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Leica 45mm Macro  
OIS  
Panasonic

## [This Is Why Four Thirds Was Created, the Leica 45mm F2.8 Macro Lens](#)

*This is its range, bravo*

With IFA coming, Panasonic announced another lens that would surely be received with open arms (well, according to the price) by the Micro Four Third System communities. Unveiled today, the Leica DG MACRO-ELMARIT 45mm F2.8 ASPH. MEGA O.I.S. is what the [2x crop factor cameras](#) were missing, a macro lens, that is.

Optically stabilized, this lens comes packed into a compact body that measures approximately 6.3 x 6.3 centimeters. It features an inner focus mechanism, thus keeping the overall length constant when focusing and also provides some slight sealing against dust and offers the possibility of using lens filters, like circular polarization, for example.

Optical build consists of 14 lenses aligned in 10 groups to reach impressive compactness, while the use of both aspherical and ED lens ensures minimum distortion and chromatic aberration. Panasonic managed to achieve such a dramatic downsizing taking advantage of the Micro Four Thirds standard.

The Mega O.I.S. (optical image stabilizer) will suppress blurring that is usually "provided" by hand shake, providing ease of shooting crisp shots for sharply focused macro shot or in slightly dim light, without using a tripod.

It features a close-at-hand switch to instantly change the minimum focusing distance between 15 and 50cm, according to what you want to shoot - portrait or macro. Doing so, you make it focus faster when you don't need to shoot macro, since macro lens are known to be slow autofocusers.

The maximum magnification for this is, of course, the long awaited 1x (as far as I know, users were waiting for this), being equivalent to a 2x on a 35mm camera. I guess this is the territory where the [Micro Four Thirds](#) rules over every other DSLRS. Take this lens for example, it will have the equivalent field-of-view a 90mm lens, but a whole lot more depth of field, which is very good for macro.

Given the lowest aperture of F/22, this is a sure winner for shooting insects. No pricing is yet to be found for this.

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