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Why You Need To Choose HD Video Cameras

Unless you've been living under a stone for the last couple of years it's hard to escape the arrival of high-definition technology which has been brought to video games, DVDs, TVs, digital camcorders and cameras. The elite of the crop at the moment is 'full HD', but why would you want to hand over for a full HD camera instead of a normal high-definition camera? Here's why :

Full HD Camera versus. Standard HD Camera

The principle difference between a HD and a full HD camera is the number of pixels (points of light) the camera contains when it produces either a still or moving image. Just like with your TV set, digicams scan horizontal lines of pixels which produce an image for the eye. By enlarging the quantity of lines of pixels, the pixel density is much greater which creates a much sharper and clearer image.

So as to qualify as a standard Hi-D camcorder, a product must be '720', meaning there are 720 horizontal lines of pixels and 1280 vertical lines. A full HD camera will have 1080 horizontal lines and 1920 vertical ones, explaining why there's such a stir around '1080' technology - it's the highest resolution available in HD currently creating the clearest pictures.

Progressive Scanning vs . Interlaced Scanning

Having a high resolution is all very well but unless the pixels can be scanned quickly then the advantages of the resolution will be lost. 'Scanning' is how speedily the image can be processed and shown on a screen. Most ordinary cameras come with interlaced 'i' scanning, which means that the image is drawn using swapping lines of pixels. The even lines will appear followed by the peculiar lines, which is commonly infinitesimal to the eye as it fills in the blanks.

Progressive 'p' scanning nevertheless, shows the full image all at the same time. A full HD camera with progressive scanning not only has the highest resolution, but can display that resolution all at once in a sustained sequence without the image flickering.

The bonus of progressive scanning is that the pictures keep their lucidity even at half speed and can capture much better still stills from video frames. The mixed quality of 1080 pixel resolution and progressive scanning makes full HD an absolute must-have for any person serious about their digicams.

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