

Backgrounder

New Konica Minolta 8.0-Megapixel Digital Single Lens Reflex (SLR)-Type Camera: The DiIMAGE A200

Konica Minolta Photo Imaging U.S.A., Inc.'s new DiIMAGE A200 digital camera joins the award-winning DiIMAGE A line of digital cameras – delivering clear, crisp images with the intricate detail that DiIMAGE photographers have come to expect.

Product Highlights

- 8.0-megapixel resolution and Konica Minolta all-glass GT APO lens give photographers high-quality pictures
- Anti-Shake technology with CCD shift mechanism enables even novices to capture clearly focused pictures without a tripod, and with an approximately 3-step slower shutter speed
- Vari-angle LCD monitor allows you to easily take self-portraits as well as high- and low-angle shots with freer and easier angles
- Newly advanced LSI and CxProcess™ III image-processing technology give high-speed image processing and sharp, true-to-life-color images
- Fast 60-frames per second live view for incredibly smooth viewing of recorded images
- Included wireless remote control adds convenience for both shooting and viewing
- 28x digital/optical zoom and Konica Minolta Anti-Shake technology make it possible to shoot high-quality moving pictures
- Sure-grip, ergonomic body makes it easy to carry and use anywhere
- Extensive optional accessories: wide-angle converter, telephoto converter, close-up lens, and external flashes

Features

8.0-Megapixel 2/3-inch Interlace Scan CCD

The new Konica Minolta DiIMAGE A200 has an 8.0-megapixel, 2/3-inch interlace scan CCD. With 8 million effective pixels, photographers can take subtle, expressive images that capture even individual hairs or the stitches of a suit in sharp detail. These incredibly detailed images can then be transferred and printed onto 10.9 x 8.1 inch paper at 300 dpi.

CCD Shift-Type Anti-Shake Technology

Konica Minolta's Anti-Shake technology gives photographers a highly effective way to deal with handheld shaking – a major cause of substandard images, especially with telephoto and dimly lit shots. Users can expect better images in low light conditions without relying on a higher ISO setting or a tripod. The new DiIMAGE A200 features a CCD-shift mechanism to stabilize images by offsetting the shaking pattern of the user's hand. This gives unrivalled stability at up to 3 shutter speeds slower than on digital cameras without Anti-Shake technology. The CCD shift mechanism also allows for more freedom in the mechanical layout of the camera's interior, which keeps it compact. Anti-Shake technology can offset two kinds of shaking—high-frequency shaking of muscles and low-frequency shaking of the body.

Vari-Angle LCD Monitor

The 1.8-inch TFT LCD monitor rotates 270° vertically and 180° horizontally, allowing photographers to hold the camera in a comfortable position at high- and low-angle shots while still viewing the LCD straight on. And, because photographers can view the LCD while they get in just the right position for

a self-portrait, the DiMAGE A200 is great for taking shots from a variety of different angles.

Newly Advanced LSI and Konica Minolta CxProcess™ III Image Processing

The advanced LSI engine reduces power consumption and suppresses camera noise, while optimizing color reproduction with exceptional accuracy. Konica Minolta's CxProcess™ III image-processing technology helps reproduce shadows and highlights with outstanding accuracy, so images look natural and true-to-life. The new DiMAGE A200 also introduces a new sRGB color mode (Portrait sRGB) that brings out beautiful skin tones in portraits.

Konica Minolta GT Lens and Anomalous Dispersion (AD) Glass

Designed specifically for digital photography, the GT lens is an all-glass apochromatic (APO) zoom lens. The benefits for the user include sharp and clear pictures absent of any color aberration, even when using the large aperture setting. The lens is the heart of the camera and this GT lens has 16 elements in 13 groups. The anomalous dispersion (AD) glass contributes to things like suppressed distortion, and reduced flare and chromatic aberration, while aspheric glass elements work to make the lens compact. The camera's improved optical low pass filter and the logical arrangement of the lens make for higher productivity and quality-assurance in the manufacturing process, ensuring that the lens is suitable for an 8.0-megapixel CCD.

60 Frames Per Second High Speed Live View

Both the LCD and EVF give a fast 60-frames per second live view (for still recording; 30 frames per second for movie recording), making for incredibly smooth viewing of recorded images. It also reduces the time lag in tracking moving subjects so users can easily capture those crucial fleeting moments.

Included Wireless Remote Control

Photographers can also take self-portraits using the camera's remote control. And, they can also connect the DiMAGE A200 to a TV and control the images with the remote control. This allows users to sit back and enjoy the pictures and movies they took that same day.

Digital Zoom

The 4x digital zoom gives up to a 28x total zoom when combined with the optical zoom, providing a maximum focal length of 800mm (35mm equivalent), which is perfect for distance shots or sporting events. And, even shots at a focal length of 800mm are free of jerky movements thanks to Konica Minolta's Anti-Shake technology. Photographers can choose from two digital zoom modes: image interpolation (in which the number of pixels doesn't change) digital zoom and normal mode (cropped into 2 megapixels). The digital zoom can also be accessed from any point of the optical zoom using the handy digital zoom lever on the rear panel.

High-Quality Movie Recording

The DiMAGE A200 incorporates a true VGA movie (640 x 480 pixels) mode. This allows users to record high-quality movies at 30 frames per second giving images rivaling those seen on TV. Users can also take high-quality SVGA (800 x 600 pixels) movies at 15 frames per second, which look good even on a large PC screen. The DiMAGE A200 lets photographers use both the digital and optical zoom when recording movies, allowing them to capture images at a maximum focal length of 800mm (35mm equivalent). And, the Night Movie function makes subjects highly visible even in dark settings. The DiMAGE A200 also comes bundled with fun-to-use video software, Video Studio 8 SE by ULEAD, which lets users import and edit images and then output them to video CDs.

Sure-Grip, Ergonomic

Despite its pro-level picture quality and features, the Konica Minolta DiMAGE A200 is compact and weighs just 17.8 ounces, making it easy to take on vacations and day-trips. And although it's small, the DiMAGE A200's grip makes it easy to hold when taking pictures.

Various Autofocus (AF) Mode

Wide Focus Area mode informs photographers of focused points by flashing them when the shutter is pressed halfway down. Predictive Focus Control keeps moving subjects in focus. 11-Point Focus Area is perfect for switching the AF point instantaneously on the main positions in the frame. Flex Focus Point is perfect for higher-precision auto-focusing. These features are very effective for capturing action in unusual lighting.

Ultra High-Speed Continuous Shooting

When photographers really need to fire off as many shots as possible in a limited amount of time, select the UHS (Ultra High Speed) mode on the menu to set the camera to capture images at a continuous advance of 40 frames at 10 frames per second. For convenience, these images can be captured in VGA format.

Real-Time Histogram Display

The LCD monitor is equipped with a convenient histogram function that will help the user see the overall brightness of the scene when it's difficult to determine the exposure compensation within the image. The histogram supplies the information users need to adjust the exposure more accurately. It also incorporates a luminance limit display on the playback screen.

Direct Manual Focus (DMF)

DMF allows users to frame their shot. By simply turning the focusing ring on the lens barrel while the shutter is half-pressed, photographers can control the focus on a particular shot even when the AF is locked. Try using DMF during macro imaging to be sure that a specific part of a subject stays in focus. When users target an image area, it is automatically enlarged for easy focusing.

Easy Operation from the Rear Panel

The buttons used most often are set on the DiMAGE A200's rear panel, where users can access them easily without looking away from the camera's LCD monitor. A digital zoom lever on the rear panel allows photographers to easily operate the digital zoom from any focal point. A shift button provides operational shortcuts, while function buttons on the rear panel make it easy to adjust color mode, metering mode, ISO, and digital effect settings.

Optional Converter Lenses for Additional Range (sold separately)

The 1.5x Telephoto Converter gives users an optical zoom range to 300mm and the 0.8x Wide-angle Converter gives provides an optical zoom range of 22mm. The Close-up lens renders even better pictures at close range. And, the Anti-Shake technology covers all focal lengths to ensure that photographers always get clearly focused pictures.

DiMAGE Viewer

As part of the DiMAGE series of digital cameras, the DiMAGE A200 is equipped with the user-friendly Konica Minolta DiMAGE Viewer software. This intuitive software makes it easy to manage, edit, and perform many other tasks with digital images. It displays thumbnails for quick confirmation, plus Exif data and any comments the photographer has included. Users can copy, move, or rename images as they please. Image compensation tools include tone curve and histogram for still images and flicker reduction for movie clips. RAW data can be imported, giving users the option to make fine adjustments on uncompressed image data. The DiMAGE Viewer also supports various color spaces and Color Management using an ICC Profile.

Direct Printer Connection

By directly connecting the DiMAGE A200 to a PictBridge*-compliant printer, printouts can be made easily without going through a computer. Photographers can check the camera's LCD monitor for the image they want to print.

**PictBridge is an industry standard established by the Camera & Imaging Products Association (CIPA).*