

## Digital cameras, Mega/pixels (MP), Mega/Bytes (MB), and image quality

The more Mega/pixels your camera has the better your photos will be, right! Not so quick Chucko there are many factors to consider so let's do a little test. I have two cameras to compare using the same shot taken at the same time.



### Big Camera

Sony a55 (SLT-A55V) 16.7mp  
CCD, APS-C [23.6 x 15.6mm] (Max res 4912 x 3264)  
Lens Sigma 18-200mm f3.5  
Image at max 16mp = 5.66mb



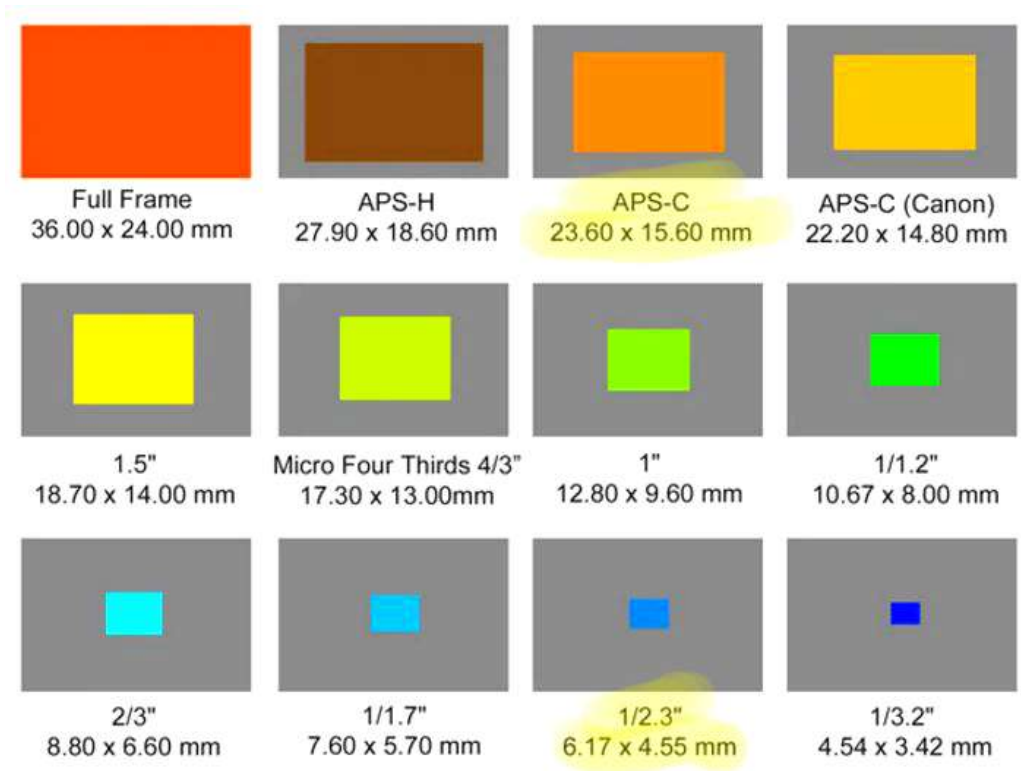
Small silver camera,  
Sony DSC-W830/SC, 20.5m/pixels,  
CCD 7.76mm (1/2.3 type) [6.17mm x 4.55mm]  
Lens – ZEISS Vario-Tessar  
Image at max 20mp = 8.85mb



Looking at the total image it looks very close but lets crop way in on the yellow label of the room AC in the upper right. What happened, the camera with 20.5mp is not nearly as sharp as the camera with the smaller 16.7mp's, why?



Well the small silver camera 20,5mp (\$100) has a much smaller image sensor [CCD 7.76mm (1/2.3 type) [6.17mm x 4.55mm] and a simple lens while the larger black camera (\$1000 with lens) has a [CCD, APS-C [23.6 x 15.6mm] (Max res 4912 x 3264) sensor almost nine time bigger (see chart) and a very complex and expertly ground lens. As you can see in the chart there are 12 different size sensors out there so you need to understand that, and never forget you are taking the picture through the lens so the glass quality is important.



Now carrying around a big heavy DSLR and all your lenses is not fun especially in the heat so I carry the small camera for walking around snapshots and I use the bigger unit for important shots. So, if you want to take images that you want to blow way up that little camera is going to disappoint. So that is the quick 411 on cameras. Happy shooting.

FYI: Full frame 35mm is [36mm x 24mm] and I run any shot I want to use through Photoshop for a quick finish. [Image>adjustments>auto levels] first then more if it needs it.

Article furnished by Member George David Marshall.