

Best Buy monitor

The cheapest places to shop for our Best Buys

COMPACT CAMERAS

Digital photography might be all the rage, but standard 35mm film compact cameras aren't dead. Reports that Kodak and other film companies are cutting their film production might set alarm bells ringing, but Kodak has told us that it will continue selling film for many years to come.

We think you'll still get several years' happy use from a good compact camera. It will produce better images than a digital camera at the same price, and you can buy a good one for under £70 – something you'd struggle with in the digital market. The shutter delay is shorter than on digital cameras, and batteries should last more than a year compared with a few hours for a digital model.

Our tests on compact cameras rate picture quality, flash performance, how easy they are to use, and how good they are at taking close-up shots. Our Best Buys, shown here, took some of the best pictures and were easy to use.

Last test: Jan 05



NIKON

Lite Touch Zoom 130ED

£65 from Jessops

This Nikon took some of the best quality photos of all the cameras on test. A slow-sync flash allows you to highlight subjects in the foreground, and the background at night. Flash performance is good, with excellent red-eye reduction, and shutter delay is quite short.

SCORE 78%



NIKON

Lite Touch Zoom 150ED

£180 from

Miller Brothers

This Nikon has a particularly wide zoom range of 38–150mm. Flash performance is very good, and it comes with a slow-sync flash. Compared with the rest of the Best Buys its red-eye reduction doesn't work brilliantly, but it's by no means poor.

SCORE 78%



KONICA MINOLTA

Zoom 130c

£70 from Boots and Jessops

Flash performance on this model is especially outstanding (it comes with slow-sync flash mode, too). Red-eye reduction is also good, but shutter delay is so-so. It's easy to use and gives excellent picture quality.

SCORE 76%



SAMSUNG

Fino 140 DLX

£75 from Index

With a wide zoom range of 38–140mm, the Samsung also has one of the shortest shutter delays we've seen on a compact camera. It boasts a continuous shooting mode, too. Flash performance overall is excellent, though it lacks a slow-sync flash mode.

SCORE 75%



NIKON

Lite Touch Zoom 100W

£80 from Argos

This Nikon has a wider angle of view than any other Best Buy, allowing you to fit more scenery into a picture. But its maximum zoom is the lowest of our Best Buys, so it might not be the best choice if you want to take close-ups of faraway objects. A continuous shooting function lets you capture fast action.

SCORE 73%

next month

- Washing machines
- Washer-driers

WHICH? EXTRA

Our Which? Extra website is exclusive to Which? members. It has 35 easy-to-use buying guides, packed with advice on key areas. Prices and stockists are updated monthly. On it you'll find:

- full test results for 37 compact cameras, with explanations of different features and tips on flash, zoom and using a scanner to turn your prints into digital images
- full test results for 104 digital cameras and the advantages and disadvantages of compact cameras vs digital models
- full test results for 30 inkjet printers if you want to print your photos at home.

Which? Extra also has an archive containing four years' worth of information (that's 700 reports). It includes a fast, easy-to-use search facility. Go to www.which.co.uk/whichestra

