



Mirrorless Camera Buying Guide Quick Reference Handout

Mirrorless cameras are a popular and ever-growing camera category for both professionals and hobbyists. These cameras offer a compact size, fast autofocus capabilities, and seamless high-resolution video recording.

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How are mirrorless cameras different from other types of cameras?

Mirrorless cameras don't contain a reflex mirror, which allows them to be built smaller and lighter than DSLRs.

Why choose a mirrorless digital camera vs a DSLR?

Mirrorless digital cameras are smaller than DSLRs. They are quicker to focus and shoot. They allow you to preview your image before it is captured and may produce a higher-quality image in low light conditions as there is no mirror reflex to cause micro-vibrations in the camera body.

Mirrorless cameras are often favoured by professionals for shooting on location and for shooting video content.

Top brands of mirrorless cameras and their sensors

Brand	Cropped sensor	Full-frame sensor
Sony	ILCE-6000 series (APS-C)	ILCE-7 series
Canon	EOS RXX, EOS M (both APS-C)	EOS RX
Nikon	DX (APS-C)	FX
Fujifilm	All APS-C	None
Panasonic	LUMIX G (micro four thirds)	LUMIX S

Features to look for in a mirrorless camera

- Sensor type and size: Full-frame sensors capture a larger field of view.
- Camera weight: Mirrorless cameras can be built smaller and lighter than DSLRs, but their lenses weigh the same. Choose from heavier models to balance out the feeling of a longer lens.
- Autofocus system: Hybrid, PDAF, or CDAF.
- 4K video recording quality: Varies by camera and sensor type.



- 4K video recording time limit: The silent autofocus of a mirrorless camera is helpful for shooting video.
- Face detection: Handy for portraits and video.
- Image stabilization: Helpful when shooting in low light.

What lenses can you use with a mirrorless camera?

Check for compatibility between each of the lenses and cameras you're looking at.

Can I use full-frame, micro four-thirds, and APS-C lenses interchangeably?

You can use your lenses interchangeably within their mount system, but the size of your image may be cropped.

How to choose the right lenses for your new camera

Select by aperture, lens length, minimum focal distance, zoom capabilities, and build quality.

What camera accessories do you need for a new camera?

Invest in helpful camera accessories such as spare batteries, battery grips, memory cards, lens filters, and camera bags.