

A Comparison with Carl Zeiss™ Lenses*

*Contax Distagon T™, Planar T™ and SonnarT™ lenses

The fact that many of America's top professional photographers prefer Mamiya cameras with their world-class Mamiya Lenses, is perhaps the best testimonial to Mamiya lens quality. As the old saying goes, "The proof of the pudding is in the eating"; the proof of lenses is the image quality they produce.

Popular Photography Magazine's Test Reports

Now we have the good fortune to prove what we are saying, because this leading magazine tested both Carl ZeissTM lenses for the ContaxTM 645 and Mamiya Lenses for the Mamiya 645AF, and published the results in the November '99 and April '00 issues, respectively. (Reprinted with their permission)

The following concluding paragraph says it all:

"Conclusion: All the Mamiya AF lenses performed outstandingly, on a par with or better than other medium-format autofocusing lenses we've tested. Mamiya has placed the AF motor in the camera body, which keeps down the weight and cost of the lenses – a smart move, we think. Overall handling was nice (no aperture rings!), switching between manual and autofocus was easy, and most important, our pictures were very sharp. Pricing is moderate for the category, falling between the relatively low-cost Pentax lenses and the more expensive Contax 645 AF optics."

Please note: Of the nine lenses presently available for the Mamiya 645AF and the lenses presently available for the Contax 645, only three lenses of identical focal length have been tested by Popular Photography and are compared in this report.

These comparisons could leave the impression that we attach an inferior label to a worthy competitor. That's not the intention. We just want to provide you with the facts.

Popular Photography® Magazine Lens Testing Results

The numbers below indicate resolution in Lines/mm at center and corners of image.

Mamiya lens resolution results below are taken from the April 2000 issue of Popular Photography. Contax lens resolution results below are taken from the November 1999 issue of Popular Photography.

Mamiya 645 AF 45mm f/2.8

& Contax Distagon T* 45mm f/2.8

	Resolution at corners							
f-stop	Mamiya		Contax		Mamiya		Contax	
2.8	excellent	50	excellent	50	very good	28	good	24
4	excellent	62	excellent	70	very good	31	very good	31
5.6	excellent	78	excellent	78	very good	35	good	28
8	excellent	70	excellent	70	excellent	39	very good	35
11	excellent	65	excellent	70	excellent	45	very good	35
16	excellent	62	excellent	62	excellent	42	excellent	36
22	excellent	50	excellent	50	excellent	39	very good	32
32	_	_	very good	40	_	_	good	28

Mamiya 645 AF 80mm f/2.8 & Contax Planar T* 80mm f/2

Resolution at center Resolution at corners Mamiya Contax Mamiya Contax f-stop 53 acceptable 18 2 excellent **70** 53 35 excellent 21 2.8 excellent excellent acceptable **78** 67 44 25 4 excellent excellent excellent acceptable 68 84 49 28 5.6 excellent excellent excellent good 44 33 70 75 8 excellent excellent excellent good **70** 67 44 41 11 excellent excellent excellent excellent 62 53 39 40 excellent excellent excellent excellent 16 22 48 excellent 53 31 35 excellent very good good

Mamiya 645 AF 210mm f/4 IF & Contax Sonnar T* 210mm f/4

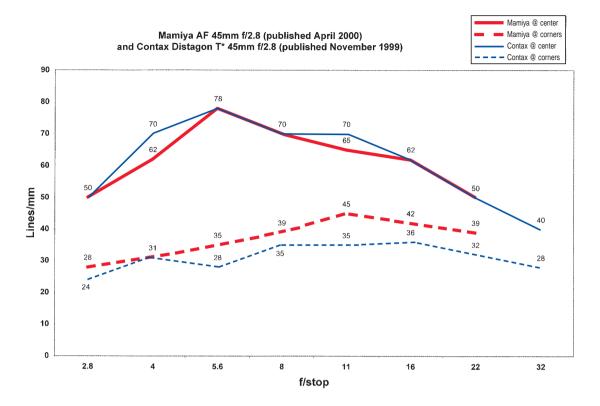
	Resolution at corners							
f-stop	Mamiya		Contax		Mamiya		Contax	
4	excellent	77	excellent	64	excellent	49	very good	28
5.6	excellent	70	excellent	51	excellent	49	excellent	34
8	excellent	69	excellent	51	excellent	54	excellent	40
11	excellent	69	very good	45	excellent	54	very good	36
16	excellent	54	very good	40	very good	43	good	33
22	good	43	excellent	45	good	30	very good	36
32	good	34	very good	40	acceptable	27	excellent	38
45	_	_	good	36	_	_	good	33

^{* &}quot; - " denotes that a value is not applicable.

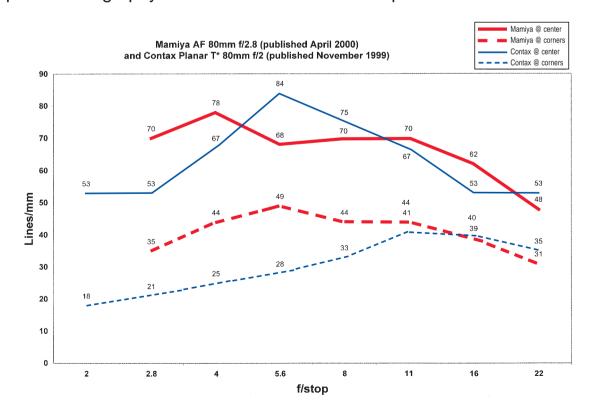
There are no direct equivalent focal lengths in the Contax autofocus lens system.

^{**} The Mamiya AF 55mm f/2.8 and AF APO 300mm f/4.5 IF lenses are not included in above comparisons.

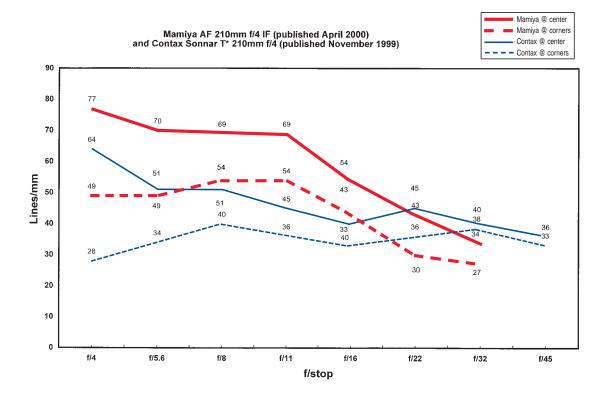
Popular Photography Lens Resolution Tests Comparison



Popular Photography Lens Resolution Tests Comparison



Popular Photography Lens Resolution Tests Comparison



Mamiya Designs and Manufactures Its Own Lenses

Mamiya has set very high performance goals for both its cameras and lenses. In order to assure this high standard is maintained for professional phorographers, Mamiya designs and manufactures its own lenses, in its own factory, to its own specifications. Unlike other manufacturers of medium format cameras, Mamiya does not entrust this task to others, but rather attends to every detail in the design and manufacturing process.

Engineers at Mamiya have developed rigorous performance criteria for each lens design. No detail is overlooked. No test is omitted. The goal is technical perfection... The result is a series of lenses which have set the new world-standard of performance.

Each lens element is precisely polished and coated using Mamiya's proprietary multi-coating process to increase light transmission, dramatically reduce flare, ensure crisp, clean whites and vibrant, yet natural colors.

Mamiya engineers and inspectors test continuously as the lens is assembled to insure flawless quality. The result is a lens designed so carefully, built so meticulously, that it consistently renders extraordinary performance!

It is Mamiya's unique balance of extreme sharpness, brilliant contrast, accurate and consistent color fidelity and overall high performance that captures the imagination of contemporary photographers who choose Mamiya to express their personal visions.

Among today's community of world famous photographers, Mamiya lenses have established themselves as the new benchmark by which others are measured.