

Hacking Nikon cameras

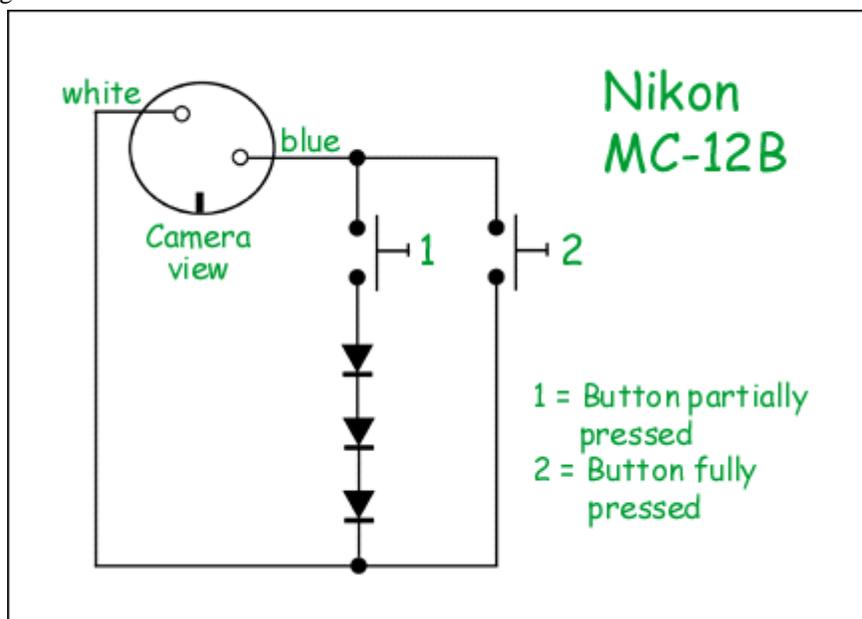
Two-pin cable release connector

The first thing to figure out is the electrical interface for the simple, two-pin cable release connector found on such cameras as the N2020, N70, and N8008.

This turns out to be very simple, indeed. Connect three diodes across the pins (in the correct direction, of course) in series to present a three-diode voltage drop, and the camera will spring to life. The exposure meter will come on, and the camera will attempt to focus if it's set to do so.

If you then short across those diodes, causing the voltage drop across the two pins to drop to zero, the shutter will fire. If the camera is set to "bulb," the shutter will remain open as long as the pins are connected.

In fact, the MC-12B remote cable release does exactly what was just described, and I have drawn up a schematic of it to illustrate my findings:



Ten-pin data interface

The next step, of course, is to investigate the rather more complex ten-pin datalink/cable-release interface present on the body of the N90, N90s, and F5.

I believe that two of the pins (the two at the bottom right, as you look at the camera) are identical in function to the two pin-interface described above. However, I am currently unable to investigate further (all my test equipment was stolen in a recent burglary), so I'll have to refer you to a page which describes someone else's [discoveries](#). Note that I don't think that using a battery is the way to go; diodes ought to do the trick here, as well.

Well, more when I get more time to investigate. I **will** figure the thing out. :)

\$Date: 1999/03/19 05:09:00 \$

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