

**OLYMPUS**

Your Vision, Our Future

compact  
clean  
credible



**OLYMPUS E-500**



# compact:

A completely digital SLR system that satisfies professional demands.

Four features were given priority in the development of the new Olympus E-500: maximum image quality, a flawless cleaning system for the hyper-sensitive image sensor, ease of use and a compact design. Based on the FourThirds Standard, the E-500 already boasts a wide range of accessories for virtually any demand, including lenses specifically designed for use in digital photography to guarantee optimum performance. Making sure the tough demands of daily use don't compromise quality, the camera incorporates a unique cleaning system which is only available from Olympus. It ensures that dust entering the camera's body during lens changes does not land on the image sensor and affect photos. What surprises at first use of the camera is its low weight, compact and practical

dimensions and its large, high-resolution HyperCrystal LCD – which not only delivers razor sharp previews of images but also lets the user see all camera settings at one glance. The E-500 makes for a sophisticated all-round camera for any area of application, whether business or private, on the road or in the studio.

- "Supersonic Wave Filter", the unique Dust Protection System
- Full Frame Transfer CCD with 8.0 million pixels based on the FourThirds Standard.
- 2.5"/6.4cm HyperCrystal LCD monitor with 160° viewing angles.
- Lightest camera in the D-SLR class\* with an exceptionally compact body.

\* As at October 2005.



- TruePic TURBO image processor.
- Classic exposure modes semi-automatic/automatic/manual.
- Scene modes for 21 common shooting situations.
- Recording formats RAW, TIFF and JPEG.
- Built-in pop-up flash with TTL control.
- Storage media: xD Picture Cards and CompactFlash.
- PictBridge compatibility for direct printing without need for a PC.







# clean:

## "Supersonic Wave Filter" – the unique dust-protection system from Olympus.

In photography, it's rare to get a second chance to take the shot. If the moment is missed, it's gone. The most captivating picture can be ruined by the tiniest of dust particles that enter the camera body during lens changes. In analogue cameras, dust particles move with the film as it winds forward so that in most cases only one single picture is affected. In digital cameras, however, dust particles that settle on the image sensor stay there, accumulate over time, and affect every picture. Merely microscopic particles can cover several hundred pixels on the CCD.

That not only spoils pictures but also requires professional cleaning, which costs time and money.

### The effective solution for the E-500:

The Supersonic Wave Filter is located directly in front of the highly sensitive CCD. Powered by an ultrasonic generator, it produces vibrations that shake off the particles of dust. They then adhere to a specially-coated membrane inside the camera body and no longer pose a risk to image quality. This process takes mere milliseconds and is executed each time the camera is turned on or whenever Pixel Mapping is invoked.



Attached lens:  
avoids dust getting inside  
camera body.



Lens change: dust particles  
have landed on the dust filter in front  
of the image sensor.



Activation of the Supersonic  
Wave Filter: the dust particles  
are shaken off.



Clean image sensor:  
no dust particle can affect  
image quality.





# credible:

## 25 Scene Modes



The E-500 boasts a total of 25 selectable scene modes that cover the gamut of needs from full manual control through to pre-defined automatic settings for specific shooting situations.

### 4 versatile exposure modes: **M S A P**

Programmed Auto with programme shift (Ps), Shutter Priority, Aperture Priority, Manual.

### 6 creative exposure modes:



Automatic, Portrait, Landscape, Macro, Sport and Night Scene/Portrait.

### 15 scene modes for various motifs: **SCENE**

Portrait, Landscape, Landscape and Portrait, Night Scene, Night Scene & Portrait, Children,



Sport, High Key, Low Key, Macro, Candle, Sunset, Fireworks, Documents, Beach & Snow

## New 49 Area AE Sensor

The newly-developed 49 area exposure sensor provides extra precision and reliability during exposure metering and flash control. This is of particular benefit for compositions made under difficult lighting conditions.



## High Light and Shadow Basis Spot Metering

Besides ESP, Centre-weighted Average and Spot metering, the E-500 is equipped with two exposure metering modes that ensure bright subjects with bright backgrounds as well as dark motifs on dark backgrounds are not absorbed, but can be differentiated in the final result.

## One-touch White Balance

In addition to the usual options for automatic or pre-set white balance, the E-500 features a prominently located button that enables instant adjustment to suit the ambient lighting conditions. In this way the white shirt will appear white even if photographed under fluorescent light – thereby saving the hassle of subsequent image editing.

## Colour Filter for B&W Photos

As well as the possibility to shoot Black&White, Sepia or in a range of colour tones, in B&W mode the E-500 offers users special filter effects. These colour filters are known from black & white analogue photography and extend creative opportunities even further.

## Professional AEL/AFL Control



Photographers can have access to a range of personally-selected exposure and focus settings that were pre-defined to suit their individual preferences – all at the simple touch of a button.

This level of customisation for exposure and focus is especially sought out by professional photographers.

## Unlimited Sequential Shooting at 2.5 Frames per Second

Thanks to the extremely high-performance TruePic TURBO processor, the E-500 can continuously record photos in quick succession up to the full memory card capacity. This amazing ability to record dynamic sequences ensures that decisive shots need never be missed.

## Large and Bright for Clear Viewing: The HyperCrystal LCD



At 6.4cm/2.5", the LCD stands out not only because of its size, but also for its high-resolution depictions, extreme brightness and wide viewing angles of 160°.

It provides clear overviews of the camera settings and also facilitates the preview of images. Moreover, with the histogram function, exposure distribution is shown in a choice of four modes and can inform users of over or underexposed image sections.

## Lightbox Function

The camera allows two images stored in the camera to be compared simultaneously on the LCD – just like on a real lightbox.

## 14x Magnification

For the detailed checking of image sharpness on the stored photos, the E-500 allows enlargements of up to 14x on the LCD.

# complete:

Specially-developed lenses for the digital Olympus E-System guarantee optimal image quality.



**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
14-45mm 1:3.5-5.6  
(28-90mm)\*



**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
17.5-45mm 1:3.5-5.6\*  
(35-90mm)\*



**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
ED 18-180mm 1:3.5-6.3  
(36-360mm)\*



**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
40-150mm 1:3.5-4.5  
(80-300mm)\*



**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
35mm Macro 1:3.5  
(70mm)\*



**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
ED 8mm Fisheye 1:3.5  
(16mm)\*



**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
11-22mm 1:2.8-3.5  
(22-44mm)\*



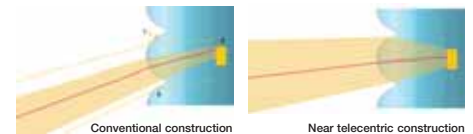
**ZUIKO DIGITAL**  
14-54mm 1:2.8-3.5  
(28-108mm)\*

Standard Series

Pro Series

What's the use of a high resolution image sensor when the lenses aren't capable of providing at least the same level of resolution? If lenses that were conceived for analogue cameras are used with digital camera bodies, there is always a compromise.

For example, due to the design principle of an image sensor, light must hit it squarely. Otherwise there is a risk of losing image quality such as by cornershading in the edges of photos. Optimal results can only be obtained with nearly telecentric optics



that are designed and specifically attuned to the size of the image sensor, to ensure the incoming light rays

## Accessories, perfectly attuned to the Olympus E-500



**FL-36**  
Electronic Flash



**E-300**  
Compact Case



**EP-6**  
Big Eyecup



**VA-1**  
Angle Finder



**LBH-1**  
Battery Holder for  
3x CR123A



**RM-1**  
Remote  
Control

Developed for deployment as an external flash in digital photography, it's the perfect accompaniment to the Olympus E-500. GN36 at a focal length of 42 and GN20 at a focal length of 12, operation is either automatic, manual or with TTL automatic. The reflector can be swivelled in four directions.

Camera case for E-500 with 14-45mm or 17.5-45mm lens





The line-up of Olympus ZUIKO DIGITAL lenses extends from the Standard Series for demanding all-round applications of ambitious hobby users; through the bright, dust and splash-proof, high-performance models of the Pro Series; to the extremely bright lenses of the Top Pro Series for the highest professional requirements.



ZUIKO DIGITAL  
ED 50-200mm 1:2.8-3.5  
(100-400mm)\*



ZUIKO DIGITAL  
ED 50mm Macro 1:2.0  
(100mm)\*



ZUIKO DIGITAL  
ED 7-14mm 1:4.0  
(14-28mm)\*



ZUIKO DIGITAL  
ED 35-100mm 1:2.0  
(70-200mm)\*



ZUIKO DIGITAL  
ED 90-250mm 1:2.8  
(180-500mm)\*



ZUIKO DIGITAL  
ED 150mm 1:2.0  
(300mm)\*



ZUIKO DIGITAL  
ED 300mm 1:2.8  
(600mm)\*

Top Pro Series

\* Figures in brackets correspond to the equivalent values on a 35mm camera.  
\*\* Only available in special kit.

hit the image sensor at a virtually perpendicular angle – even at the very edge of the frame. Based on the FourThirds Standard, the ZUIKO DIGITAL lenses from Olympus are specially-designed for digital capture. Their extremely high resolving power

guarantees that the full potential of even the highest-resolution image sensors is made use of. Furthermore, the angle of view that's expected from the lenses is always the one that can be used. And in conventional 35mm terms, the same angle of view is

returned if the focal length is multiplied by two.

Any lens based on the professional FourThirds Standard can be used on the Olympus E-500, Olympus E-300 and the Olympus E-1 bodies.



# Specifications

<b>Model</b>	Olympus E-500
<b>Type</b>	Interchangeable digital SLR camera.
<b>Compatible lens</b>	ZUIKO Digital, FourThirds System lens.
<b>Lens mount</b>	FourThirds mount.
<b>Body</b>	Engineering plastics.
<b>Media</b>	CompactFlash card (Type I and II), Microdrive, xD-picture card. (Dual slot)
<b>Effective pixel number</b>	8 million pixels.
<b>Image size</b>	17.3mm x 13.0mm.
<b>Image sensor</b>	
Type	4/3 type Full Frame Transfer CCD solid-state image sensor.
Total pixel number	8.89 million pixels.
Aspect ratio	4:3.
Filter array	Primary colour filter (RGB).
<b>Filter</b>	
LPF	Fixed type.
IR cut filter	Hybrid type.
Dust protect filter	Supersonic Wave Filter.
<b>Viewfinder</b>	
Type	Eye-level TTL Dach mirror type optical view finder.
Field of view	Approx. 95%.
Magnification	Approx. 0.9x with a 50mm lens set to infinity at -1 dioptres.
Eye point	Approx. 16mm at -1 dioptres.
Diopter adjustment	Built-in type -3.0 to +1.0 dioptres.
Focusing screen	Fixed type.
Mirror	Quick return mirror.
Viewfinder information	AF frame (super impose), AE lock, AF confirmation mark, Metering mode, Exposure mode, Shutter speed, Aperture value, White balance, Exposure compensation value indicator, Flash, Battery check, Record mode, Number of storable still pictures.
Depth of field preview	Yes (customised One-touch WB button).
Eye cup	Interchangeable type EP-5/6, EP-5 supplied.
Eye piece shutter	Eye piece cap EP-4 supplied.
<b>Autofocus</b>	
Type	TTL phase difference detection system.
Focus modes	Single AF, Continuous AF, Manual focus, Single AF + MF, and Continuous AF + MF.
Detection range	EV 0 to 19 (ISO 100).
Focus areas	3 points.
Focus area selection	Automatic and manual selection.
AF assist lamp	Built-in flash, optional Olympus dedicated flashes.
AF lock	Locked by first position of shutter release button, AE/AF lock button (customised).
Focus tracking	Available in continuous AF mode.
Focus aid	Available.
Manual focus	Available by rotating focus ring, available for setting manual focus operation in AF mode (customised).
<b>Exposure control</b>	
Light metering system	TTL open aperture light metering with 49-zones multi-pattern sensing system.
Light metering modes	Digital ESP, Centre-weighted average and Spot (about 2% of entire frame).
Detection range	Digital ESP, centre-weighted average: EV 1 to 20 (50mm f2, ISO 100). Spot: EV 3 to 17 (50mm f2, ISO 100).
Exposure modes	Auto, Programme with programme shift, Shutter Priority, Aperture Priority, Manual.
Scene programmes	Portrait, Landscape, Macro, Sports, Night Scene & Portrait.
Scene select	Portrait, Landscape, Landscape & Portrait, Night Scene, Night Scene & Portrait, Firework, Sunset, Macro, Sports, High Key, Low key, Document, Beach & Snow, Candle, Children.
Exposure compensation	Up to +/- 5 EV in each 1, 1/2, or 1/3 EV steps.
AE lock	Locked by first position of shutter release or AE/AF lock button (customised).
Exposure bracketing	3 frames in +/- 1, 2/3, 1/2, or 1/3 EV steps (selectable).

<b>Sensitivity</b>	
Auto	ISO 100 to 400.
Manual	ISO 100 to 400. Expandable to 1600 (in each 1/3 EV steps possible).
<b>Shutter</b>	
Type	Electronically controlled focal plane shutter.
Shutter speed	Auto, P, Ps, A mode: 1/4000 - 60 sec. (depend on conditions) S mode: 1/4000 - 60 sec. M mode: 1/4000 - 60 sec. and bulb (up to 8 min.) Scene mode: 1/4000 - 2 sec.
X-sync speed	X = 1/180 sec. Super FP up to 1/4000 sec.
Shutter release	Soft-touch electromagnetic release.
Self-timer	12 or 2 sec (possible to cancel).
Remote control	Yes (including bulb function), with RM-1 (option).
<b>Drive system</b>	
Drive modes	Single and sequential shooting.
Sequential shooting speed	Approx. 2.5 fps.
Max. frame number on sequential shooting	RAW / TIFF 4 frames. JPEG (HQ, SQ) up to card capacity with high speed media (SunDisk Extreme III).
<b>White balance system</b>	
Auto WB system	Advanced detection system with CCD imager.
Preset WB	8 type (3000K - 7500K). Lamp 1 (3000K), Fluorescent 1 (4000K), Fluorescent 2 (4500K), Fluorescent 3 (6600K), Daylight (5300K), Cloudy (6000K), Shade (7500K).
Custom WB	1 custom setting (in Kelvin).
WB compensation	R - B / G - M, up to +/- 7 steps in each 2 mired for both auto and preset settings.
On touch white balance	1 one touch setting.
WB bracketing	3 frames with +/- 4/8/12 mired steps.
<b>Processing</b>	
Image processing	TruePic TURBO.
Colour space	sRGB / Adobe RGB.
Picture mode	Vivid, Natural, Muted, Black & White, Sepia.
Colour saturation	5 levels in each Vivid, Natural, Muted mode.
Sharpness	5 levels in each Picture mode.
Contrast	5 levels in each Picture mode.
Filter	Yellow, Orange, Red, Green in Black & White mode.
Toning	Sepia, Blue, Red, Green in Black & White mode.
Gradation	3 levels (high key, normal, low key).
<b>Built-in flash</b>	
Type	Auto pop-up type, TTL auto or manual.
Synchronisation modes	Auto, Red-eye reduction, Slow syncro with red-eye reduction, Slow syncro, 2nd curtain slow syncro, Fill-in, Off.
Guide number	Approx. 13.
Intensity control	Up to +/- 2EV in each 1, 1/2, or 1/3 EV steps.
<b>External flash control</b>	
Type	TTL auto FP / TTL auto for Olympus dedicated flash, auto or manual. (TTL auto with FL-20, FL-36, FL-50)
Synchronisation modes	Auto, Manual, Red-eye reduction, Slow syncro with red-eye reduction, Slow syncro, 2nd curtain slow syncro, Fill-in for exclusive flash.
Intensity control	Up to +/- 2EV in each 1, 1/2, or 1/3 EV steps.
<b>Control panel</b>	
Control panel information	Metering mode, Exposure mode, Aperture value, Shutter speed, Exposure level indicator, Exposure compensation value, Exposure compensation indicator, AE bracket, ISO, Colour space, Picture mode, Gradation, Colour saturation compensation value, Sharpness compensation value, Contrast compensation value, White balance, White balance compensation value, Noise reduction mode, AE lock, Flash mode, Flash compensation value, Focus mode, AF frame, Drive mode, Record mode, Number of storable still pictures, Selected memory card, Battery check.
<b>Playback monitor</b>	
Type	HyperCrystal LCD panel.
Size	2.5 inch / 6.4cm.

Pixel number	215.250 pixels.
Field of view	Approx. 100%.
Brightness control	+/- 7 steps.
<b>Playback functions</b>	
Display mode	Single, Zoom (2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 14x), Index (4, 9, 16, 25 frames), Slide show, Calendar view, Rotation, Light box view.
Information	Exposure mode, Metering mode, Shutter speed, f-stop, Compensation level, ISO, Colour space, White balance mode, White balance compensation level, Focal length, Focus area, File type, Picture mode.
Exposure level view	Histogram (R, G, B available), High light point warning, Shadow point warning.
<b>Erase / protect function</b>	
Erase modes	Single, All, Selected.
Image protect mode	Single.
<b>Recording system</b>	
Type of recording format	DCF, DPOF compatible, EXIF2.2 compatible, PRINT Image Matching II compatible.
Type of file format	JPEG, TIFF (RGB 8 bit), RAW (12bit).
RAW+JPEG recording	Yes.
File size	RAW: 3264 x 2448 uncompressed TIFF: 3264 x 2448 uncompressed SHQ: 3264 x 2448 1/2.7 HQ: 3264 x 2448 1/4, 1/8, 1/12 SQ: 3200 x 2400 1/2.7, 1/4, 1/8, 1/12 to 640 x 480.
<b>Image editing</b>	
RAW development	Yes.
JPEG/TIFF editing	Yes (Black & White, Sepia, Red eye reduction, Colour saturation, Resize).
<b>PictBridge</b>	Yes.
<b>Menu</b>	
Category	Shooting menu 1, shooting menu 2, playback menu, custom menu, setup menu.
Languages	Default 6 languages (English, German, Spanish, French, Italian, Russian). Optionally, one language can be downloaded via internet.
<b>Interface</b>	
PC interface	USB 2.0 (Full speed).
Video signal output	NTSC or PAL selectable.
Synchro socket	Hot shoe.
<b>Power supply</b>	
Battery	Rechargeable Li-Ion battery pack BLM-1, 3x CR123A with LBH-1.
<b>Size / weight</b>	
Dimensions	129.5 x 94.5 x 66mm.
Weight	Approx. 435g (without batteries and CF card).
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
Battery check	Automatic check.
Sleep mode	Yes (Off, 1, 3, 5, 10 min. selectable).
Power off mode	Yes (Off, 4hours selectable).
<b>Environment</b>	
Temperature	Operating range: 0°C to 40°C. Storage range: -20°C to 60°C.
Humidity	Operating range: 30 to 90%. Storage range: 10% to 90%.
<b>Box contents</b>	E-500 body, USB cable, video cable, Li-Ion battery pack (BLM-1) or CR123A battery holder (LBH-1), Li-Ion battery charger (BCM-2) or not, shoulder strap, Olympus Master CD-ROM, instruction manuals, warranty card.

<b>Model</b>	<b>Electronic Flash FL-36</b>
<b>Guide Number</b>	Automatic switching from 36 at 42mm to 20 at 12mm 14 at 10mm to 12 at 8mm with the wide panel (built in).
<b>Firing Angle</b>	Automatic switching At 12mm: Up-Down 61 Degrees, Left-Right 78 Degrees At 42mm: Up-Down 21 Degrees, Left-Right 28 Degrees When the Wide Panel is used for 8mm.
<b>Flash Modes</b>	TTL AUTO, AUTO, MANUAL, FP TTL AUTO, FP MANUAL.
<b>Bounce Angles</b>	Up to 90 Degrees, Down 1.5 Degrees. Left 0 to 90 Degrees, Right 0 to 150 Degrees.
<b>Power Supply</b>	AA (R6) Alkaline batteries x 2, AA (R6) Lithium batteries x 2, AA (R6) Ni-Mn batteries x 2, 3V Lithium batterie pack (LB-01) x 1, AA (R6) Ni-Cd batteries (1000 mAh) x 2, AA (R6) Ni-MH batteries (1900 mAh) x 2, AA (R6) Oxyride batteries x 2.
<b>Dimensions</b>	65mm W x 105mm H x 95mm D (protuberances not included).
<b>Weight</b>	270g (without batteries).
<b>Box Contents</b>	Soft Case, Instruction Manual, Warranty Card.

Specifications are subject to change without any notice or obligation on the part of the manufacturer.



Compatible with <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter	Compatible with <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <sup>1</sup>	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <sup>1</sup>	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <sup>1</sup>	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <sup>2</sup>	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <sup>1</sup>	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter
		<b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash with adapter ring 58mm to 67mm/72mm	<b>RF-11</b> Ring Flash <b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash	<b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash with adapter ring 52mm to 67mm/72mm	<b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash with adapter ring 62mm to 67mm/72mm		<b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash with adapter ring 58mm to 67mm/72mm	<b>RF-11</b> Ring Flash <b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash	

			Digital SLR Cameras <b>E-500</b> <b>E-300</b> <b>E-1</b>				
Compatible with <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <sup>2</sup>				Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter <sup>2</sup>	Compatible with <b>EX-25</b> Extension Tube <b>EC-14</b> Tele Converter
	<b>RF-11</b> Ring Flash with FR-1 <b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash with FR-1	<b>RF-11</b> Ring Flash with FR-1 <b>TF-22</b> Twin Flash with FR-1					

<sup>1</sup> Only with MF    <sup>2</sup> Recommended max. aperture 1:4.0

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<sup>1</sup> E-1, E-300 with HLD-3, E-500 no release via FP-1


**E-500 Kit includes:**

								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Eye-piece shutter</li> <li>■ Instruction Manual</li> <li>■ System Chart</li> <li>■ Warranty Card</li> </ul>
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