

## Memory Cards for your Digital Camera

Many of us have digital cameras. These digital cameras don't use film anymore they store the pictures on a MEMORY CARD. My camera, a Canon S11S takes COMPACT FLASH memory, other brands and models of camera take SD type memory cards, others still take XD, others SONY MEMORY STICK, and so on.

All of these memory cards come in different capacities ranging from 8MB, which will store about five pictures, all the way up to and beyond 2GB (2000MB) and will store a relational amount of pictures.

When you are purchasing a memory card, first determine what TYPE of card your device (camera) takes. Compact Flash is the largest at about 2" square, SD (Secure Digital) is the most popular at about 1" square, Sony Memory Sticks are used exclusively in Sony products, and is blue and shaped like a stick of gum. Next determine how many pictures you want to store on this memory card. My 1GB memory card will store about 500 pictures at 3megapixels resolution. Higher resolution pictures will take up more space and therefore you will be able to store fewer pictures on the same capacity of memory card. The price of the card will go up depending on the capacity.

Here's a new twist that I learned this week. SD memory cards will only go to a maximum of 2GB. Anything over 2GB will be labeled as SDHC (Secure Digital High Capacity) and will range from 2GB up to 32GB in capacity. If your camera takes SD memory and you want a memory card larger than 2GB, be sure your camera or PDA or card reader will recognize SDHC cards. They look the same as standard SD but are formatted differently and may not be readable by your camera.

These cards are very inexpensive with a 2GB SD card now selling for just \$39.99 there is no good reason for you to still be using the small 64MB card that may be in your camera today. Get a big capacity memory card so you can store more pictures before dumping to your computer.

My other hint for you today is to NOT use the software that came with your camera for transferring pictures to your computer. Windows XP has built in software called the SCANNER AND CAMERA WIZARD. Simply plug in your camera to a USB port on your computer, launch the Scanner and Camera Wizard, follow the steps and you'll find it is EASY to empty your camera, and memory card to your computer, erasing the memory card and preparing it to take more wonderful pictures.

**Favorite Bookmark of the Week: [www.canon.ca](http://www.canon.ca)**