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First Shots

First Shots includes test images straight from the lab. [more](#)

Panasonic Lumix DMC-G2

[Overview](#) [Design](#) [Operation](#) [Optics](#) [Exposure](#) [Performance](#) [Specs](#) [Samples](#)[Overview](#) [Press Release](#)**12.10 Megapixels****Micro Four Thirds mount****3.0 inch LCD**

Panasonic Lumix DMC-G2

Posted: 03/07/2010

The Panasonic Lumix DMC-G2 is a replacement for the company's previous DMC-G1 model, and retains the same Micro Four-Thirds interchangeable lens mount, as well as the same 12.1 effective megapixel sensor resolution. The Panasonic G2's 17.3 x 13.0mm, 4:3 aspect ratio LiveMOS image sensor has an RGB color filter array, and yields a maximum resolution of 4,000 x 3,000 pixels. Alternate aspect ratios on offer include 3:2 (4,000 x 2,672 pixels max.), 16:9 (4,000 x 2,248 pixels max.), and 1:1 (2,992 x 2,992 pixels max.)

As compared to its predecessor, the Panasonic DMC-G2 uses a newer generation of the company's image processor, dubbed Venus Engine HD II. Burst shooting is possible at up to 3.2 frames per second, with a maximum burst depth of seven Raw frames, or unlimited JPEG images. ISO sensitivity ranges from 100 to 6,400 equivalents, and there's also an Intelligent ISO function. The company's Supersonic Wave Filter dust reduction system is retained from the previous camera.

The Lumix G2 offers two choices for framing and reviewing images, and can automatically switch between these when the photographer brings the camera towards or away from their eye. There's an electronic viewfinder with an extremely high resolution of 1,440,000 dots (480,000 pixels), offering a 100% field of view and 1.4x magnification. The DMC-G2's viewfinder has a +/-4.0 diopter adjustment range, and a 17.5mm eye point. Alternatively, there's a tilt / swivel 3.0", 3:2 aspect, touch-screen LCD display panel with 460,000 dot resolution, also offering 100% coverage. The LCD display provides 7-step adjustment for both brightness and color. Both display choices can offer a real-time histogram function, and three choices of framing guideline.

Like all Micro Four Thirds digital cameras, the Panasonic Lumix G2 uses a contrast detection autofocus system. A choice of either 23-point or single point focusing is available, and the G2 includes both face detection and AF tracking functions. The G2's touch panel display also allows it to offer touch autofocus, and even a touch shutter function. An AF assist lamp is included to help with low-light focusing on nearby subjects.

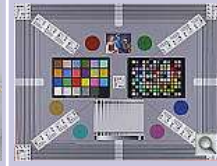
The G2 has a 144-zone metering system, with three metering types on offer - intelligent multiple, center-weighted, or spot. Exposure mode choices include Program, Aperture- and Shutter-priority, plus a fully Manual mode. There are also a whopping 26 scene modes that help amateurs get the results they're looking for without the need to understand shutter speeds, apertures and the like. Shutter speeds of 60 to 1/4000 second are possible, as well as a bulb mode limited to a maximum of four minutes. +/-3.0EV of exposure compensation is available in 1/3EV steps. The G2 also includes an exposure bracketing function which can capture three, five or seven frames with exposure varying by 1/3 or 2/3EV steps.

Test Images
(click to enlarge)

Still Life



Multi Target



Basic Specifications

Resolution:	12.10 Megapixels
Kit Lens:	3.00x zoom 14-42mm (28-84mm eq.)
Viewfinder:	EVF / LCD
LCD Size:	3.0 inch
ISO:	100-6400
Shutter:	60-1/4000
Max Aperture:	3.5
Mem Type:	SD / SDHC / SDXC
Battery:	Custom LiIon
Dimensions:	4.9 x 3.3 x 2.9 in. (124 x 84 x 74 mm)
Weight:	20.9 oz (593 g) includes batteries, kit lens
MSRP:	\$800
Availability:	05/2010

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Nine white balance modes are available, including auto, manual and seven presets. It's also possible to fine-tune white balance, or to directly set it within a range of 2,500 to 10,000 kelvin in steps of 100 kelvin. There's also a three exposure white balance bracketing function. The Panasonic G2 includes a built-in popup flash, with a guide number of 11 meters at ISO 100. X-sync is at 1/160 second, and +/-2.0EV of exposure compensation is available in 1/3EV steps. There's also a hot shoe that is compatible with the FL220, FL360, and FL500 strobes for TTL auto shooting.

The Panasonic Lumix DMC-G2 includes a standard / high definition movie mode, able to shoot at resolutions up to 720p (1,280 x 720 pixels). Two compression types are on offer for high-def movies - either AVCHD Lite, or QuickTime Motion JPEG. For standard-definition shooting, at WVGA / VGA / QVGA resolutions, only QuickTime Motion JPEG video is possible. AVCHD video is recorded at a frame rate of 60 files per second (30 frames per second) for NTSC, or 50 fields per second (25 frames per second) for PAL. QuickTime Motion JPEG videos are always recorded at 30fps. The G2 provides no less than 17 movie scene modes. It also offers not only a built-in mono microphone, but also a stereo mic jack which doubles as a remote jack.

The G2 offers both sRGB and Adobe RGB color spaces, and can shoot still images in either compressed JPEG or Raw file formats, as well as shooting both Raw + JPEG at the same time if desired. Data is stored on Secure Digital cards, including the newer SDHC and SDXC types. Connectivity includes USB 2.0 High Speed data, high-definition miniHDMI type C video output with stereo audio, or standard definition NTSC / PAL video output with monaural audio (NTSC only for North America). Power comes courtesy of a proprietary 7.2V 1,250mAh battery pack, which includes Panasonic's ID Security function to prevent use of counterfeit or third-party battery packs. With the bundled 14-42mm lens, up to 360 shots can be captured on a charge using the LCD display, or 390 shots with the electronic viewfinder.

The Panasonic Lumix DMC-G2 includes a LUMIX G VARIO 14-42mm/F3.5-5.6 ASPH/MEGA O.I.S. kit lens and PHOTOfunStudio 5.0 HD Edition software in the product bundle. The Panasonic G2 ships from late May 2010, with a suggested retail price of US\$799.95 including the kit lens.

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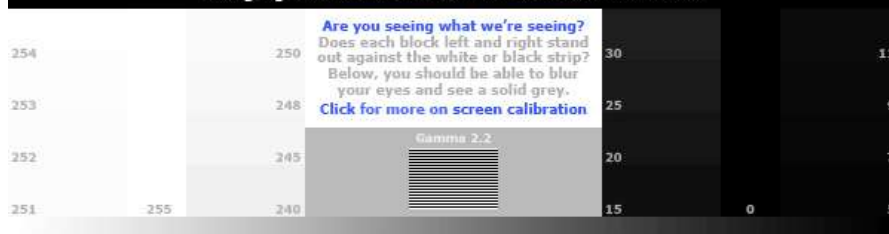
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