

# Iconographic Research on Zorki 35M Origins

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Specially for [USSRPhoto.com](http://USSRPhoto.com)

*"Origins, Basis and Influences of Zorki 35M"*

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Part Ia

**Now , looking at the Zorki 35M ,**



**Zorki 35M KMZ archives**

**We can feel its origins in the bottom loading Zorki 5 types of 1958**



**and more closely to the Zorki 6 of 1959/1966 with its rear door openings.**



**No, its large base rangefinder was had no influences in the Zorki 35M camera.**

**The Zorki 6 itself was grown into a reflex camera The Kistall (1961), which itself became into further Zenit 3M(1962)**



**And both followed in the Kristall 2 (1962) and Zenit 3EM (1963) prototypes.**

**Interesting to note that on the previous Kristal 2 it was first used the mirror return mechanical system that was further used on Zenit E and subsequent models.**

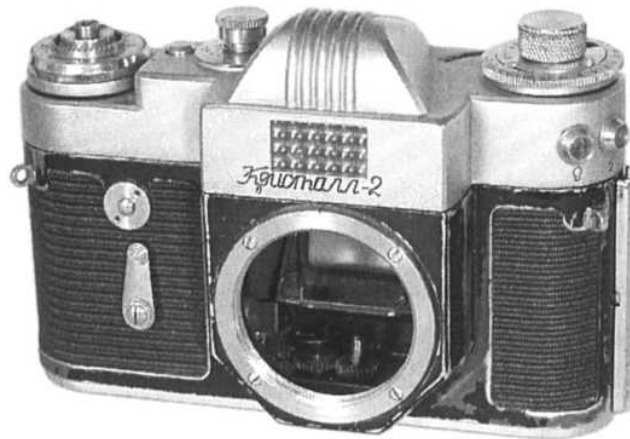
**Description and animation -see: <http://www.g-st.ch/privat/kameras/kristall2rss.html>**

**[Funktion dieser Mechanik](#)**

**[Bildern als Animation](#)**

**[Pictures 1 to 10 correspond to the cocking of the shutter .](#)**

**[Pictures 11 to 19 correspond to firing the shutter .](#)**



**fusing and reborning into the definitive Zenit E of 1965**



**Note:**

**Comparing the Zenit 3 with Kristall. Which was in many aspects derived from the Zorki 6 , in it, there were changed the release button, now integrated to the exposure counter dial; the clutch button was introduced in place of the turning tower, the rear door replaces the bottom loading , beyond other changes. The top covering of the camera in the production series saw black enamel hammer finish and chrome plating. Bodies were black or grey. The Kristall would become to be a new line of cameras, but they stopped production in the next year. Basically the top cover was changed and the camera was Renamed Zenit 3M.**

**Now the name Zenit means KMZ, but in 1961 when Kristall began its life, Zenit was only another camera. At this time, it was practise in USSR give a name to each new article, and at each modernization a new number. The Kristall was a new concept beyond the curent Zenit 3. The Kristall name was given at first due its new injection moulded top cover painted in hammer tone enamel and specially due the intrinsec idea of quality on the new camera, translating a sensation of sturdiness and optical quality. The die cast top moulding reduced drastically production expenses and labour; but new techniques in deep drawing brass sheets came soon, and this top was replaced by the traditional pressed metal chromed top and the camera became the Zenit 3M .**

**For those interested in knowing about Zenit origins and development, we recommend:**

**<http://www.g-st.ch/privat/kameras/zenit1squarelogo.html>**

**<http://www.g-st.ch/privat/kameras/zenitbuchtext.html>**

**<http://www.g-st.ch/privat/kameras/pdf/zenitbuch.pdf>**

**<http://www.g-st.ch/privat/kameras/pdf/zenitkatalog.pdf>**

**<http://www.g-st.ch/privat/kameras/kristallzenite.html>**

**These were the current Zenit 3 when the Kristall came to life.**



**Now compare the camera tops. From top to bottom:**

**Zorki 6**

**Kristall**

**Zenit 3M**



**But note, there are more KMZ influences:.....**

**From the Unique Drug : borrowed its rangefinder, and self timer lever.**



**And from the Zorki 4... the continuation of the Zorki 3S,**



**borrowed its slow speeds gear train. continued.....**