

# PC WORLD

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TOP 100

TEST Center

## TOP 10 DIGITAL CAMERAS

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OUR ADVANCED DIGITAL CAMERAS chart covers a lot of territory, from relatively inexpensive models such as Kodak's EasyShare DX6490 to powerful "prosumer" models like Canon's single-lens reflex EOS 10D, suitable for professional shooters and serious hobbyists alike. All ten cameras share

an array of creative controls not typically found in point-and-shoot models. Excellent imaging earned the modestly priced, feature-rich Olympus C-5060 Wide Zoom a Best Buy. But if you want an SLR camera that can accept interchangeable lenses, Canon's EOS Digital Rebel is a great value, too.

|    | ADVANCED CAMERA   | Street price (12/01/03) | Overall rating | Image quality | Ease of use | Battery life/ shots                | Comments <sup>1</sup>   |
|----|---|-------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1  | <b>Best BUY</b> Olympus C-5060 Wide Zoom <b>NEW</b><br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/39527">find.pcworld.com/39527</a> | \$700                   | 86             | Outstanding   | Very good   | Outstanding/ over 500 <sup>2</sup> | <b>FEATURES:</b> 5.1-megapixel resolution, 32MB XD-Picture Card and CompactFlash slot, 27mm to 110mm focal range, 640 by 480 video with audio, 17.9 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> Successor to the C-5050, this bulky model has a 4X zoom in place of the older model's 3X. Has intuitive controls and earned top image-quality scores. (★★★★★)           |
| 2  | <b>Best BUY</b> Canon EOS Digital Rebel<br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/38810">find.pcworld.com/38810</a>             | \$1000                  | 85             | Very good     | Very good   | Outstanding/ over 500 <sup>2</sup> | <b>FEATURES:</b> 6.3-megapixel resolution, CompactFlash slot (media not included), 28mm to 90mm focal range, no video or audio recording, 29.5 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> A bargain for an SLR digital camera with interchangeable lenses; priced as a kit with midrange zoom lens, but is also sold body only. (★★★★★ Jan 04)                         |
| 3  | Olympus C-750 Ultra Zoom<br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/37364">find.pcworld.com/37364</a>                            | \$550                   | 83             | Very good     | Good        | Outstanding/ over 500 <sup>2</sup> | <b>FEATURES:</b> 4-megapixel resolution, 16MB XD-Picture Card, 38mm to 380mm focal range, 320 by 240 video with audio, 13.9 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> Priciest 10X zoom camera on the chart has more-powerful controls than the Kodak and more megapixels than the Fujifilm. It got higher imaging scores than both, too. (★★★★★ Oct 03)              |
| 4  | Canon PowerShot G5<br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/37358">find.pcworld.com/37358</a>                                  | \$700                   | 82             | Very good     | Good        | Very good/ 438                     | <b>FEATURES:</b> 5-megapixel resolution, 32MB CompactFlash, 35mm to 140mm focal range, 320 by 240 video with audio, 18 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> Big and boxy, but for an advanced camera, it's easy to use; earned high marks for image exposure accuracy and sharpness. Lens casts a shadow in wide-angle flash shots. (★★★★★ Oct 03)               |
| 5  | Nikon Coolpix 5400<br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/37370">find.pcworld.com/37370</a>                                  | \$700                   | 80             | Good          | Fair        | Good/ 330                          | <b>FEATURES:</b> 5.1-megapixel resolution, 16MB CompactFlash, 28mm to 116mm focal range, 640 by 480 video with audio, 13.7 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> Has a wealth of features, but they're dauntingly presented. The unit is relatively compact and boasts 4X optical zoom, but the LCD is small for this class of camera. (★★★★★ Oct 03)             |
| 6  | Olympus C-5000 Zoom <b>NEW</b><br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/39530">find.pcworld.com/39530</a>                      | \$450                   | 80             | Very good     | Very good   | Fair/ 227                          | <b>FEATURES:</b> 5-megapixel resolution, 32MB XD-Picture Card, 38mm to 114mm focal range, 320 by 240 video without audio, 9.7 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> Low-priced and relatively small for an advanced, 5-megapixel camera with a hot shoe; it produced slightly better-than-average image quality in our tests. (★★★★★)                             |
| 7  | Nikon Coolpix 5700<br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/31118">find.pcworld.com/31118</a>                                  | \$900                   | 77             | Good          | Fair        | Good/ 336                          | <b>FEATURES:</b> 5-megapixel resolution, 16MB CompactFlash, 35mm to 280mm focal range, 320 by 240 video with audio, 19 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> The complex and powerful Coolpix 5700 takes fine images. Its long, 8X zoom is useful for photographing sports events and wildlife. (★★★★★ Jan 03)  |
| 8  | Kodak EasyShare DX6490 <b>NEW</b><br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/39524">find.pcworld.com/39524</a>                   | \$499                   | 77             | Good          | Very good   | Outstanding/ over 500 <sup>2</sup> | <b>FEATURES:</b> 4-megapixel resolution, 16MB internal memory and SD card slot, 38mm to 380mm focal range, 320 by 240 video with audio, 13.8 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> A 10X zoom and a big LCD highlight Kodak's top-of-the-line consumer camera. It's easy to use but has few of the high-end controls found in most advanced models. (★★★★★)       |
| 9  | Canon EOS 10D<br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/34847">find.pcworld.com/34847</a>                                       | \$1500                  | 76             | Very good     | Very good   | Outstanding/ over 500 <sup>2</sup> | <b>FEATURES:</b> 6.3-megapixel resolution, CompactFlash slot (media not included), interchangeable lenses, no video or audio, 31 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> Bristling with features, this SLR camera takes beautiful pictures and can use most Canon EF mount lenses. Listed price is for the body only; lenses start at around \$150. (★★★★★ June 03) |
| 10 | Fujifilm FinePix S5000 <b>NEW</b><br><a href="http://find.pcworld.com/39533">find.pcworld.com/39533</a>                   | \$400                   | 76             | Fair          | Fair        | Outstanding/ over 500 <sup>2</sup> | <b>FEATURES:</b> 3.1-megapixel resolution, 16MB XD-Picture Card, 37mm to 370mm focal range, 320 by 240 video with audio, 11.9 ounces. <b>SUMMARY:</b> Like the Olympus C-750 and Kodak DX6490, the S5000 has a 10X zoom; it's not as easy to use as the Kodak, but it accepts optional telephoto and wide-angle add-on lenses. (★★★★★)              |

**FOOTNOTES:** <sup>1</sup> Resolutions are expressed in effective pixels, focal range is identified as 35mm equivalent, and camera weights include batteries. <sup>2</sup> We cut off testing at 500 shots, or approximately 4.5 hours of testing. **HOW WE TEST:** We take a series of shots, with and without flash, at the camera's highest resolution and at its default, automatic settings. We photograph a complex still life and a mannequin to see how well each camera captures details and subtle colorings such as skin tones. A panel of judges reviews the on-screen and printed photos and assigns image-quality scores; we then average those scores. Data based on tests designed and conducted by the PC World Test Center. All rights reserved. **CHART NOTES:** Each camera's overall rating is based on price (20 percent), picture quality (30 percent), ease of use (10 percent), features (20 percent), battery life (10 percent), and support (10 percent). For all ratings, higher is better.

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