



Digital Photography: an Introduction

Class Outline

Jim Skeen, Instructor

March 17 – April 7, 2007
9:30 – 12:30pm, Saturdays
Little House, Menlo Park, CA



No Class March 24

Web address: www.jskeen.com

Email: jskeen@jskeen.com

Learn all about your digital camera and how to use it to take great pictures. How's it different from your traditional film camera? What's the best way to use it? We'll learn how to move the pictures to your computer or to a kiosk at your local drugstore. We'll also crop, fix red eye and improve the pictures using one of the best Photoshop programs, Photoshop Elements. Bring your digital camera and let's make great pictures together.

Class 1 3/17/07

Introduction

- Pre-evaluation
- Top 12 FAQ's
- Your goals/questions for class
- Why go digital?
- What can you do with a digital photograph?

How digital cameras work

- Sensors
- Mega pixels
- Aperture & focal length
- Zoom

Lab: A digital picture, *start to finish!*



No Class March 24

Class 2 3/31/07

All those buttons!

- Touring a digital camera
- Storage types
- **Lab:** show & tell your own camera, practice with composition, focus, zoom
- **Lab:** Playing with buttons and storage types

Using your digital camera

- Taking pictures
- Connecting the camera to the computer
- Transferring pictures to the computer
- Placing the pictures into a folder
- Digitally processing the pictures
- Printing and emailing digital pictures
- **Lab:** Practice using a digital camera, start to finish

Practice with Photoshop Elements

Class 3 4/7/07

Your personal buying checklist

- Key desirable features
- What to beware of
- Features that YOU need and want
- Comparing checklists

Shopping for a Digital Camera

- What do you get for different prices?
- Try before you buy!
- Where to buy
- How to buy
- Useful web links

Practice with Photoshop Elements

Jim Skeen's Web Site

www.jskeen.com

Jim Skeen's email address

jskeen@jskeen.com

Lens and Focal Length (from www.howstuffworks.com)

Focal Length	35 mm Equivalent	View	Typical Uses
5.4 mm	35 mm	Things look smaller and farther away.	Wide-angle shots, landscapes, large buildings, groups of people
7.7 mm	50 mm	Things look about the same distance as what your eye sees.	"Normal" shots of people and objects
16.2 mm	105 mm	Things are magnified and appear closer.	Telephoto shots, close-ups

What is the image capacity of each type of storage?

Image Size	TIFF (uncompressed)	JPEG (high quality)	JPEG (medium quality)
640x480	1.0 MB	300 KB	90 KB
800x600	1.5 MB	500 KB	130 KB
1024x768	2.5 MB	800 KB	200 KB
1600x1200	6.0 MB	1.7 MB	420 KB

Kodak recommends the following as **minimum** resolutions for these different print sizes.

Print Size	Megapixels	Image Resolution
Wallet	0.3	640x480 pixels
4x5 inches	0.4	768x512 pixels
5x7 inches	0.8	1152x768 pixels
8x10 inches	1.6	1536x1024 pixels

Books (recommended by www.howstuffworks.com)

- [Digital Camera Solutions](#), by Gregory Georges
- [The Complete Idiot's Guide to Digital Photography](#), by Steve Greenburg
- [Digital Photography For Dummies](#), by Julie Adair King
- [Digital Photography: Answers!](#), by Dave Johnson
- [A Short Course in Choosing & Using a Digital Camera](#), by Dennis Curtin (Photographer)
- [Start With a Digital Camera: A Guide to Using Digital Photography to Create High-Quality Graphics](#), by John Odam
- [Real World Digital Photography: Industrial-Strength Techniques](#), by Deke McClelland & Katrin Eismann
- [The Art of Digital Photography](#), by Tom Ang
- [Complete Guide to Digital Cameras](#), by Michael D. Murie
- [Digital Camera Design Guide: Creative Explorations with Your Digital Photographs](#), by Peter G. Aitken
- [How to Do Everything With Your Digital Camera](#), by Dave Johnson

Related HowStuffWorks Articles

- [How Camcorders Work](#)
- [How Cameras Work](#)
- [How Autofocus Cameras Work](#)
- [How Camera Flashes Work](#)
- [How Red-light Cameras Work](#)
- [How Photographic Film Works](#)
- [How Steadicams Work](#)
- [How Webcams Work](#)
- [How Light Works](#)
- [How does a pinhole camera work?](#)

More Great Links

- [Kodak Digital Learning Center](#)
- [A-Digital-Eye.com](#)
- [Digital Photography Review: News, Reviews, Forums, FAQ](#)
- [InfoPool: Digital Cameras](#)
- [Digital Cameras Buyers Guide](#)
- [PC Photo Review](#)