

Digital Cameras

Features to Consider:

Delay Between Shots (Recycle Time or Lag Time) - the amount of time (measured in seconds) it takes the camera to process and store an image when shooting in normal mode at maximum resolution setting. Range is from 1-20 seconds.

Resolution - sharpness of the pictures expressed in pixels. The higher the resolution the better the picture. Range is from (640x480) minimum, to (1024x768), (1280x960), (1600x1200), and (1920x1600) very high resolution.

Optical Zoom - magnifies the image using a real multi-focal length lens. Magnification is measured in degrees, "2x" or "3x." Range is from 0 to 14x.

Ease of Download - the camera's transfer method or how the camera downloads pictures to your computer or printer. Options include serial and/or parallel cable, USB cable, 3.5 inch floppy disk or via SCSI cable.

Image Capacity - camera's memory capacity for images shot at high resolution. The greater the resolution, the more memory space is needed. Range is from 1-3,000 images.

Flash Type - burst of light for shooting inside or in low-light condition. Type of flash varies from camera to camera. Flashes built into most cameras have limited range and adjustability. Options include No Flash, Off/On/Auto, Off/On/Auto w/Red-eye Reduction.

Rapid-Fire Shots - also known as Burst Mode or Continuous Shooting Mode - allows you to take multiple shots with one touch of the button. Range is from 0 to 64 shots.

Camera Size - category according to dimensions and weight of camera. Options include Pocket Size (less than .56 lbs and less than 5 inches wide); Medium Size (0.5-1 lb), most cameras are in this range; and SLR Size (Single-lens-reflex) rectangular body with protruding lens and weighs more than 1 lb.

Price - cameras range from \$70 - \$2,500, 80% are between \$200 and \$900, median price is \$450.



Selected Popular Models

Olympus D-490Z

PC and Mac \$499

1280 x 960 resolution, 2.11 megapixel, 3X Optical Zoom, QuickTime™ movie mode, clam-shell design, format compressed JPEG or uncompressed TIFF

Epson PhotoPC 800 Digital Camera

PC and Mac \$599

1984 x 1488 resolution, built-in 2X zoom captures high-resolution photos, up to 133 standard images

Sony Mavica-FD73 Digital Mavica Floppy Disk Camera

PC and Mac \$499

640 x 480 resolution, high speed 2x floppy drive, Intelligent flash, 2.5" LCD w/backlight panel, 1/60 - 1/4000 second shutter speeds, 4 pre-programmed special effects.

Sony Mavica FD88 Digital Camera

PC and Mac \$779

1280 x 960 resolution, MPEG Movie Mode, 60 sec. full motion video & audio, 1.3 million mega pixel CCD, voice memo mode adding narration to still mode, shutter speed 1/60 - 1/4000 sec., 4 programmed special effects, 8x optical zoom lens/16x precision digital zoom.

Agfa ePhoto 780c Digital Camera

PC and Mac \$210

1024 x 768 resolution, stores up to 96 photos on each removable memory card (one 2 MB, SSFDC SmartMedia 3.3 V, ATA compatible card included), 1.8" LCD screen, NTSC/PAL cable for viewing pictures on a television, Agfa PhotoWise software (Windows 95, Windows NT/9x or Macintosh OS 7.0 and higher).

JamC@m Digital Camera

PC and USB Mac \$89.95

640 x 480 resolution, 24 picture capacity, LCD picture counter, Microsoft PictureIt! 99 software.

Resources

Active Buyer's Guide - <http://www.activebuyersguide.com>

MacMall - <http://www.macmall.com>

Digital Camera Center - <http://www.digital-camera-center.com>

Fall, 2000