

Canon PowerShot S230 Digital Camera Review by Kevin Warrene

My Machine Set Up:

PowerMac G4/733 w/ 384mb RAM
OS 9.2.2 & OS 10.2.3

What I Bought: My First Digital Camera

Canon PowerShot S230 Digital Camera @\$399.00 -
3.2 Mega-Pixel and includes a 16MB Compact Flash Card
Lexar 128MB Compact Flash Card @\$69.00

***This card will hold 219 pictures at my current settings of 1600x1200 pixels resolution at a Fine compression setting. Get more specifications at the Apple Store Online.
Tamrac Digital Series 5692 Small Camera Bag @\$19.95

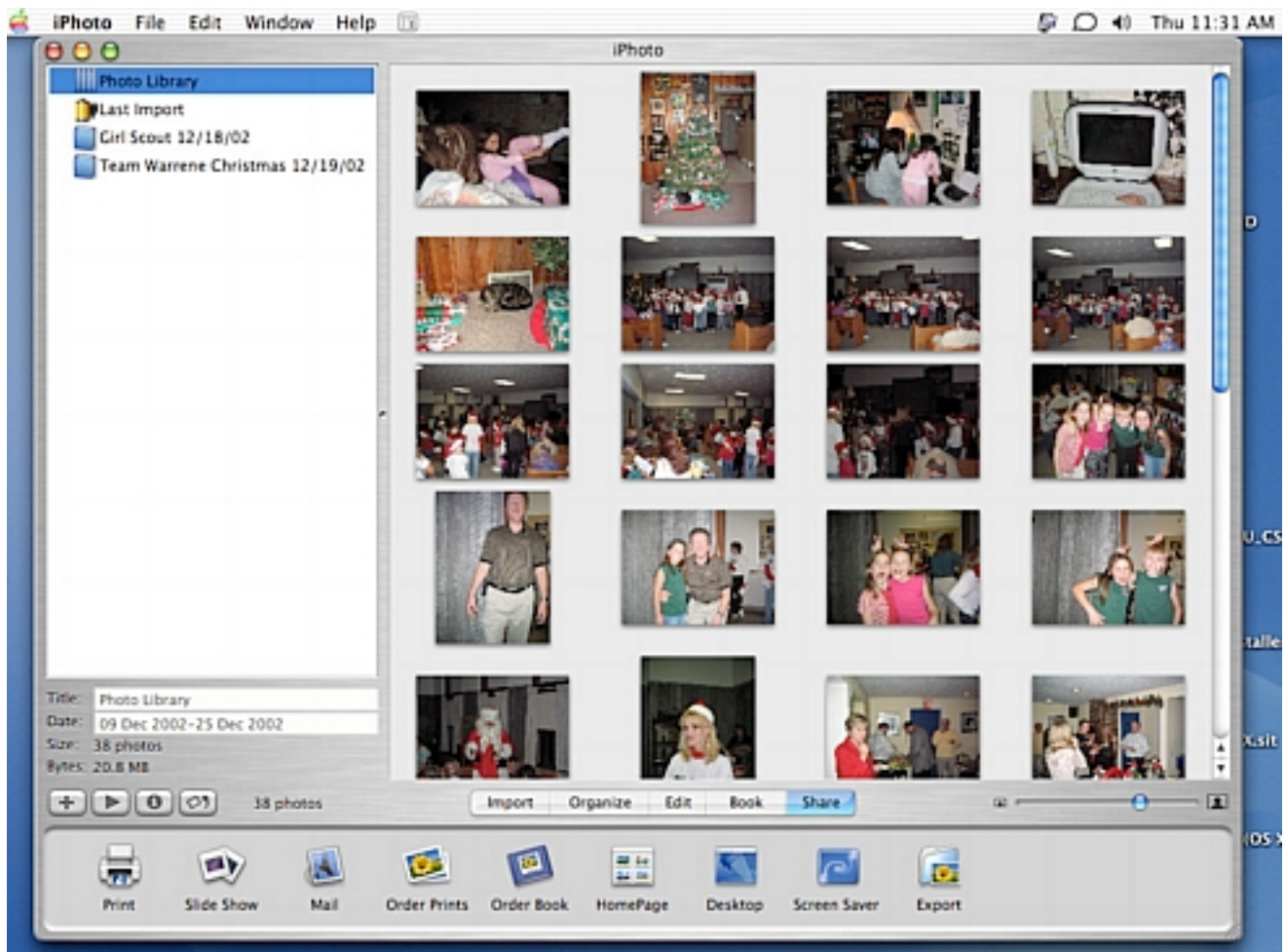
The Camera Set Up:

Out of the box this camera was easy to get up and running. You will need to charge the battery for this 2+ hours initially. After the battery was charged the initial set up was rather easy and painless, there is a 26 page quick start guide that puts you through the paces of setting the 20+ menu options. The default settings will most likely work for the vast majority of photographers to start out with. I was taking pictures right away!! Easy to view your target through the LCD monitor, take the picture, view the photo and edit,save or delete the photo on the fly. There is a 150-page Camera Users Guide included.

The Software: OS 9 disks and iPhoto w/ OS X

You get some software to install at your leisure, well, at least before you hook the camera up to your computer. There is a 120-page Software Starter Guide to help you along. This came with two disks, Canon Digital Camera Solution Disk that had the utilities on it (Image Browser, PhotoStitch, Remote Capture, file Viewer Utility, USB Mounter and the CP Printer Driver) and the ArcSoft Camera Suite with PhotoImpression and VideoImpression. Installation was simple and uneventful. While installation went along fine, I have had issues where my USB scanner (Canon CanoScan N670U) no longer functioned (computer didn't recognize it as being plugged in) and I had some major system freezes. In the meantime I have turned off all of the control panels and extensions and all seems to be back to normal. I will be investigating the issues within OS 9.2.2 to see what may be causing this. My initial thoughts are with the camera's USB mounter control panel and extension.

But let's talk about using iPhoto software on Jaguar 10.2.2!!! I hooked up the camera with the USB cable that was provided with the camera and launched iPhoto. It recognized the camera and all I had to do was select the Import option to bring the camera's contents in the iPhoto Library. Once the photos were imported into the library I was ready to create my albums (File-->New Album). Give your album a name and you can then drag photos from the library to the album. Once the album is created you can go in and edit the photos if you desire. From here the fun is just getting started. There is a wealth of options that you can choose from once you select the Share button.



(1)Print: Allows you to print a selected photo out with your printer. You can choose 4x6, 5x7, 8x10 or a contact sheet. You can select the paper your using as well.

(2)Slide Show: N/A

(3)Mail: Allows you to email a selected photo via your currently active email application. Your email app has to be running when you go to do this operation.

(4)Order Prints: N/A

(5)Order Book: N/A

(6)Home Page: Allows you to create a web page as part of your .mac account (iTools). This was very slick and was done in roughly 15 minutes to put up 7-10 photos with titles and brief descriptions and the file upload. The program does the whole process for you. Check out the following pages that I created:
<http://homepage.mac.com/kwarrene/christmas.html>
<http://homepage.mac.com/kwarrene/PhotoAlbum4.html>

(7)Desktop: Allows you to take a photo out of the library and with one click you have that photo on your desktop automatically. I am now proudly displaying our Christmas tree from Christmas morning.

(8)Screen Saver: N/A

(9)Export: Allows you to export a selected photo in several different file formats.

Web Site Links Related to this article:

Canon PowerShot : <http://www.powershot.com/powershot2/s230/index.html>

Lexar Compact Flash : http://www.digitalfilm.com/digfilm/index_cf.html

Lexar at Apple Store :

<http://store.apple.com/1-800-MY-APPLE/WebObjects/AppleStore?productLearnMore=T4502LL/A>

Tamrac Camera Bag : <http://www.tamrac.com/5692.htm>

Apple iPhoto Software : <http://www.apple.com/iphoto/>