

# VICO 350 & 550

## Film Developing

**Materials:** Exposed film, developing tank, developing reels, thermometer, bottle opener, chemicals, graduated cylinder, funnel, scissors, sponges, timer.

### Lights on

1. Be sure that the chemicals are mixed according to directions on packages.
2. Adjust tap water to 70 degrees F. (Why 70F? Our darkroom has warm water in autumn.)
3. Lay out tank and reels in order of use on a dry surface.

### Total darkness

4. Open flat end of film cassette with opener.
5. Cut off film leader (about 2-3 inches).
6. Fasten end of film onto reel (stainless reels).
7. Wind film onto reel.
8. Cut off spool at film end.
9. Place reel into developing tank and put lid on.

### Lights on

10. Set timer for 7-3/4 minutes (Plus-X), or 9 minutes (for Tri-X).
11. Mix D-76 stock solution 1:1 with water in graduate, adding water first. Adjust to 70° F.
12. Pour D-76/water solution into developing tank.
13. Agitate continuously for the first 30 sec. Rest 30 sec. Agitate 5 sec., R-25 sec., A-5 sec., R-25 sec.....
14. Pour out developer. (Discard).
15. Fill with water and dump tank 3 to 5 times.
16. Add fixer solution. Agitate as before. If you are using Rapid Fixer, fix for 2-4 min. If you are using powdered fixer, fix for 5-10 min. T-Max films require twice the time suggested.
17. Pour fixer back into bottle. (Keep)
18. Rinse with 10 changes of water.
19. Add working dilution of Perma Wash. Use 1 capful in 24 oz. water. Agitate continuously for 1-2 minutes. Dump.
20. Fill with water and dump for 5-10 minutes.
21. Pour in diluted Photo Flo (a few drops in 24oz.), and agitate for about ½ min. Dump. (NOTE: Kodak Photo Flo is similar to Ecco, a competing product)
22. Remove excess water with clean sponges (use light pressure!) and hang to dry.
23. Cut film and put in negative sleeves.

**TIPS:** Wet film is very susceptible to scratching and dust – handle with care. Best results will be obtained if the process is consistent each time. Temperature and agitation are especially important for consistent negatives. Keep sponges immaculately clean and stored in sealable plastic bags.