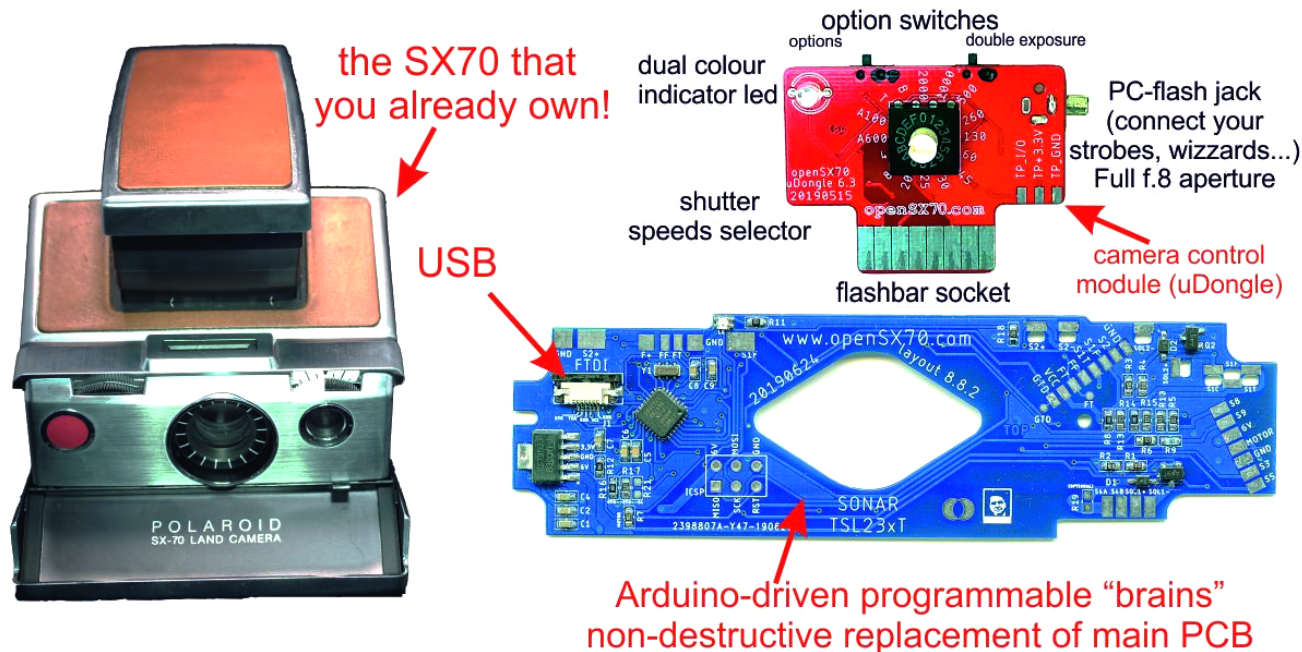


# openSX70.com



## openSX70 FAQ - Press Release (May 2020)

### What is the Polaroid SX70?

An SLR instant camera manufactured by the mighty Polaroid Corporation, using integral film, once made by *Polaroid*, then by the *Impossible Project*, and now by *Polaroid Originals\**. The Polaroid\* SX70 camera and film are Edwin H. Land's incredible achievement. One of the most amazing and iconic products of the XX century. It was introduced in late 1973.

### What is openSX70?

The openSX70 is many things at once, but, in a nutshell, openSX70 is a open source project that aims to take the SX70 beyond what is possible now.

The project aims to make an Arduino-based replacement PCB to gain manual camera control, and, in the future, Bluetooth/app camera control and much more.

At the same time the project aims to be a hub for all things SX70: documents and tips, repairs or hacks, like the electronic modification of your camera to accept 600-ISO film. There are other web pages about hacking the SX70, but most seem now to be abandoned. We would like to compile as many resources as possible.

### But, hasn't this already been done?

Yes... and no. There are at least two awesome commercial projects that accomplish something similar but this is the first open source project.

### So openSX70 is a product?

Probably soon. Watch this space.

### Ok, I like it, where can I get one?

It has taken a while but the project is taking off in the community side, not only do we have quite a lot of fans and followers eager to test one, but we also have some amazing partners in different capacities with the goal of improving the system.

Santi Pladellorens of [AnalogueWorks](#), is working to turn the openSX70 into an affordable easy to use product by designing a dongle case, but many more people are joining the project everyday, like @optoflw that is working in an aperture priority mode and working on new dongle concepts, and of course Dave Walker, that has been kind enough to share his incredible knowledge with me, providing a beacon when I was lost. I want to thank them all. I feel that the community effect that I always hoped for, is happening. Hopefully we will have some cool "product" soon, but don't let that fool you: it will always be an ever-improving experimental platform. It is an open project, so

basically free as long as you use it for non commercial purposes under [Creative Commons "Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC 4.0\)"](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/)

Since we acknowledge that modifying the SX70 is definitely not for everyone, would like to set up a network of authorised installers. Nevertheless it is a non-destructive project when done properly. We will encourage people to keep the original board.

If you consider that you deserve to test one of our prototypes, contact us. We love social media exposure.

*So then... where are you now?*

We are in the testing phase. After successful tests with custom SX70-sized PCBs we are fine-tuning and adjusting the timings on the Arduino sketch. "Auto" exposure is now possible with light to frequency sensors like TSL237T. The control "dongle" board, nicknamed uDongle is a bare PCB but we hope to have a nicer design and a 3D printed enclosure soon. The prototypes can be also used (dongleless) auto in both ISO speeds.

We are also trying to replicate and make more affordable some of the special tools needed to open and fix the SX70, and find replacements and alternatives of critical parts.

*Great! Can I join the project and help?*

Yes you can! We want **you** to join us on the openSX70 project, we need your help, to maintain the openSX70 portal, we need arduino and microcontroller programmers, we need help designing the PCB, and above all, we need enthusiasts to join and spread the word on the project!

Press contact: sx70 at opensx70 dot com

Facebook group (closed): <https://goo.gl/3qjne2>

web: [www.opensx70.com](http://www.opensx70.com)

github: <https://goo.gl/1A1QbY>

twitter: @openSX70

instagram: openSX70

hashtags\*: #openSX70 #SX70 #OriginalPolaroids

#PolaroidOriginals #Polaroid #Arduino #InstantFilm #DIY

Tagline:

"Polaroid SX70's 45th birthday, teaching an old camera new tricks: the openSX70 project"



Brief:

*The openSX70 project wants to hack the SX70 camera by replacing its 45-year old "brains" with a new, open-source, Arduino-based PCB, giving photographers manual control of the camera.*

Improved functionality:

- Manual shutter speed control.
- Double/Multiple exposures.
- B (Bulb) and T mode.
- PC-flash connector (on dongle).
- Optional full f/8 flash operation.
- Delayed mirror operation for steadier pictures.
- Built-in shutter delay timer (double press on red button).
- Auto exposure at 125ISO or 600ISO)
- Multiple LEDs with different purposes.

\*Polaroid Originals™ and SX-70™ are brands belonging to PLR IP Holdings, LLC a company that has no links nor endorses in any way the openSX70 project.