, and 2.5x and 4x microscopes are available. The motorized cradle or micro-fine focus permits use by their single size, lightweight feature or handling.

The Motor Drive Group
Every unit is light and compact enough to give hand-held maneuverability even in combination with telephoto lenses. Speed ranges from one frame in 3 seconds to 4 frames per second, with single frame advance also possible.

The Close-Up Photography Group
This 14 unit group includes focusing rail, bayonet type extension tubes and rings, full-scale and portable copy stands, light sources, illuminators and other close-up equipment.
The Macrophotography Group

4 new macro lenses including the unique 1:1 reproduction ratio 80mm, plus auto bellowes, filters, interchangeable focusing screens, slide copier, a newly developed varimagnifier for pinpoint focusing, etc., to explore the fascinating world of the barely seen.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Interchangeable lens</th>
<th>Angle of view</th>
<th>Lens Component element group</th>
<th>Diaphragm</th>
<th>F stop Range</th>
<th>Min. Focus</th>
<th>Field size</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Max. Diameter</th>
<th>Hood</th>
<th>Filter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fisheye</td>
<td>Zuiko Auto-Fisheyes</td>
<td>8mm F2.8</td>
<td>180°</td>
<td>Auto-eco</td>
<td>2.8 - 22</td>
<td>0.2 m</td>
<td>180°</td>
<td>690g</td>
<td>72mm</td>
<td>102mm</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Bulb-in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Wide</td>
<td>Zuiko Auto-W</td>
<td>18mm F2.8</td>
<td>100°</td>
<td>Auto-eco</td>
<td>3.6 - 22</td>
<td>0.2 m</td>
<td>21 x 14cm</td>
<td>720g</td>
<td>42mm</td>
<td>75mm</td>
<td>Screw-in</td>
<td>72mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wide</td>
<td>Zuiko Auto-W</td>
<td>28mm F2.8</td>
<td>75°</td>
<td>Auto-eco</td>
<td>2.8 - 16</td>
<td>0.2 m</td>
<td>23 x 16cm</td>
<td>170g</td>
<td>42mm</td>
<td>75mm</td>
<td>Screw-in</td>
<td>72mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Zuiko Auto-S</td>
<td>50mm F1.4</td>
<td>47°</td>
<td>Auto-eco</td>
<td>1.4 - 16</td>
<td>0.45m</td>
<td>24 x 16cm</td>
<td>290g</td>
<td>42mm</td>
<td>60mm</td>
<td>Screw-on</td>
<td>59mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>Zuiko Auto-Zoom 75 - 150mm F4</td>
<td>32 - 161°</td>
<td>15 - 11</td>
<td>Auto-eco</td>
<td>4 - 22</td>
<td>1.8 m</td>
<td>36 x 24cm</td>
<td>400g</td>
<td>115mm</td>
<td>95mm</td>
<td>Built-in</td>
<td>59mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephoto</td>
<td>Zuiko Auto-T</td>
<td>180mm F3.8</td>
<td>29°</td>
<td>Auto-eco</td>
<td>2 - 16</td>
<td>0.85m</td>
<td>29 x 19cm</td>
<td>230g</td>
<td>47mm</td>
<td>60mm</td>
<td>Screw-in</td>
<td>49mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Use</td>
<td>Zuiko Shift</td>
<td>35mm F2.8</td>
<td>65 - 84°</td>
<td>Manual</td>
<td>2.8 - 22</td>
<td>0.3 m</td>
<td>21 x 14cm</td>
<td>350g</td>
<td>42mm</td>
<td>75mm</td>
<td>Screw-in</td>
<td>49mm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zuiko Auto-Macro</td>
<td>50mm F3.3</td>
<td>47°</td>
<td>Manual</td>
<td>3.6 - 22</td>
<td>0.23m</td>
<td>23 x 16cm</td>
<td>250g</td>
<td>42mm</td>
<td>75mm</td>
<td>Screw-in</td>
<td>49mm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zuiko Macro</td>
<td>80mm F4</td>
<td>6 - 4</td>
<td>Manual</td>
<td>3.5 - 16</td>
<td>0.16m</td>
<td>22 x 16mm</td>
<td>250g</td>
<td>42mm</td>
<td>75mm</td>
<td>Screw-in</td>
<td>49mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zuiko 1:1 Macro</td>
<td>30mm F3.5</td>
<td>5 - 4</td>
<td>Manual</td>
<td>3.5 - 16</td>
<td>0.16m</td>
<td>22 x 16mm</td>
<td>250g</td>
<td>42mm</td>
<td>75mm</td>
<td>Screw-in</td>
<td>49mm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The table above lists the various Olympus System Interchangeable Lenses, including their specifications and features.