

Top 5 best cheap DSLR cameras of 2024

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If you're looking for a camera for beginners, a cheap DSLR is a great choice. Thanks to the many manual settings, learning the fundamentals of controlling aperture, shutter speed, ISO and white balance is better done on a DSLR rather than a smartphone or camera. Point-and-Shoots photo.

Nikon D3500



Learning DSLR photography on the Nikon D3500 is very simple. It has a handy built-in tutorial for beginners, giving step-by-step instructions on how to achieve a variety of photography techniques. These include how to achieve a shallow depth of field, taking advantage of the ISO range of 100-25600, using the autofocus (AF) system, and continuous shooting.

It's a basic device that's easy to use and delivers excellent image quality. Photos show good detail with edge-to-edge sharpness, natural colors and outstanding contrast. The 11-point autofocus system is a good learning ground, and its 5fps continuous shooting speed allows beginners to learn how to capture fast-moving objects and capture natural images.

This is by no means a camera for serious action, but it's effective for the price range and targeted skill level. With outstanding battery life rated at 1,550 shots per charge, you can shoot from dusk to dawn without worry.

Canon EOS Rebel T7



With basic but reliable specs and features, the Canon EOS Rebel T7 is one of the best cameras for beginners. It has a 24.1MP APS-C sensor that delivers beautiful image quality, especially when the lighting is good. Images have balanced exposure with vibrant colors and good contrast. Noise is well controlled at ISO 6,400. However, you will need a good tripod to take photos at night to get the best quality.

The T7 offers entry-level 9-point autofocus and 3 fps continuous shooting. It's also compact and lightweight, making it ideal for those new to traveling with DSLR cameras. Although the Nikon 3500 offers better specs, some beginners may prefer the slightly slower learning curve and affordability of this camera.

The Canon EOS Rebel T7 also offers a decent 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 kit lens with image stabilization, which is a good entry-level start. Kit lenses can be a great choice for beginners, but as your skills develop, you'll want to invest in better lenses from the many options available.

Pentax KF



If you want a quality DSLR camera at a reasonable price, look no further than the Pentax KF. This is a weatherproof DSLR that can withstand cold temperatures, while its dust resistance provides a level of protection when shooting at the beach.

Thanks to the ergonomic rubber grip, the camera can be easily held while wearing gloves on cold, early morning photo sessions. But despite its rugged design, it's still a relatively compact DSLR. Overall, image quality is excellent. The 24.2MP APS-C sensor retains sharp details. Additionally, in-body image stabilization works well and noise is well managed at higher ISOs.

The KF also features a precise 11-point optical viewfinder autofocus system with reliable subject tracking. It also has a live view Hybrid AF system for precise focusing over a wider area, although it may not be as fast in low light.

Canon EOS Rebel T8i



Although the Canon EOS Rebel T8i is a budget DSLR, the features push it down to mid-range. This is one of the best DSLR cameras one can buy in any budget segment for video recording. However, if your main concern is filmmaking, you may want to consider a mirrorless camera or a camcorder before deciding on a DSLR.

The T8i, also known as the Canon EOS 850D, has a 24.1MP APS-C CMOS sensor and DIGIC 8 processor that delivers detailed images with accurate colors. With a 45-point multi-point autofocus system and continuous shooting at 7 frames per second, you won't miss a beat of the action. Autofocus is fast in good lighting conditions, and there's even eye-detection AF for precise tracking.

However, what really makes it stand out in this price range is its ability to record 4K video. You can record at up to 24fps, and content creators get 16:9 support. With a vari-angle touchscreen LCD and digital image stabilization (video only), this is a great choice for vloggers on a tight budget.

Canon EOS Rebel SL3



The Canon EOS Rebel SL3, also known as the 250D, is another addition to the Canon Rebel line. It's also one of the smallest and most compact DSLRs, and its weight without lens at just 15.8oz makes it one of the best budget DSLR cameras for travelers.

It supports 4K video at 25fps (with crop) and the 24.1MP sensor delivers good image quality. The 9-point autofocus system is quite fast and accurate, allowing you to focus on the subject quite quickly and take natural, realistic photos. It may not be the optimal choice for capturing fast action sequences, but is suitable for general travel photography.

The SL3 has an optical viewfinder and a 9-point autofocus system that works well in bright light conditions. However, live view offers much smoother and more accurate focusing. The touchscreen is sharp and fully articulated, ideal for travel vloggers.

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