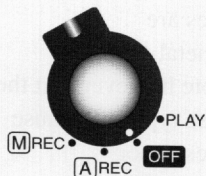


# Inserting and Removing Memory Cards

---

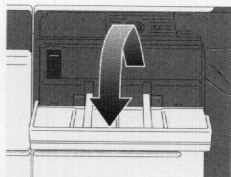
The COOLPIX 900 records photographs on compact flash-memory cards. Before you will be able to take photographs, you must insert a memory card in the camera.



## 1. Turn the camera off

Cards can only be inserted in, and removed from, the camera when the selector dial is set to OFF.

✓**Caution:** *Inserting memory cards when the power is on could render the card unusable.*

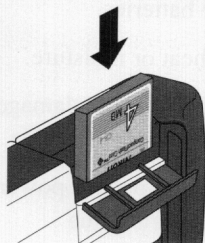


## 2. Open the card-slot cover

If the camera is on a tripod, remove it from the tripod before inserting or removing memory cards. To insert a card, turn the camera upside down. Then lift the card-slot cover up and flip it open.

## 3a. Insert the memory card, or...

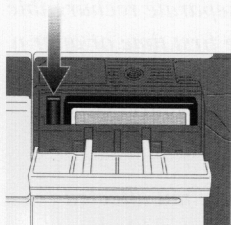
Insert the card as shown below, sliding it in until it is firmly in place at the back of the slot.



✓**Caution:** *Be sure to insert the card as shown in the illustration, with the connectors towards the bottom of the slot and the label facing out. Inserting the card upside-down or backwards could result in damage to the camera or to the card.*

## 3b. ...remove the memory card

Push the card-release button until the card can be removed by hand.



✓**Caution:** *Memory cards may become hot during use. Observe due caution when removing memory cards immediately after the power has been turned off.*

## 4. Close the card-slot cover

## Checking the Battery Level

---

Before using your camera, you should check the battery level to be sure that the batteries do not need to be replaced. To check the battery level, turn the selector dial to M-REC, A-REC, or PLAY. A battery indicator will appear in the control panel on top of the camera. An identical indicator will appear in the LCD monitor when camera settings are displayed. At critical battery levels, a flashing battery icon will appear in the monitor regardless of whether camera settings are currently displayed or not.



**Battery level normal**



**Low battery**—replace batteries as soon as possible



**Battery level critical**—replace batteries before use

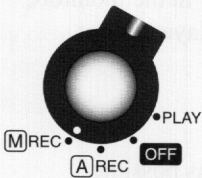
If nothing at all is showing in the control panel display, either the batteries are not correctly installed or the batteries are dead. Check to see that the batteries have been installed correctly. If this does not solve the problem, insert new batteries and check the battery level as shown above.

Note that the camera will not display the battery level correctly if lithium, NiCd, or nickel hydride batteries are used, if the batteries have been replaced with used batteries, or if the batteries do not meet performance standards.

**Note:** *At low battery levels, you may find that the camera will not record images under some settings. There may also not be enough power to charge the flash, in which case the flash will automatically be set to “Off.” At critical levels, the camera will not record a photograph when the shutter button is fully pressed.*

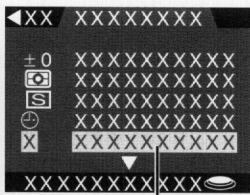
# Choosing a Language for the Menu

For the display of messages and menu items in its LCD monitor, the COOLPIX 900 offers a choice of English, French, German, and Japanese. When you first turn your camera on, you may find that the menus are in a language other than English. To select a new language for the display, follow the steps given below.



## 1. Turn the selector dial to M-REC

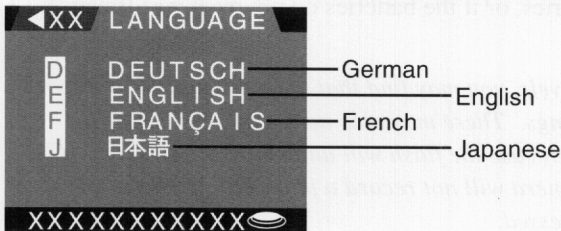
After turning the dial to M-REC, wait one or two seconds for the camera to start up. The color LCD monitor should show the camera's current settings superimposed on the view through the lens. If the monitor is off, press the MONITOR button until it comes on.



Select the last item in the first page of options

## 2. Display the shooting menu

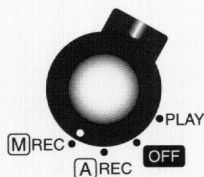
Press the MENU key to bring up the shooting menu. If the menu is not in English, press the zoom-out switch (W/▼) until the last item in the first page of options is selected (in the illustrations on this page, "XXX..." has been substituted for the letters actually appearing in the display). With the last item selected, press the shutter button. The following menu will appear.



Select the desired language using the zoom switch and then press the shutter button to register your choice. The menus and dialogs shown in the color LCD monitor will then be displayed in the chosen language.

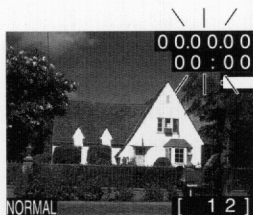
# Setting the Time and Date

The camera's clock-calendar is not set at the factory. When you first turn on your camera, you will need to set the time and date.



## 1. Turn the selector dial to M-REC

After turning the dial to M-REC, wait one or two seconds for the camera to complete start-up. The color LCD monitor should show the camera's current settings superimposed on the view through the lens. If the date has yet to be set, the date "00.00.00/00:00" will be shown flashing at the top right corner of the display.



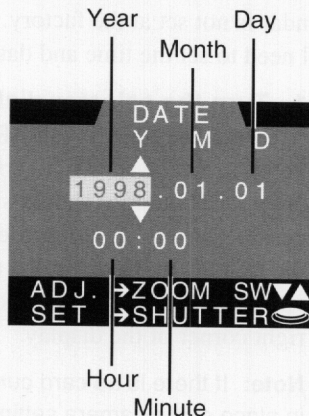
**Note:** If there is no card currently in the camera, in place of the camera settings the monitor will show a message indicating that no card is present. If the monitor is blank, press the MONITOR button until the view through the camera's lens is visible. Should the monitor remain blank, check whether the control panel on top of the camera is on. If not, rotate the selector dial to OFF and check that the batteries are properly inserted or that the AC adapter is connected and plugged in.



## 2. Display the shooting menu

Press the MENU button to display the shooting menu shown at left.

Press the zoom-out switch (W/▼) until the **DATE** item is selected as shown above, then press the shutter button to display the date menu.

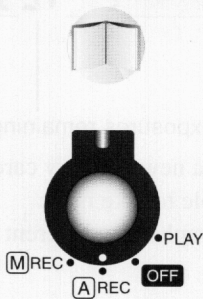


The currently selected item will flash. Edit the selected item by pressing the zoom-in switch (T/▲) to increase its value or the zoom-out switch (W/▼) to decrease its value. To accept the current value and select the next item for editing, press the shutter button. When **Y M D** is highlighted, the order in which the date is displayed can be changed by pressing the shutter button to cycle through available settings in the order **Y M D** (year/month/day), **M D Y** (month/day/year), **D M Y** (day/month/year). Press the shutter button when the order is highlighted to register any changes and return to the previous menu. To exit the date menu without making any changes, press the MENU button.

**Note:** The clock-calendar is powered by a separate, rechargeable battery, which is charged as necessary when the main batteries are in place or the AC adapter is connected. If the camera has been stored with the main batteries removed for a long period of time, the clock may need to be reset. Once the main batteries have been reinserted, the clock battery will recharge in a few hours, during which time the batteries should be left in the camera.

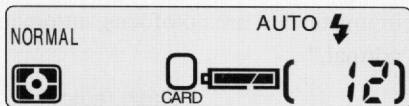
# Taking Your First Photograph

The COOLPIX 900 offers a choice of two modes for recording photographs: automatic (A-REC) and manual (M-REC). In automatic mode, the user can control flash settings, image quality, focus settings, and zoom. In manual mode, the user can also make adjustments to exposure compensation, metering, and white balance, and in addition can experiment with a variety of digital effects. The present section provides a brief overview of how to use the camera in automatic mode. The settings available in automatic and manual modes are described in greater detail in the camera reference manual on CD-ROM.



## Step 1—Turn the selector dial to A-REC

To enter automatic recording mode, turn the selector dial to A-REC. After a one- to two-second pause while the camera starts up, current settings will be displayed in the control panel and color LCD monitor (if not visible in the monitor, settings can be displayed by pressing the MONITOR button until they appear).

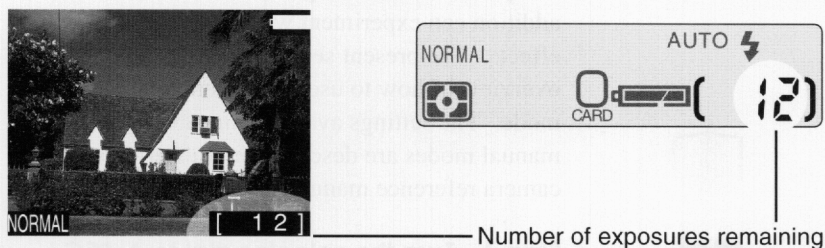


**Note:** *The camera may become warm during use, but this does not indicate a malfunction.*

**Note:** To save battery power, the camera will automatically turn the color LCD monitor off if no operations are performed for thirty seconds (three minutes when menus are displayed). Press the **MONITOR** button to turn the monitor back on (if the monitor has not been turned off manually, the monitor will come on when the shutter button is half pressed).

## Step 2—Check the number of exposures remaining

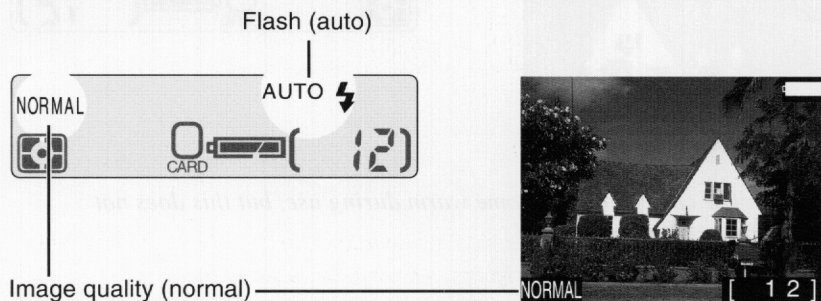
The control panel and color LCD monitor show the number of exposures remaining at the current image quality setting.



When this number reaches zero, you will need to insert a new memory card or delete items already in memory before you will be able to take more photographs. It may be possible to record more photographs at a different image quality setting.

## Step 3—Check the camera's settings

In automatic mode, the user can adjust image-quality, flash, and focus settings. The default settings, which produce the best results in most circumstances, are autofocus, automatic flash, and an image quality of “normal.”



#### Step 4—Ready the camera

The COOLPIX 900's color LCD monitor is joined to the lens by a rotating hinge, allowing the user to hold the camera at almost any angle while making photographs. When framing photographs in the monitor, the camera can be held as shown below.



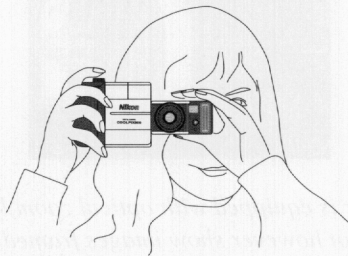
Framing photographs  
in the color monitor



Self-portrait mode

**Note:** When the lens is rotated to point at the user, the monitor will show a mirror image of the view through the lens and camera settings will be hidden. Photographs taken in this mode will not however be reversed.

When framing photographs in the viewfinder, hold the camera as shown below.

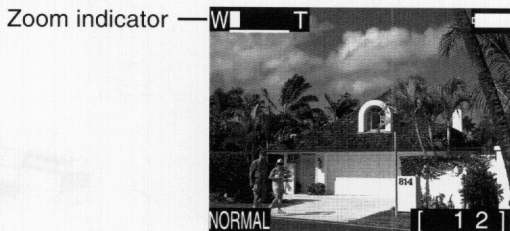


**Note:** Be sure that the lens and flash window are not obstructed by your fingers, hair, the camera strap, power cord, or video cable.



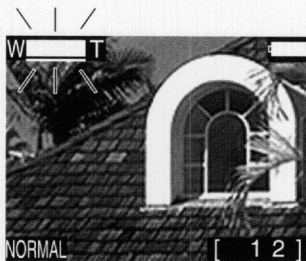
## Step 5—Compose a photograph

Frame your subject in the viewfinder or the color LCD monitor. Press the zoom-in switch (T/▲) to magnify the subject so that only a portion of it fills the frame, or use the zoom-out switch (W/▼) to expand the field-of-view so that more of the subject is visible. While the zoom switch is pressed, an indicator showing the amount of zoom is displayed in the color LCD monitor.



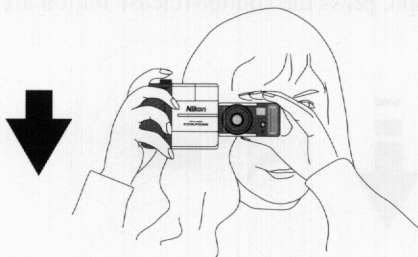
**Note:** Wait a moment for the camera to focus after zooming in or out.

At maximum zoom, the subject can be further magnified by holding the zoom-in switch down for two seconds. If the LCD monitor is on, the camera will enter *digital-zoom* mode, magnifying the subject digitally by two times. While the camera is in digital-zoom mode, the zoom indicator and AF lamp will blink.



**Note:** The viewfinder is equipped with optical zoom linked to the lens. The viewfinder does not however show images framed in digital-zoom mode at the actual zoom ratio. Use the monitor when taking photographs with digital zoom.

## Step 6—Half-press the shutter-release button



When the shutter-release button is pressed halfway, the camera will determine the distance to the subject. Once the focus operation is complete, the green autofocus lamp next to the viewfinder will glow steadily. These settings will remain unchanged as long as the shutter button is half-pressed, even if the distance to the subject should change (this is known as “focus lock”). The zoom ratio cannot be changed while focus lock is in effect.

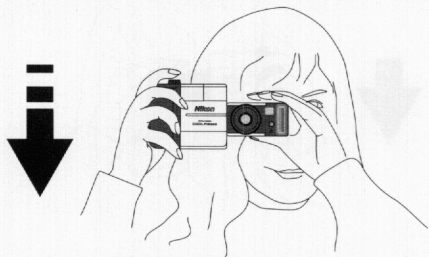
If the camera is unable to determine the distance to the subject, the autofocus lamp will flash. In this case you should focus on a new subject at the same distance as the original subject and half-press the shutter-release button, then check to be sure that the autofocus lamp is glowing steadily. With the shutter release button held half-way down, return the camera to its original position and press the button the rest of the way down.

**Note:** *When the monitor is on, the camera will record a photograph even when it is unable to determine the distance to the subject. Check the monitor to be sure that the camera is in focus before pressing the shutter-release button all the way down.*

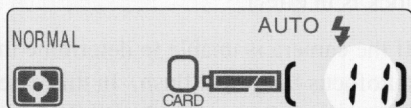
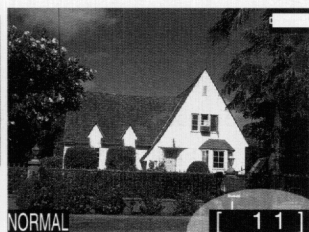
If the red flash lamp next to the viewfinder blinks when the shutter is half-pressed, the flash is charging, and you will need to wait a few seconds before taking a photograph.

## Step 7—Take a photograph

To take a photograph, press the shutter-release button all the way down.



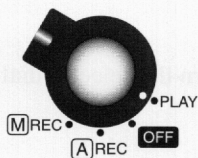
The autofocus lamp will flash rapidly and an hourglass icon (🕒) will be displayed in the color LCD monitor while the photograph is being recorded to the compact flash memory card. Once the process of recording the photograph to memory is complete, the exposure count in the control panel and color LCD monitor will go down by one.



Number of exposures remaining

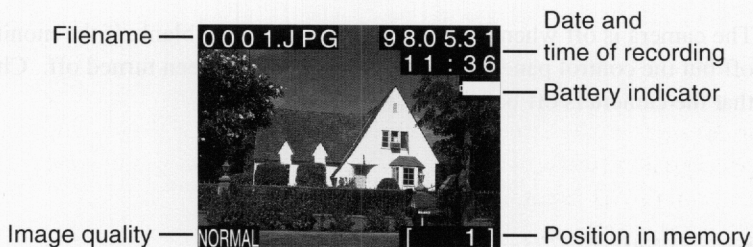
The camera will then be ready to shoot another photograph.

**Note:** At some settings, the exposure count may not change when a photograph has been recorded.



## Step 8—Play the photograph back

To play a photograph back, turn the selector dial to **PLAY**. An hourglass icon (⌚) will be displayed in the color LCD monitor while the camera reads a photograph from memory. The most recently recorded photograph will then appear, together with information on the date of recording, the image quality setting, and the photograph's filename and position in memory.



Other photographs in memory, if any, can be reviewed by pressing the zoom-in switch (T/▲) to page through the photographs one at a time in the order in which they were recorded, or the zoom-out (W/▼) switch to page through the photographs in reverse order. To delete the photograph currently on view, press the **QUALITY/🗑️** button. The following dialog will be displayed.



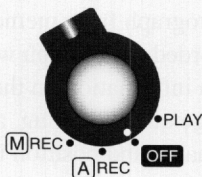
Press the zoom-in switch once to select **YES** and then press the shutter button to delete the photograph. Select **NO** or press the **MENU** button to return to playback mode without deleting the photograph.



For more information on playing back and deleting photographs, refer to the camera reference manual on CD-ROM.

## Step 9—Turn the camera off

When you have finished using the camera, be sure to turn the selector dial to OFF.



The camera is off when the control panel display is blank; if the monitor is off but the control panel is on, the camera has not been turned off. Check that the camera is off before putting it away.

# Nikon View 900

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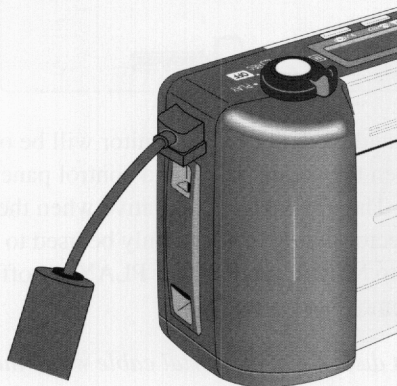
This chapter describes how to connect your COOLPIX 900 to a Macintosh or IBM PC/AT compatible computer and install the *Nikon View 900* software that allows you to browse the contents of the camera's memory from a computer. It also explains how to install the *Adobe Acrobat Reader* software you will need to view the reference manuals provided on CD-ROM. For details on using *Nikon View*, see the reference manual for your platform.



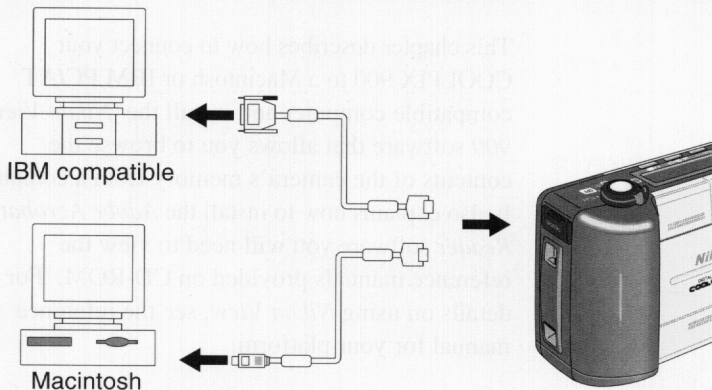
## Connecting the Camera to a Computer

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Serial cables are provided with your COOLPIX 900 for connection to Macintosh and IBM-compatible computers. To connect the camera to a computer, remove the rubber cap that covers the camera's serial connector. Then, after making sure that both camera and computer are off, connect the serial cable as shown below. The cable can be connected when both the camera and computer are on or when they are off.

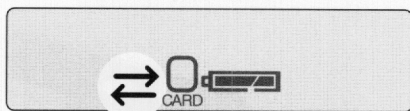


Attach the other end of the cable to the computer's serial port (IBM compatibles) or printer or modem port (Macintosh).



**Note:** When connecting the COOLPIX 900 to a computer, use only the cables provided with the camera.

Once you have connected your camera to the computer's serial port, turn the camera's selector dial to M-REC, A-REC, or PLAY. A data-transfer icon will appear in the control panel together with a battery indicator and the card icon. If no memory card is inserted in the camera, the card icon will flash.

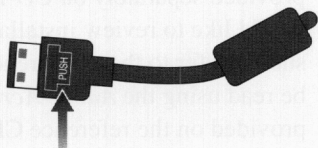


All other indicators and the color LCD monitor will be off, and the camera will not respond when the zoom switch and control panel or monitor buttons are pushed. The only control operative when the serial cable is connected is the selector dial, which can only be used to turn the camera on (by turning the dial to M-REC, A-REC, or PLAY) or off. To restore normal operation, remove the serial cable.

**✓Caution:** Do not disconnect the serial cable while the data transfer icon is flashing.

Once the camera has been connected to your computer, you can use *Nikon View* to browse the contents of the camera's memory or to copy items from the camera to disk.

**Note:** *When unplugging the cable from the camera, pull the cable from the camera while pushing the cable's release button (located on the underside of the connector). Unplug the cable by the connector, not by pulling directly on the cable itself.*



**✓Caution:** *Do not use the camera with a computer when battery power is low or critical. If the battery indicator in the control panel shows low or critical when the camera is connected to a computer, wait for the data transfer icon to stop flashing, then disconnect the camera and replace the batteries.*



# Software Installation

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This section describes how to install the *Nikon View 900* software provided with your camera. For reasons of space, detailed installation instructions are not provided in this user's guide. Details may be found in the reference guides provided separately on CD-ROM. Users who would like to review installation procedures should refer to these reference manuals, which can be read using the *Adobe Acrobat* software provided on the reference CD-ROM.



## Step 1—Review the system requirements

To install and run *Adobe Acrobat* and *Nikon View*, your computer system must have a CD-ROM drive, a serial port for connection to the camera, and a video system with a resolution of  $640 \times 480$  pixels or higher, supporting a color depth of at least eight bits, or 256 colors (a color depth of twenty-four bits, or 16.7 million colors, is recommended). Your system must also meet the platform requirements given below.

### Macintosh

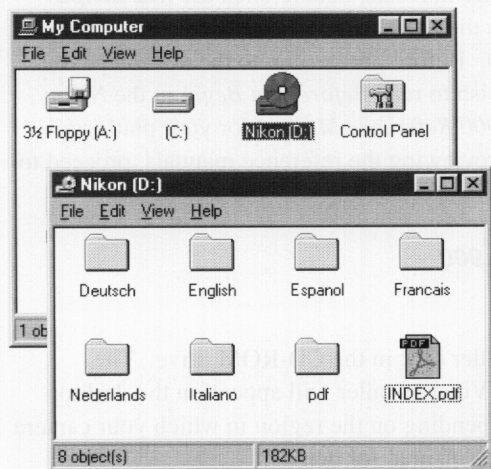
- Macintosh or Power Macintosh with a 68040 CPU or better
- MacOS System 7.5.1 or later
- a minimum of 8 MB RAM for *Nikon View* and 5 MB RAM for *Adobe Acrobat Reader*.
- 25 MB or more free hard disk space

### Windows

- IBM PC/AT or compatible with i486, Pentium, or better CPU
- Windows 95 or later
- a minimum of 8 MB RAM for *Nikon View* and 8 MB RAM for *Adobe Acrobat Reader*.
- 25 MB or more free hard disk space

## Step 2—Install Adobe Acrobat Reader

To install *Adobe Acrobat Reader*, follow the installation instructions for your platform given below.

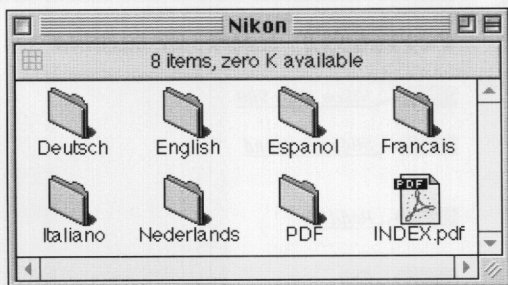


### Windows

Turn on your computer and place the reference CD in the drive. Double-click the **My Computer** icon and then double-click the **Nikon CD** icon. Open the folder for the language of your choice and then double-click **setup.exe** to start the installer. Follow the on-screen directions to install Adobe Acrobat Reader in the location of your choice.

### Macintosh

Turn on your computer and place the reference CD in the drive. The folder shown at right will open on the desktop. Open the folder for the language of your choice and double-click the



installer icon. Follow the on-screen instructions to install Adobe Acrobat Reader in the location of your choice.

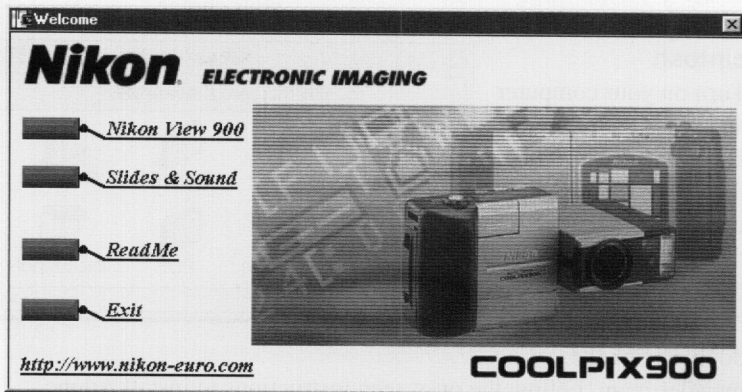
Once you have installed *Adobe Acrobat Reader*, you are ready to read the on-line documentation for the COOLPIX 900. To view the on-line reference manuals, double-click the **INDEX.pdf** icon in the root directory of the reference CD (see above). Before proceeding to the next step, you may wish to read *Before You Begin* in the *Nikon View 900 Reference Manual* for your platform. After reviewing the reference manuals, proceed to Step 3.



### Step 3—Install *Nikon View 900*

#### Windows

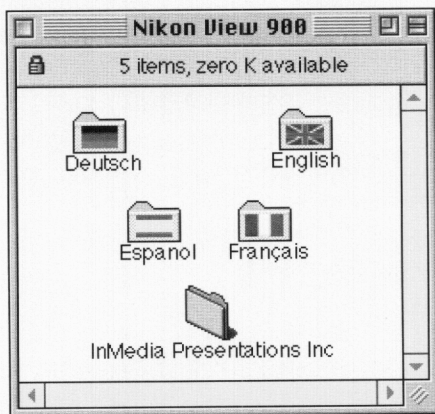
Insert the *Nikon View 900* installer disk in the CD-ROM drive. The Welcome dialog for the Nikon View installer will appear on the desktop (the Welcome dialog differs depending on the region in which your camera was purchased; see the reference manual for details).



Click ***Nikon View 900***. You will be prompted to choose a language for *Nikon View*'s menus and dialogs. Installation can now be completed by following the instructions provided by the installer (see the *Nikon View 900 for Windows Reference Manual* for details).

## Macintosh

Place the Nikon View CD in the CD-ROM drive. The folder shown below will open on the desktop .



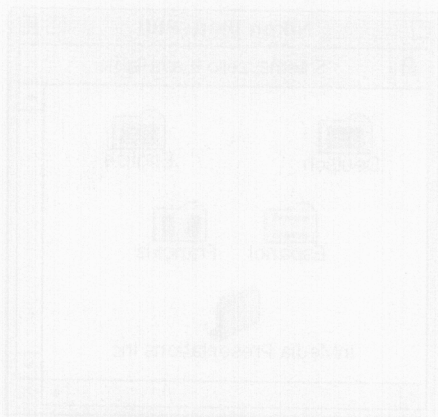
Open the folder for the desired language and double-click the installer icon (note that the U.S. version of the CD does not contain installers for French and German) and follow the instructions on the screen to complete installation. See the *Nikon View 900 for Macintosh Reference Manual* for details.

### Step 4—Start *Nikon View 900*



Once you have installed *Nikon View 900* and connected your camera to your computer, you are ready to use *Nikon View 900* to browse the contents of the camera's memory. See the *Nikon View 900* reference manual for your platform for details.

Place the Alkon View CD-ROM in the CD-ROM drive. The folder shown below will open on the desktop.



Open the folder for the desired language and double-click the installer icon (note that the U.S. version of the CD does not contain installers for French and German) and follow the instructions on the screen to complete installation. See the Alkon View 900 for detailed keyboard manual for details.

#### Step 4—Start Alkon View 900

Once you have installed Alkon View 900 and connected your camera to your computer, you are ready to use Alkon View 900 to perform the contents of the camera's memory. See the Alkon View 900 reference manual for your platform for details.

