

Kodak Tri-X

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Tri-X is a classic high-speed black-and-white photographic film from Kodak. Introduced around 1940 in sheets rated at ASA daylight 200 and tungsten 160, it was one of Kodak's first high-speed (for the time) black-and-white films. Tri-X was released in 35mm and 120 in 1954. Currently it is available in two speeds, ISO 320/26° (320TXP) and 400/27° (400TX). Tri-X 400 is the more common of the two, available in 24 and 36 exposure rolls of 35 mm and 120 as well as 50 and 100 ft bulk rolls of 35mm. Tri-X 320 is available in 4×5", 5×7", and 8×10" sheets.

Tri-X 400 is usually rated at ISO 400 when processed in standard developers and remains among the fastest black-and-white films today. Push processing Tri-X to EI 800 in a standard developer yields very good results, while further pushing to EI 1600 requires more sophisticated processing. A popular method for pushing Tri-X film is using highly diluted developers with little or no agitation and extended development times. This method which is referred to as "stand" or "semi-stand" development, can allow the film to be pushed to speeds up to EI 3200 or 6400.

In 2004 Kodak celebrated 50 years of Tri-X's introduction on November 1, 1954^[1] in 35mm and 120 formats.

Tri-X panchromatic film was once one of the most popular films used by photojournalists and many amateurs. It was manufactured by Eastman Kodak in the US, Kodak Canada, and Kodak Ltd in the UK. Kodak data-sheets once recommended different processing times depending on where the film was manufactured. Its sales declined in the 1970s and 1980s due to the falling price and increasing popularity of colour film. Since the advent of digital photography, Tri-X has all but fallen out of use in newspaper journalism, though it remains popular in documentary journalism.

Tri-X has undergone a number of minor engineering changes during its long history. An early change in ASA (ISO) speed from 200 to 400, around 1960, was due to a change in the ASA standard rather than the film. In 2007, Tri-X was extensively re-engineered, receiving the new designation 400TX in place of TX or TX400, and became finer-grained.

Tri-X



Maker:	Kodak
Speed:	400/27°
Type:	B&W print
Process:	Gelatin-silver
Format:	35 mm, 120
Application:	General

Tri-X Professional

Maker:	Kodak
Speed:	320/26°
Type:	B&W print
Process:	Gelatin-silver
Format:	sheets
Application:	General



A Tri-X 35mm (135) film canister

Tri-X box, circa 1986

See also

- Kodak T-MAX

References

- ↑ "Kodak's Venerable TRI-X Black-and-White Film Celebrates 50 Years of Unparalleled Popularity and Quality" (<http://www.kodak.com/US/en/corp/pressReleases/pr20040212-03.shtml>). Retrieved 2008-01-30.

External links

- Kodak professional Tri-X films (<http://www.kodak.com/global/en/professional/products/films/bw/triX.jhtml?id=0.2.22.14.17.16&lc=en>)
- National Public Radio's Alex Chadwick spoke [1] (<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4583051>) with photographer Chris Rainier about the history and creativity of Tri-X film.

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