

14 August 2009

By: Alex Vochin, Gadgets Editor



Olympus E-620 DSLR review - angle side view  
Softpedia

## [Olympus E-620 DSLR Camera Review](#)

*Just the thing to get if you're rather new to the field of digital photography*

I don't know just how many of you still remember our world before the advent of digital photography, but I'm pretty sure that most people from the younger generation wouldn't really know what to do if faced with a roll of film and a classic camera. Indeed, most of the world has gone completely digital nowadays, and the same happened with the big names in optics and photography, such as Canon, Nikon, Olympus, Panasonic, Pentax and Sony. Of course, they're not the only digital camera manufacturers out there, but, without a doubt, they are the most famous.

Quite recently, we had the chance to take for a quick test one of Olympus' latest and most impressive offerings in the DSLR department, namely the E-620 model, which was officially introduced in early 2009 and established itself as an important contender on the entry-level segment, providing both a multitude of functions and features, a very slim body, an advanced Image Stabilization system (world's smallest DSLR with an IS system at the time of its launch), as well as fairly good image quality. In fact, as far as the specs are concerned, one might say that the body of the E-620 is close to semi-pro grade than entry level, but that's not the segment targeted by Olympus with this model.

Of course, given the particular segment it targets, the DSLR from Olympus is pretty good, although some of its features are a bit mainstream for the digital single-lens reflex community (for instance, the art filters, which should appeal more to the mainstream crowd rather than professional photographers). Naturally, the DSLR also has some shortcomings (which we'll be sure to detail over the course of this review), but there's no product out there that doesn't have at least a couple of features or characteristics worth criticizing.

Before going any deeper into this review, we'll have to issue somewhat of a warning. While you'll find quite a lot of technical information on the E-620, as well as some things on just what to expect when working with this DSLR, we've tried to talk more about the user experience and the quality of the photos rather than comparing this particular model with others available. It's not really a shopping guide, but rather a very honest "short walk-through" regarding exactly what you can expect from this DSLR.

[[BREAK=Design and aesthetics]]

### *Overall design features*

If you've never set eyes on a DSLR before and you're expecting the E-620 to be one of those large-sized monster cameras you've seen other people use, then prepare to be disappointed. In fact, Olympus' DSLR is rather small, being extremely easy to carry around. One thing that we found to be particularly interesting is that one can easily operate the E-620 even while holding it with just one hand (of course, that depends what lens you're going to attach to it, but that's a whole different story).

From the point of view of the quality of the build, we can say that the Olympus E-620 is quite a big surprise. I mean, at a first sight (but also while handling it), the E-620 looks extremely good and feels great to the touch. In fact, before learning that the material the DSLR is actually built from is glass-fiber reinforced plastic, we kind of thought that we were

talking about some sort of magnesium alloy thing.

Anyway, to sum things up, we'll just have to say that the engineers over at Olympus paid quite a lot of attention to the details and finishing, using very good materials and obtaining a digital camera that's easy to carry around, easy to use and also good-looking in pretty much any kind of situation.

### *Size and portability*

While there are plenty of products out there for whom the issue of size is not exactly a vital one, that's not at all the case with a DSLR. In fact, such a camera should be as light as possible, but at the same time large enough to provide a good, stable grip for the user. And we can really say that the Olympus E-620 manages to combine a couple of the pre-requisites mentioned above, given the fact that it measures 130 x 94 x 60 mm (without protrusions), while the weight of the body is somewhere around 475 grams. Of course, when attaching a lens, the weight will go a bit up, but not significantly.

As we've briefly mentioned above, most people should not have some major problems in handling the E-620, even with one hand and a pretty big lens installed. However, there's also a bit of a problem as far as the grip is concerned. No, it won't slip out of your hands, but for somebody with bigger hands, it might be too tiny for a perfect fit.

Another thing worth mentioning about the E-620 is the fact that, much in the same way as most other DSLRs and even bridge or super-zoom cameras out there, it arrives with a very useful strap included in the sales package. The strap can really come in handy when working with the E-620 and it's recommended to be used, simply because it will prevent the device from getting damaged should the user happen to accidentally drop it.

### *Button placement*

Well, if the size of the E-620 might not be that close to the one of most "classic" DSLRs, the number of buttons and control options we can find on it will surely prove once again that we're talking about an advanced digital photography device, whose functionality can be easily tweaked to quite a high extent.

As far as the placement of the buttons is concerned, we can say that it's pretty intuitive, but not without some problems.

So, the first thing we noticed is that, due to the swiveling display (a subject we'll tackle a bit later in our review), most of the buttons have been placed on the right-hand side, which means that users will have to do quite a lot of rapid finger work in order to access all of the available functions. The only control options that remained on the left side were the Menu and Info buttons, used for accessing the main menu and for switching on or off the "Super Control Panel" feature (when in shooting mode) or for rotating through the six different levels of information display (when in Play mode).

Also on the left side, but on the top part of the device, we can find the button used for popping out the built-in flash module, as well as the multi-purpose button used for the drive mode/flash mode. If one wants to access the available flash modes, the flash module has to be popped out first. When in Play mode, the multi-purpose button can also be used for copying images between the xD and CF cards, or for directly printing photos via the PictBridge function.

[IMG=21][IMG=22]

Now, as mentioned above, the really interesting and useful control options provided by this DSLR can be found on the right side. First of all, there's the power switch, found right underneath that big control wheel (or dial) that has become standard in the case of most DSLRs (and even some compacts, before the appearance of the touchscreen-only models) and that allows users to cycle through the available exposure modes, which we'll detail later on in the review.

In the immediate vicinity of the Exposure control dial, we can find the main dial, as well as the shutter button and the exposure compensation button, placed on the front side. The main dial is extremely important, both in photo shooting mode and in Play mode, in the latter case being used for zooming in and out of photos or cycling through the thumbnails.

Under the dial, we encounter the Fn button, which can be easily customized to carry out a wide array of functions, such as Live Preview, One Touch WB or AF home position. We won't attach the complete list of available functions here, because you can easily check out the user's manual for this purpose (the same goes for other control options). In play mode, pressing Fn will result in the very rapid magnification of the displayed image.

To the left of the Fn button, we can find the auto focus point control button, which allows for easy cycling through the three available AF point modes or for activating the "split screen" feature in the Play mode. To the right, we can spot the AEL/AFL button, which can be used for locking the Auto Exposure / Auto Focus or for protecting photos in Play mode.

[IMG=31][IMG=32][IMG=33]

Next in line comes the Play button, whose purpose is pretty obvious, namely that of activating the E-620's playback mode. Under the Play button, we can find the Live View button, which switches to Live View mode, opening the shutter and raising the mirror.

Underneath, we encounter the same button setup found in the case of pretty much all of the DSLRs available on the market, regardless of the manufacturer. Hence, there are the four directional arrows, used mainly for navigation purposes but also when viewing a photo, the OK button (for applying setting changes or marking/unmarking photos in Play mode), as well as the White Balance (WB), ISO, Focus Mode (AF) and Metering Mode buttons.

[IMG=34][IMG=35][IMG=36]

Last, but certainly not least, on the lower side of this rear control panel, we can find the Delete button, used for erasing unwanted photos from the DSLR's memory, as well as the IS button (Image Stabilization), which allows users to cycle through the available image stabilization modes.

### *Slots and connectivity options*

Now that we're done with the buttons, it's about time we move to the connectivity options provided by the Olympus E-620 DSLR. First of all, we've got the two memory card slots, which is a fairly strange choice by Olympus. Sure, most DSLRs out there use CF cards, so this was quite a logical choice, but what about the xD slot? After all, that particular format is almost extinct nowadays, at the hand of SD and SDHC.

[IMG=23][IMG=24][IMG=25][IMG=26]

Besides the two slots, which are found underneath a protective cap on the bottom/right side of the E-620, we can see a multi-purpose proprietary connector, also located behind a plastic cap, but this time right under the four-directional arrows. Depending on which cable users connect to it, this interface can be used either for connecting the device to a computer via a USB 2.0 cable or to a TV set, via the Video Out cable supplied in the sales package.

### *Display*

The display of the Olympus E-620 represents, without a doubt, one of its most attractive features, simply because it delivers quite a good level of quality in displaying both the menus and the photos, but also a very high level of versatility.

So, practically, what we're dealing with here is a HyperCrystal III LCD, which sports a 2.7-inch diagonal size (6.9 cm), a resolution of 2300000 dots and supports no less than 15 adjustment levels. Without a doubt, what's really important to mention here is the fact that the display features a swiveling mechanism, which allows it to be easily rotated "outside" the overall frame of the camera, to the left.

[IMG=36][IMG=37][IMG=38][IMG=39]

While some people might say that this feature is rather useless, that's not exactly the case, as there are many cases in a photographer's life when the possibility of viewing the subject being "shot" from a different angle is important. Once again, it's not very likely that this will apply to semi-pro or professional photographers but, then again, that's not the segment Olympus is targeting with this particular camera, is it, now?

#### *Lens mount, external flash shoe and tripod socket*

Since this is a digital single-lens reflex camera that works with Four Thirds lenses, that's exactly the type of mount the device has been equipped with. Naturally, the mount is located in the front side and, when not in use, it is hidden behind a plastic cap, for protection against dust.

[IMG=27][IMG=28][IMG=29][IMG=30]

Also, as expected from any such camera existing on the market, the E-620 from Olympus has an "E-System" flash hot-shoe, designed specifically for Olympus dedicated flash units, but which can also accept third-party units.

Last, but certainly not least, we have to mention the fact that the camera comes equipped with a metal tripod socket, aligned, according to the manufacturer, with the center line of the lens.

[[BREAK=Technical information and features]]

This is, after all, a DSLR; hence, very different from all of the other products we've tested thus far, so we have divided this chapter of our review into two important segments, namely one containing the most important tech specs you might be interested in, and the other detailing a couple of the most important features.

#### *Tech specs*

##### Image Sensor

- Type - 4/3-inch Hi-Speed Live MOS sensor;
- Effective pixels - 12.3 Megapixels;
- Filter array - Primary colour filter (RGB);
- Aspect ratio & area - 4:3 / 17.3 x 13.0 mm;
- Full resolution: 13.1 Megapixels.

##### Engine

- Type - TruePic III+;

##### Filters

- Dust reduction filter - Supersonic Wave Filter;
- IR cut filter - Hybrid type;
- LPF filter - Fixed type.

[IMG=42][IMG=43][IMG=44][IMG=45]

#### Viewfinder

- Viewfinder type - Eye-level single-lens view finder;
- Field of view - Approx. 95 %;
- Magnification - Approx. 0.96 x with a 50mm lens set to infinity at -1 dioptre;
- Depth of field preview - Yes (Customized Fn button via viewfinder or via LCD in Live View);
- Eye point - 18 mm at -1 dioptre from eyepiece lens;
- Dioptre adjustment - -3.0 - +1.0 dioptre / built-in type;
- Focusing screen - Fixed type (Neo Lumi-Micron Mat Screen);
- Mirror - Quick return mirror;
- Eye piece shutter - Eye-piece cap EPC-1 supplied.

#### Live View

- Information - 100% field of view, exposure adjustment preview, white balance adjustment preview, gradation setting preview (SAT), face detection preview, perfect shot preview, gridline displayable, 5x/7x/10x magnification possible, IS activating mode MF/S-AF, AF frame display, AF point display, shooting information, histogram;
- AF type - Option between phase difference detection system and contrast detection autofocus.

[IMG=46][IMG=47][IMG=48][IMG=49]

#### Image Stabiliser

- Type - Sensor shift;
- Modes - Two-dimensional or one-dimensional activation;
- Effective Compensation Range - Up to 4 EV steps.

#### Focusing System

- Method - TTL phase difference detection system, contrast detection system (with 25mm 1:2.8, 14-42mm 1:3.5-5.6, 40-150mm 1:4.0-5.6, 9-18mm 1:4.0-5.6, 14-54mm 1:2.8-3.5 II);
- Focus areas - 7 points / 5 fully biaxial, automatic and manual selection;
- AF illuminator - Yes, Built-in flash (external flash available);
- AF lock - Yes , Locked by first position of shutter release button in single AF mode, AE/AF lock button (customized);
- Focus tracking - Yes , Available in continuous AF mode;
- Detection range - -1 - 19 EV (ISO 100);
- AF fine adjust - +/- 20 steps (settings for up to 20 lenses can be registered);

#### Exposure System

- Exposure compensation - +/- 5 EV ( 1, 1/2, 1/3 steps );
- Exposure bracketing - 3 frames ( +/- 1/3, 1/2, 2/3, 1 EV steps );
- ISO bracketing - 3 frames ( 1/3, 2/3, 1 EV steps ).

#### Light Metering

- Method - TTL open aperture light metering;

- Zones - 49 zones Multi-pattern Sensing System;
- Detection range - 1 - 20 EV (50mm, 1:2, ISO 100);
- ESP light metering - Yes;
- Spot metering - Yes;
- Centre weighted metering - Yes;
- Highlight - Yes;
- Shadow - Yes.

[IMG=50][IMG=51][IMG=52][IMG=53]

#### Sensitivity

- Auto - ISO 200 - 3200 (customizable, default ISO 200 - 800);
- Manual - ISO 100 - 3200 in 1/3 or 1 EV ISO steps;

#### Shutter

- Shutter type - Computerized focal-plane shutter;
- Shutter release - Soft Touch Electromagnetic;
- Self-timer - 12 s / 2 s;
- Anti Shock - Yes, release delay: 1 - 30 s;

#### Shutter Speeds

- Shutter speed range - 1/4000 - 60 s (in 1/3, 1/2, 1 EV steps);
- Bulb mode - Up to 30 minutes (selectable longest time in the menu, default: 8 minutes);
- Shutter speed P, Ps - 1/4000 - 60 s;
- Shutter speed A priority - 1/4000 - 60 s;
- Shutter speed S priority - 1/4000 - 60 s;
- Shutter speed scene mode - 1/4000 - 60 s;

#### Sequence Shooting

- Speed (H) - Approx. 4 fps;
- Speed (L) - 1 - 3 fps;
- RAW Mode - 5 frames;
- JPEG Mode - Depends on compression ratio or number of pixels.

#### Internal Flash

- Guide number - 12 (ISO 100);
- Flash compensation - +/- 3 EV ( 1/3, 1/2, 1 EV steps );
- Modes - AUTO, Manual, Slow synchronisation, Slow synchronisation 2nd curtain, Red-eye reduction, Slow synchronisation with red-eye reduction, Fill-in, Off; Bracketing - 3 frames ( 1/3, 2/3, 1 EV steps ).

#### External Flash Control

- X-sync speed - 1/180 s / 1/4000 s (Super FP Mode);
- Type: TTL AUTO, AUTO, MANUAL, FP TTL AUTO, FP MANUAL;
- Synchronisation modes - Auto, Manual, Red-eye reduction, Slow syncro with red-eye reduction, Slow syncro, 2nd curtain and slow syncro, Fill-in for exclusive flash;
- Intensity - +/- 3 EV ( 1, 1/2, 1/3 EV steps ).

[IMG=54][IMG=55][IMG=56][IMG=57]

#### Built-in flash and wireless flash control from the camera body

- Compatible external flash: FL-50R, FL-36R;
- Control method - Triggered and controlled by built-in flash light;
- Modes - TTL Auto (TTL pre-flash mode), Auto, Manual, FP TTL Auto, FP Manual;
- Number of channels - 4;
- Group setting - 3.

### *Main shooting and playback features for first-time users*

As mentioned right from the start of this section of our review, while most of the tech specs have been listed above, we've decided to focus a bit more on some of the features, which a part of you might find particularly important. And we are not talking here about those of you who know their way around a DSLR (because those have probably found out enough from the list of specs above and you'll be satisfied with what's to come in the real-life experience section of our review), but about those first-time DSLR users who are looking for a couple of features to remind them of their old point-and-shoot (or who've just purchased a DSLR because that's "fashionable").

So, while we're pretty sure that many of you will start experiencing the various features and settings provided by the camera, others will undoubtedly settle for the basics, which, in this case, are represented by the pre-set exposure modes and the scene modes.

Of course, the simplest way is to set the camera on auto and let it choose the best settings for the photo. However, the results will vary quite a lot, and will certainly not reach the level of quality attained in the case of using dedicated settings.

For this reason, the engineers from Olympus have come up with a fairly large number of dedicated Scene Modes, such as Children, High key, Low key, Digital Image Stabilisation, Nature Macro, Candle, Sunset, Fireworks, Documents, Panorama, Beach and Snow, Underwater Macro and Underwater Wide, all of which are used for carrying out a pretty extensive level of tweaking of the camera's settings, in order to fit specific environment conditions.

[IMG=58][IMG=59][IMG=60]

Another interesting addition is represented by the Pop Art filters, which allow users to apply certain effects to the shots right in the camera. Such filters include Soft Focus, Pale and Light colour, Light Tone, Grainy film and Pin Hole, each of them changing the images in a different and quite spectacular manner.

[IMG=62][IMG=62]

As far as the photo playback features are concerned, one of the things that really drew our attention (of course, besides the possibility of zooming in and out of the photos at very high speed) is how well organized the viewing system really is. I mean, users can view either a single picture, multiple pictures, a large number of pictures in very small thumbnail mode or even access a calendar that marks the exact dates when certain photos were taken.

### *Battery*

The Olympus E-620 DSLR comes equipped with a BLS-1, 1150 mAh Lithium-Ion rechargeable battery, which should theoretically provide users with around 500 shots. However, we noticed during the tests that using the built-in flash module and also view/review the photos quite often makes the battery life decrease significantly.

[[BREAK=Real-life experience]]

While you've been able to read mostly general and technical issues up until now, we've

reached the point in our review where it's about time to take a look at the E-620 from the point of view of a person who's worked with a lot of cameras and is deeply involved in this field, namely our colleague Florin. So, here's what he has to say on this issue.

[IMG=41][IMG=63][IMG=64]

First of all, let's talk about the ergonomics that are probably the shame of the Olympus E620 and not rush and analyze every part of it.

[IMG=65][IMG=66][IMG=67][IMG=68]

I really don't like the way this cameras fits in my hand (slight possibility that this is because of my long fingers), but it still has a way too thin grip, for any hand, and miniaturizing it made the grip also short. Being long, my fingers are very thin and still can barely fit all four of them on the grip. It's not quite comfy to keep your fingers on top of the other when holding a camera. I haven't tested it with the HLD-5 vertical grip, but judging by how it looks in pictures, I guess it will make a huge difference with it, especially if you want or already possess long tele-lenses.

[IMG=69][IMG=70][IMG=71][IMG=72]

Without it, I kept having the feeling that I was going to drop the camera. Not drop it, but something like have it slip from my hand.

Another thing that bothered me quite a lot was the viewfinder's eyecup that is made from some sort of plasticky material that's not even close to rubber. I can tell from how my eyebrow was hurting after taking the high ISO test shots. I was only looking through the viewfinder, since the camera was on a tripod, and it hurt quite badly after 5 minutes or so. I didn't want to find out how it feels when you shoot handheld and push the camera towards you for more stability.

People that wear glasses are sure not to like the protuberant eyecup and will probably want to remove it. It feels a lot better with it off.

If the above statement made you change your mind, just wait and see the menu and button placement. Mind me, it doesn't really have the greatest button placement I've ever seen in a camera. The shutter button is as high placed as a setting button and as kitschy looking. As if that was not sufficient, they also placed the EV button right next to it, so you can press the wrong one when you rush to take a shot.

The main dial usage is even worse, providing a one-handed non-operability by any means possible. Fact is, I for one didn't manage to use it properly, nor efficiently without using both hands.

[IMG=73][IMG=74][IMG=75][IMG=76]

Exaggerating, I could say I can understand those compromises, but never will I understand the "oh so smart" ON/OFF switch that is placed at the bottom of the main dial. Sure, it's very comfy and easy to reach, with the same finger that you (can try to) use for the main dial or the jog wheel. Didn't it occur to them that by backward "compatibility," you can switch your camera off when you reach for the jog wheel to increase your shutter speed?

[IMG=77][IMG=78][IMG=79][IMG=80]

Let me get to the camera menus and such. I must say that it's one of the most user-hostile (as opposed to user-friendly) I've ever encountered. The buttons on the back have pretty much exactly the functionality that you expected from them, letting you choose what you want them to do between AF point selection and setting ISO, WB, metering and AF type.

[IMG=81][IMG=82]

The settings menu is also a bit complicated, especially if you're a first timer. However, after playing with it long enough, you're sure to get the hang of it.

Enough with the artificial part of it, let's get to the image shooting part. The first thing I found

out (and further tested) was the slight underexposure that happens in contre-jour situations. Depending on the circumstances, the E-620 will underexpose somewhat between 1/3 and 2/3 stops. The good thing is that it doesn't go 1 full stop under.

Autofocus testing revealed what I was expecting. As soon as the light drops under 8EV, the autofocus starts slowing down noticeably. When you go under 5EV, it keeps hunting and hunting. Even if it manages to lock focus after a few seconds, it usually misses it. When it slows down, some compact cameras seem super sonic regarding AF speed.

[IMG=83][IMG=84][IMG=85][IMG=86]

Getting to the image quality regarding high speed ISO (or, mind you, ASA for the old-school cool people out there also using film), I did some test shots. For starters, I'm going to explain myself as to not get slapped in the face (irc's not dead, it's just another protocol).

The crops you see are taken from the full-size pictures, no downsizing, nor upsizing. I've chosen a brown color textured pattern, rather than the standard 19% gray, because that's a tad closer to every-day use, to be honest. I mean, you don't go around shooting blank gray wall every day, do you? Guess not.

[IMG=87][IMG=88]

As I've told you above, this camera has a slight tendency of missing the focus when in lower light, even if it locks. That's why some of the test shots are out of focus, but that's not a problem as noise and pixel bleeding show up anyway. Digital image noise, in common sense, is regarded as the "graininess" and/or false color specks.

I'll let you judge the test crops by yourselves, but will make a few points myself. The bad part is that it does act quite poorly when pushing the ISO over 800, but there are some good parts as well. The good part is that even at the highest ISO, images sport enough detail to make something of them by using an elegant post processing noise reduction.

There is no bothering noticeable dither in the images, only chrominance, also known as chroma noise. Just like every camera, it acts better at high ISO in natural light. Even in bright light, there is some observable noise in the shadow areas. Another thing it does under direct natural lighting, adding a very subtle magenta tint to skin tones, but barely noticeable to a trained eye. The other white balance presets, together with the custom and kelvin modes, run smoothly once you get the hang of using them.

[IMG=89][IMG=90][IMG=91]

I have already told you about one way of getting around the noise. Another thing you can do is slightly over-expose the shots when the lighting conditions permit it, not blowing out highlights that is. I've added test shots over-exposed by 1EV directly from the exposure settings. A mention-worthy fact is that when set to auto ISO, it doesn't set the highest value even if in lower light.

Truth is, just like every other camera in this class, high ISO is decent at most. It outputs good pictures only in situations when you don't need high ISO; ie. the blue shirt crops, in bright sunlight. All in all, if you don't need 90 x 60 cm sized prints and you like to watch your pictures on the screen, not the pixels zooming at 100% and further, this will surely do its job.

[IMG=92][IMG=93][IMG=94]

One more useful thing to know: if you notice higher levels of noise than in these test shots or compared to other images, mind turning the gradation to normal if you haven't already. When set to Auto (default), the image processor lifts details in the shadows, and at the same time lifts noise levels as well.

A thing that got me thinking was the Art Filters program. OK, they're fun and nice to have

and play around with, but there's another point to that. I don't even know in which category to place it. I, for one, would say it's good they didn't make it auto, but a beginner will probably stumble upon it not knowing that in Art Filters, the camera keeps the exposure settings you made in Manual, including ISO.

You can see the sample shots using all of the six artsy filters. My suggestion is to take your time, read and learn a little bit of post processing and do that yourselves. Why? Besides doing it the way you want it, you'll also have the original picture.

I also wanted to do a sharpness test, but I changed my mind due to the lack of difference between the 0 value and enhanced or withdrawn settings and because that's mostly a characteristic of the lens and since the Zuiko Digital 14-42mm 1:3.5 - 5.6 is a kit lens, we can't ask too much from it. It's slow and not quite sharp wide open but will do just fine, I tell you.

Another thing that impressed me was the overall dynamic range that was way better than expected. Slightly two mid-shaded buildings with included bright sky were properly exposed without blowing out the sky nor under-exposing the building. It didn't blow out the sky not even when I exposed on the bottom of the building with no sky in the frame and then re-framing to include the sky with the shutter button half-pressed.

[[BREAK=Conclusions]]

### **The Good**

If your hands are rather small, the E-620 will certainly prove to be portable enough for anyone's needs. Plus, the quality of the photos is generally quite good, especially if you're not pushing the ISO too high. Live View is a plus, since the eye-piece tends to have some problems in certain cases. The camera delivers a lot of useful shooting options, whether you're a first-time DSLR user or even someone who's never touched a camera in his or her life.

Also, battery life is quite good, while the unified video/USB output makes it, again, an interesting choice. Of course, the same goes for the swiveling display, which can really come in handy in certain situations.

### **The Bad**

Overall, the things we didn't like about the Olympus E-620 Digital SLR were the ergonomics, AF speed, uninspired button placement, but we could honestly get used to everything about it, besides the messy user interface. The image quality at high ISO and the confusing sound it makes when taking a picture are also a bit of a no-no. Also, the presence of both CF and xD cards seems just a tiny bit redundant.

### **Overall Impressions**

The Olympus E-620 DSLR is, without a doubt, an interesting product, albeit clearly designed for the entry-level market. Sure, it's got quite a few bugs in multiple departments, but if you're only moving up from compact cameras and you're looking for something that's both more (or less) user-friendly, portable and fairly affordable, then you might want to give the E-620 a go.

### **Sales Package**

Of course, the contents of the sales package depend on the exact bundle you've chosen. But, typically, the E-620 DSLRs are available in bundle packages containing either a single lens or two lenses.

[IMG=95][IMG=96][IMG=97]

So, the single-lens package will typically include the ZUIKO DIGITAL ED 14-42mm 1:3.5-5.6 lens, while the double kit will add the ZUIKO DIGITAL ED 40-150mm 1:4.0-5.6 lens. Besides these lenses, the package will also contain the following items:

- E-620 Body;
- Li-ion battery BLS-1;
- Li-ion battery charger BCS-1;
- USB/Video Multi cable;
- Eye piece cover EPC-1;
- Shoulder strap;
- OLYMPUS Master CD-ROM;
- Instruction manual;
- Warranty card.