

Celebrating Worldwide Pinhole Photography Day on 24 April 2022 by taking pinhole portraits of books

Make your own pinhole camera

If you can make it light tight, then it can become a pinhole camera. Coffee tins, tea caddies, and paint cans make great pinhole cameras. Make the pinhole from a section cut from a drinks can, or a piece of aluminium foil, and make a cover (shutter) for your pinhole with some black card and a piece of tape. Load your camera with photographic paper before making an exposure. This needs to be developed to make a paper negative, which can either be scanned to make a positive image, or make a contact print in the darkroom.

There are lots of instructions online, and you can make your camera immensely complicated (with film carriers and winding mechanisms) or incredibly simple.

This is a good place to start: <https://tinyurl.com/pin-camera>

Convert a Holga camera

No longer using that old toy camera? See: <https://tinyurl.com/pinhole-holga>

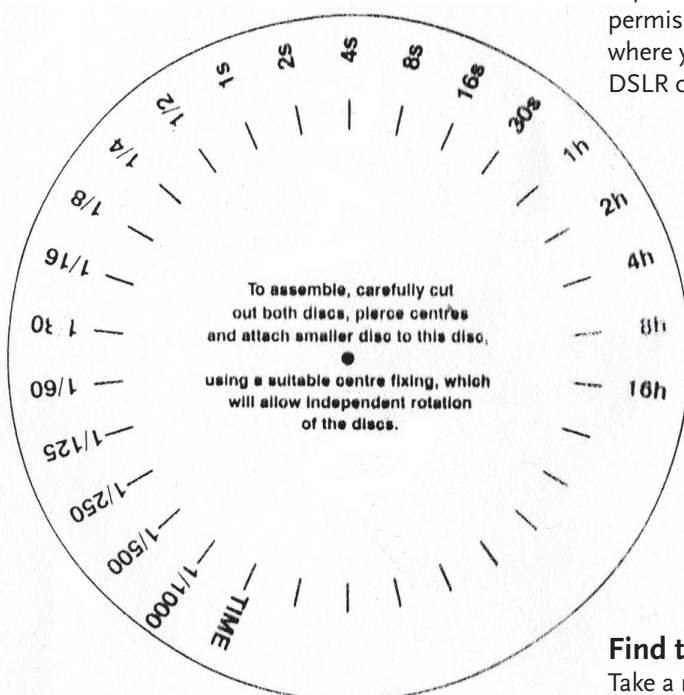
Convert a DSLR Camera

Want to experiment but have no access to photography developing facilities?

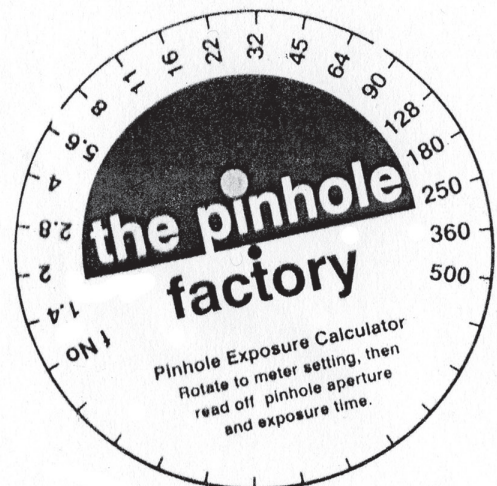
See: <https://tinyurl.com/pinhole-dslr>

Focal length and pinhole size

Alternative camera	Width/Focal length	Optimum Pinhole	F number
Drinks can	65 mm	0.3 mm	217
1 litre paint can	100 mm	0.4 mm	250
2.5 litre paint can	155 mm	0.5 mm	310
Shoe box	200 mm	0.6 mm	333
Wheelie bin	500 mm	1.0 mm	500



Exposure calculator and table reproduced with kind permission of **Tim Norgate** at www.pinhole-solutions.co.uk where you can also buy double etched pinholes and DSLR cap conversions.



Find the correct exposure time

Take a meter reading using an exposure meter or another camera, set this reading on the calculator, then read the exposure time against the f number of your pinhole camera