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Digital Photography

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1. Choosing a Camera

- Know what you want to do
  (see the guide for tips on camera features for different types of photos)
- Make sure it’s easy to use
- Find out about accessories (batteries, memory cards)

Types of Cameras:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point &amp; Shoot</th>
<th>Superzoom</th>
<th>DSLR/Professional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• portable</td>
<td>• advanced options</td>
<td>• highest quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• simpler</td>
<td>• manual controls</td>
<td>• complete control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• fun features</td>
<td>• built-in lens</td>
<td>• lots of lenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• lots of sizes &amp; colors</td>
<td>• reasonable prices</td>
<td>• most versatile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• cheapest</td>
<td></td>
<td>• lenses can transfer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• very expensive</td>
</tr>
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</table>

2. Camera Settings

**Basic Settings**

- **Action**
  Takes faster photos to freeze motion
- **Portrait**
  Makes it easier to focus on faces
- **Macro (close-ups)**
  Makes it easier to focus close to the camera
- **Landscape**
  Takes photos that are sharp all over.
- **Flash**
  Usually on, but too much can be a problem.
  Turn it off for more natural lighting.

**Advanced Settings**

- **Burst Mode**
  Automatically take multiple shots
- **Night**
  Cameras are slower in dim light, so set the camera down or use a tripod
- **Program**
  Some automatic settings, some custom
- **Aperture-Priority**
  Choose what you want to keep in focus.
- **Shutter-Priority**
  Choose how fast the camera takes the photo.
- **Manual**
  This lets you adjust both the lens and the shutter.
  May help in tricky light, but you should experiment.
3. Taking Better Photos

What is Photography?
Light, hitting an object, bouncing back to hit a lens, which records it into an image.
Which is basically the same way our eyes work:

What Creates a Photo?
Light: How much? More at noon than at midnight, More on a sunny day than a cloudy one
Time: How long does the light come in? (speed/shutter)
Lens: What can it see (lens angle/width)? What is in focus? (aperture/focus)

"Six Rules"
1. Simplify: fewer distractions = better photos
2. Fill the Frame (see above)
3. Lines: direct the eye
4. Rule of Thirds (tic-tac-toe)
5. Balance: what is “heaviest”?
6. Avoid Mergers: don’t play mad scientist

Basic Tips
• Try different angles: try walking around, crouching, looking up, looking down
• Move your subjects: Look where people are standing for portraits, arrange still lifes carefully, etc.
• Adjust your camera: try zooming, different focus settings, etc.
• Lighting: waiting for the right time can make a big difference (afternoons and mornings often best)
• Crop it later!

4. Photo Editors

Online
• Flickr - Picnic
• Photoshop
• Printing Sites: Snapfish, etc.

Free for Computers
• Picasa
• Gimp
• iPhoto (with Mac computers)

Advanced
• Photoshop
• Aperture
• Bridge/Lightroom

5. Printing Photos

At Home
• Printers
• Ink
• Paper

Stores
• What do you bring in?
• How long does it take?
• Can you submit them online?

Online
• Often cheapest
• Delivery: mail or store pickup?
• Sizes: bigger range (but check settings)
• Quality – do they make adjustments?

6. Organizing & Sharing Online

Organizing
• Saving to a computer
• Folders? (iPhoto uses its own)
• Tags? (Picasa, Bridge)
• Backing up drives

Sharing
Dedicated photo sites: Flickr, Picasa, Photobucket, (lots more)
Social sites: Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, blogs

Photo Printing Sites:
Snapfish, Kodak Gallery, Shutterfly, etc

More Concerns
Privacy Settings
• Album/Set vs. Photo
• Who can see?
• Do they need to login?

Rights Management
Copyright, Creative Commons, and more