

How to choose - DIGITAL CAMERAS

AUTO IMAGE AUTO FOCUS.

The higher the AIAF number the better the performance.

MEGA PIXELS.

Pixels do not determine the quality of the image; they determine how big the image is. How good the image looks is determined by the quality of the pixels, the lens and the processor inside the camera.

See pages 467-472 for Photo Inkjet Printers

LCD SCREEN.

What size of screen do you need? Screen sizes vary from 1.4" up to an impressive 2.5".

LOOK FOR ADDED FEATURES.

Some cameras offer 'My Colour Functions' colour accent and colour swap.

SHOOTING MODES.

Image capture made easy. Look for special shooting modes and special scene modes. i.e. Portrait, landscape, sports, night modes etc.

MOVIE RECORDING.

You probably don't realise it, but your digital camera can be a surprisingly impressive tool for capturing video footage. With a max recording time of 8 minutes with a 512MB card.

Gone are the days when a camera had to be big and bulky to be serious. An amazing amount of quality and creative control can now be fitted into a smaller body. As your photography improves (which it will!), you will appreciate those manual modes and photographic options.

PROCESSORS.

The DiGiC and DiGiC II processors deliver beautiful, bright colours every time.

REMEMBER TO PRINT.

Keep prints of your best shots.

DIGITAL AND OPTICAL ZOOM.

Pay close attention to a camera's optical zoom. Cameras tend to have 3 times, 6 times, or even 10 times. The zoom puts you in control of how much you want in your photograph. Choose longer zooms (6x, 10x) for wildlife and sports photography to get in closer. Digital zoom is of little importance when choosing a camera - it just cuts away the edge of the image and enlarges the section in the middle.

MUSIC.

Some cameras have a built in MP3 player and FM Radio.

PictBridge/Easyshare/Direct Print.

Print images easily without a PC.

Metal bodies are more rigid, weather resistant, resist scuffing and scratching better and feel great in the hand.

POWER SOURCE.

Many cameras now take normal AA or AAA batteries, which are widely available anywhere. You can also use rechargeable batteries which are more cost effective. Many of the smaller cameras come supplied with a small rechargeable lithium-ion battery.

