

SONY
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Digital SLR cameras

α500



α500

12.3-megapixel* imaging
with Quick AF Live View

DSLR-A500Y(JE)

W zoom lens Kit

Kit lens: DT 18-55mm F3.5-5.6 SAM
DT 55-200mm F4-5.6 SAM

* Effective megapixels (approx.)



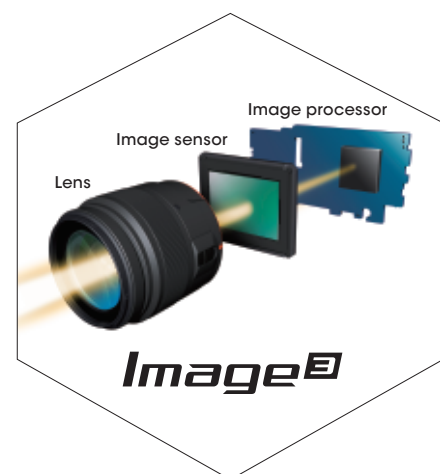
A significant step up in camera performance,
a major advance in image quality



With $\alpha 500$ and SAL1855 (DT18-55mm F3.5-5.6 SAM), 1/8 sec., F11, ISO 200, Daylight white balance

A synergy of proprietary Sony technologies that takes photorealistic imaging to the next dimension

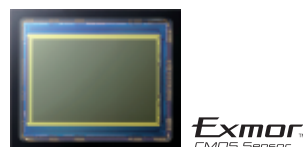
The $\alpha 500$ is prime example of the superior performance offered by Image³, the triumvirate of exclusive lens, sensor, and image processor technologies that has earned Sony a worldwide reputation for true-to-life imaging excellence. Taking these proven technologies a step further, $\alpha 500$ utilizes a new image sensor design and improved image processing algorithms to help prevent noise at the source, and assure blazingly fast capture speed. So you can enjoy realistic, true-to-life imaging and responsive shooting that let you take your photographic creativity to the next level.



Sony Image³ system technology integration

New low-noise Exmor™ image sensor designed for richer, clearer color and finer image detail

The Exmor CMOS image sensors in $\alpha 500$ features a new design that minimizes noise at the source, on a photocell-by-photocell basis. In addition, dual noise reduction is applied before and after analog-to-digital conversion to ensure the cleanest possible signal output.



12.3-megapixel
 $\alpha 500$ image sensor

Fast, powerful new BIONZ™ engine for high-speed image processing and true-to-life photorealism

Proprietary new Sony algorithms significantly boost the BIONZ engine's processing speed and power, assuring improved color balance and tonal detail, more responsive performance, and greatly reduced noise overall.



BIONZ

The low-light advantages of noise reduction — less noise means more shooting possibilities

The $\alpha 500$'s improved noise reduction does more than just help you take more beautiful photos. It also allows you to take more of them — in situations you never could before. Because more effective noise reduction means you can capture clean, clear images at higher ISO settings. So you can get super-sharp detail and realistic color even in dim light that would normally require you to use a tripod or flash. In fact, with an Auto ISO range of ISO 200 to ISO 1600, and a user-selectable ISO range of ISO 200 to ISO 12800, the $\alpha 500$ even makes it possible to shoot handheld photos by candlelight.



ISO 1600



ISO 6400



ISO 12800

SteadyShot INSIDE™ image stabilization — another powerful ally for low-light shooting

In addition to greatly improved noise reduction, the $\alpha 500$ shares another built-in advantage for low light shooting: body-integrated SteadyShot INSIDE image stabilization. It works with any α system lens, and enables you to take beautiful photos at shutter speeds up to 4 steps slower than would otherwise be possible.



* Stabilization effect varies according to lens and shooting conditions.



Advanced technology for imaging that rivals the tonal range of human vision

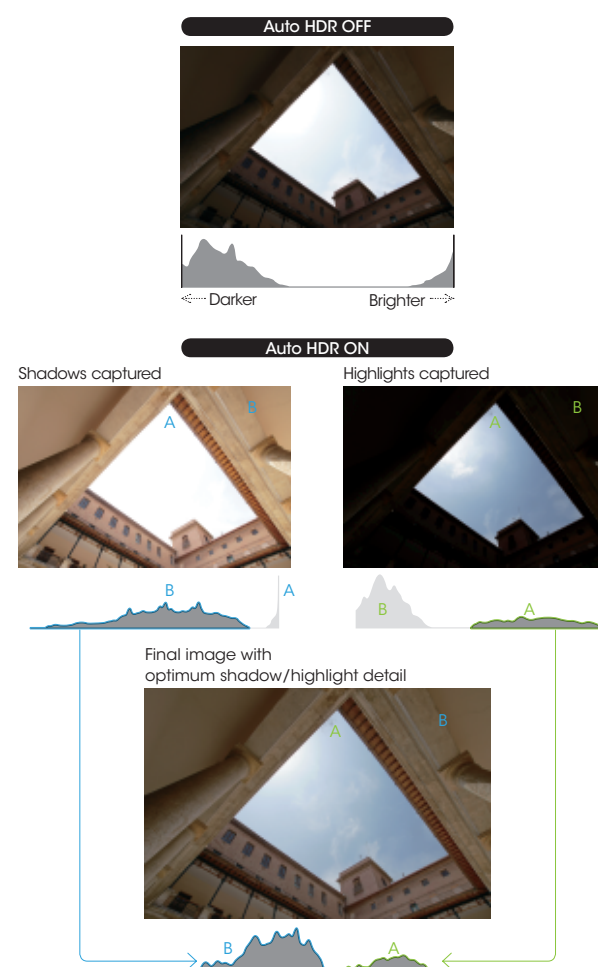


With $\alpha 500$ and SAL1118 (DT 11-18mm F4.5-5.6 SAM), 1/6 sec., F8, ISO 200, Auto white balance, HDR (3.0 EV)

New Auto HDR lets you capture images of amazing beauty and supernatural realism

Perfect for sunsets, backlit cityscapes, and other dramatically illuminated subjects that contain extremes of light and shadow, high dynamic range (HDR) photography is a method of capturing and reproducing an exceptionally wide range of shadow and highlight detail in a scene. In the past, you had to shoot with the camera on a tripod and use fancy post-processing techniques to create a high-quality HDR photo. But not any more. Because now, with the $\alpha 500$'s new Auto HDR function, the camera does it for you automatically. It works by taking two exposures in rapid succession; one set to capture shadow detail, the other set to capture highlight detail. The two exposures are then digitally combined into a single image using proprietary Sony algorithms to ensure optimum alignment and wide-ranging tonal expression. What's more, the difference between the two exposures can be set anywhere between 1EV and 3EV, in 0.5EV increments. So you can control the level of the HDR effect, and preserve your most precious memories in breathtakingly beautiful photos, supernaturally rich in color and image detail.

* Auto HDR available only in P/A/S/M modes; disabled when RAW or RAW+JPEG image file format is selected.



D-Range Optimizer for naturally balanced exposures in virtually any shooting situation

The D-Range Optimizer function differs from Auto HDR in that it works equally well with moving and stationary subjects, and can capture a natural level of shadow and highlight detail that more realistically represents the tonal range of human vision. Ideal for portraits and active subjects such as children and pets, it uses proprietary Sony technology in the newly developed BIONZ engine to optimize images in real time, making it possible to use the D-Range Optimizer even during continuous shooting. Settings include Auto, which automatically optimizes images based on an area-by-area analysis of the scene, and level, which allows the user to choose from 5 levels of optimization.

* Optimization effectiveness varies according to shooting conditions.

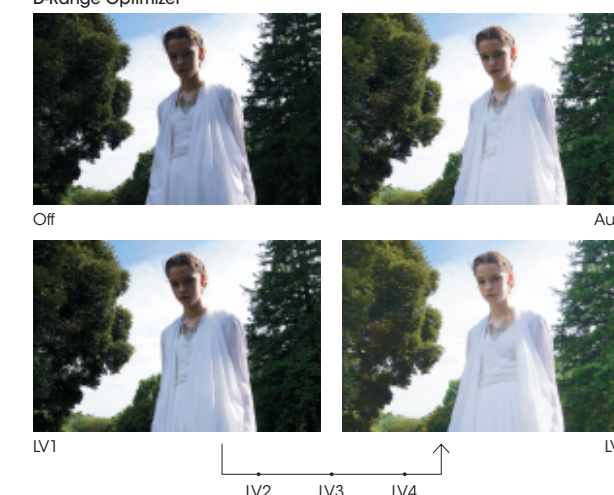
Creative Style settings — the easy way to make your artistic dreams come true

Creative Style settings make it easy to adjust images to suit your preference or artistic goals. Six pre-optimized image styles are provided, all of which can be fine-tuned to help you get the precise results you want.

Express yourself with image styles

Standard	Rich tonal gradation and color; ideal for a wide range of subjects
Vivid	Heightened contrast and saturation; ideal for flowers, foliage and sky/ocean views
Portrait	For images with rich, natural skin tones; ideal for portraits
Landscape	Heightened contrast, saturation, and sharpness; ideal for scenic views
Sunset	Saturated reds for warm, beautiful images of the setting sun
B/W	For black and white images

D-Range Optimizer

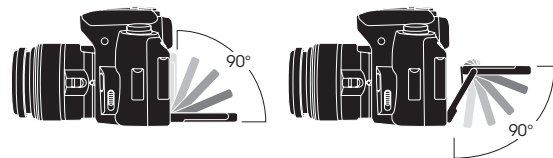




Unleash your creativity with freestyle live view shooting and SLR-class performance

Uncompromising SLR performance, with full-featured live view for full-time shooting ease

Contrary to what many people think, live view shooting with an SLR camera doesn't mean you have to compromise. Not with the α500. Because unlike most digital SLRs, it lets you enjoy the blazingly fast response of phase-detection autofocusing even in live view. With advanced functions like face detection and high-precision Manual Focus Check Live View, plus a high-contrast, tiltable, 3-inch LCD monitor, α500 makes full-time live view shooting a mainstream option for digital SLR photography.



A user interface so intuitive and easy to understand, it's a pleasure to use

A new on-screen user interface provides easy access to advanced functions and settings even during live view operation. A quick press of the Function (Fn) button displays translucent icons at the sides of the screen that can be selected using the control dial and/or controller keys. Help Guide information and shooting tips are also displayed to assist you in getting the precise results you want. In addition, our exclusive shooting parameter Graphic Display enables you to intuitively understand the effect that shutter speed and aperture adjustments will have on your final image.



Function selection via controller



Help Guide



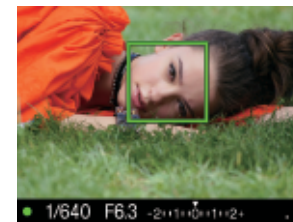
Function selection via control dial



Graphic Display

Face detection for fast, accurate focusing and beautiful, true-to-life portrait photos

The α500's evolved new Quick AF Live View also incorporates face detection, another technology with wide-ranging benefits. Capable of detecting up to eight faces, it uses fast, accurate phase-detection auto-focusing to help you capture even the most fleeting expressions, and automatically optimizes exposure, white balance, flash control, D-Range Optimizer, and other settings to assure truly professional-looking portrait photos, with rich, natural skin tone and color.



For more beautiful portraits

Improved AF tracking for superior results when photographing moving subjects

Quick AF Live View's fast, accurate AF tracking also gets a performance boost from our proprietary face-detection technology, enhancing autofocusing accuracy by enabling the camera's nine AF sensors to instantly zero in on the main subject. Backed by the dual combination of SLR-class phase-detection autofocusing and a powerful new BIONZ image processor, Quick AF Live View makes it easier than ever to get beautiful results when you're shooting moving subjects.



Without face detection



With face detection

Accessories for every lifestyle



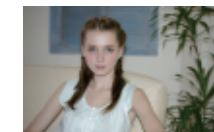
External Flash HVL-F42AM(JE)

Optimized for digital imaging with auto white balance adjustment, high-speed syncro, wireless capability, and a variable-angle head. Guide number 42 (105mm, ISO 100m)



External Flash HVL-F20AM(JE)

A sleek, stylish, and exceptionally easy-to-use external flash that lets you bounce light off the ceiling when shooting indoors. Guide number 20 (50mm, ISO100m)



Built-in Flash



External Flash
(Bounce flash enables shadowless indirect lighting)



Soft Carrying Case LCS-SC5(JE)

A stylish and compact case with front, rear, and side pockets. easily store your camera body, two lenses and a flash or a grip. Dimensions (W x H x D): approx. 320 x 270 x 180mm. Mass: approx. 500g



Soft Carrying Case LCS-AMSC30(JE)

Keep your camera and lenses safe from bumps and scratches. Feature compartments for your camera, lenses, flash, flash adapter and battery pack. Dimensions (W x H x D): approx. 430 x 260 x 180mm. Mass: approx. 1.2kg



Black(BC)



Cinnabar(DC)

Soft Carrying Case LCS-AMA(JE)

Keep your camera and accessories together while protecting it from dust and scratches. Dimensions (W x H x D): approx. 185 x 260 x 130mm. Mass: approx. 250g



Rechargeable Battery Pack for α500 NP-FM500H(JE)

A powerful, high-capacity lithium-ion battery pack with output optimized for high-speed operation and extended shooting stamina.



Black(B)

Shoulder Strap STP-SB1AM B(JE)

Use the stabilizing tension of this neoprene shoulder strap to steady your aim and take better pictures with your α DSLR camera.



LCD Protect Cover for α500 PCK-LH6AM(JE) **NEW**

Extra protection from dirt and scratching. Fits both variable-angle and fixed-position LCD monitors.

Main specifications

α500

System	Camera type	Digital SLR camera with built-in flash and interchangeable lenses
	Lens compatibility	Sony α Lenses * Operation also confirmed with Minolta and Konica Minolta AF lenses
	Sensor type	APS-C type (23.5 x 15.6 mm) CMOS sensor <i>Exmor</i> with RGB primary color filters
Image sensor	Effective pixels	Approx. 12.3 megapixels
	Total pixels	Approx. 12.9 megapixels
	Anti-Dust system	Charge protection coating on low-pass filter and image-sensor shift mechanism
Recording	Recording format	JPEG (DCF v. 2.0 and Exif v. 2.21, MPF Baseline compliant), DPOF compatible, RAW (Sony ARW 2.1 format), RAW + JPEG
	Image size	<Aspect ratio 3:2> L size: 4272 x 2848 (12M), M size: 3104 x 2072 (6.4M), S size: 2128 x 1416 (3.0M) <Aspect ratio 16:9> L size: 4272 x 2400 (10M), M size: 3104 x 1744 (5.4M), S size: 2188 x 1192 (2.5M)
	Image quality modes	RAW*, RAW* + JPEG, Fine, Standard * Recorded in RAW format
	Media	Memory Stick PRO Duo / Memory Stick PRO-HG Duo / SD memory card / SDHC memory card
	Noise reduction	Long exposure NR: On / off selectable, available at shutter speeds longer than 1 sec.
	Color space	sRGB, Adobe RGB
	Other features	Creative Style: Standard, Vivid, Portrait, Landscape, Sunset, B&W (Contrast, Saturation, Sharpness adjustable in +/-3 steps)
		Dynamic Range functions: Off, D-Range Optimizer (Auto, Lv 1 - 5)
		Auto HDR (Auto Exposure Difference, Adjustable exposure difference level: up to 3 EV between 1.0 - 3.0 EV in 0.5 EV steps)
		Auto, Daylight, Shade, Cloudy, Incandescent, Fluorescent, Flash, Custom (color temperature / color filter)
White balance	Modes	Auto, Daylight, Shade, Cloudy, Incandescent, Fluorescent, Flash, Custom (color temperature / color filter)
	Bracketing	3 exposures, Hi / Lo level selectable
Focus control	Type	TTL phase detection system
	Sensor	CCD line sensors
	No. of focus point	9 points
	Sensitivity range	EV 0 - 18 (ISO 100 equivalent)
	Modes	AF/MF selectable. AF modes: Single-shot AF, Automatic AF, Continuous AF
	Focus area	Wide, Spot, Local (9 local areas selectable)
Exposure control	Features	Predictive control, Focus lock, Eye-start AF, AF illuminator (built-in, flash range: approx. 1 - 5 m)
	Metering	Type: TTL metering
		Sensor: 40-segment honeycomb-pattern SPC
		Sensitivity range: EV 2 - 20 (EV 4 - 20 in spot metering mode) (at ISO 100 equivalent with F1.4 lens)
	Exposure	Modes: Multi segment, Center-weighted, Spot
		Mode: Program AE (AUTO, AUTO - Flash Off, P), Aperture priority, Shutter speed priority, Manual, Scene selection
		Scene Selection: Portrait, Landscape, Macro, Sports, Sunset, Night portrait / Night view
		Exposure compensation: +/-2 EV (in 0.3 EV steps)
		Bracketing: 3 continuous exposures, in 0.3 / 0.7 EV steps
		ISO sensitivity range: AUTO (ISO 200 - 1600), ISO 200 to 12800 selectable (in 1 EV steps, Recommended Exposure Index)
Viewfinder	Type	Fixed eye-level, penta-Dach-mirror
	Coverage	95%
	Magnification	0.80x (with 50mm lens at infinity, -1m ⁻¹)
	Dioptr adjustment	-2.5 to +1.0 m ⁻¹
	Eye point	Approx. 19 mm from the eyepiece lens, 15 mm from the eyepiece frame
	Screen	Spherical Acute Matte
LCD monitor	Type	3.0-inch* type TFT (Clear Photo LCD Plus) * Viewable area measured diagonally
	Total number of dots	230,400 dots
	Brightness adjustment	Auto Brightness Control (auto setting in 2 steps), manual setting in 5 steps
Quick AF Live View	Adjustable angle	Up / down by 90 degrees (from the camera back)
	Type	Live view with the dedicated image sensor (pentamirror tilt system)
	Image sensor	Dedicated to live view
	Metering	1200-zone evaluative metering
	Sensitivity range	EV 1 - 17 (in all metering modes, at ISO 100 conversion with F1.4 lens)
	Coverage	90%
	Display	Histogram display, real-time image-adjustment display (exposure compensation, white balance, Sunset / B&W in Creative Style)
	Other features	Face detection (up to 8 faces detectable automatically), Smile Shutter (selectable from 3 levels), Smart Teleconverter (x1.4 / x2.0 selectable)

MF Check Live View	Type	Live view with CMOS sensor <i>Exmor</i>
	Image sensor	CMOS sensor <i>Exmor</i>
	Metering method	Varies according to shooting mode in use at the time of activation (live view or optical viewfinder)
	Coverage	100%
	Display	Real-time image-adjustment display (white balance, sunset / B&W of Creative Style, exposure compensation*) *Available only during AE lock
Shutter	Other features	Enlarged display (x7.0 / x14.0), Grid line display (on / off selectable)
	Type	Electronically-controlled, vertical-traverse, focal-plane type
	Speed range	1/4000 to 30 sec., Bulb
SteadyShot INSIDE™ (Image Stabilization)	Flash sync speed	1/160 sec.
	Type	Image-sensor shift mechanism
	Indication	SteadyShot INSIDE scale and camera-shake warning (indicated on LCD monitor in live view mode)
Built-in flash	Compensation effect	Equivalent to approx. 2.5 to 4 steps in shutter speeds * Varies according to shooting conditions and lens used
	Pop up	Auto
	Guide number	12 (in meters measured at ISO 100 equivalent)
	Flash coverage	18 mm (focal length printed on the lens body)
	Control	ADI, Pre-flash TTL (automatic switching)
	Flash compensation	+/- 2 EV (in 0.3 EV steps)
	Modes	Flash-off, Auto, Fill-flash, Slow sync, Rear sync, Wireless*, Hi-speed sync* * With External Flash HVL-F58AM, HVL-F56AM, HVL-F42AM, HVL-F36AM
Drive	Flash bracketing	3 exposures in 0.3 / 0.7 EV steps
	Recycling time	Approx. 4 sec.
	Modes	Single, Continuous, Speed-priority Continuous, Self-timer (10 / 2 sec. delay selectable)
	Continuous shooting speed (approx.)	Max. 5 fps with viewfinder, max. 4 fps in live view mode
	No. of frames recordable (approx.)	* Varies according to shooting conditions and memory card used Fine: 12 images, Standard: 58 images, RAW: 6 images, RAW+JPEG: 3 images * Varies according to shooting conditions and memory card used
Playback	Modes	Single (with or without shooting information, RGB histogram & highlight / shadow warning), 4 / 9-frame index view, enlarged display mode (max. zoom - L size: x13.4, M size: x10.1, S size: x6.7), Image orientation, Slideshow
Interface	PC interface	USB2.0 Hi-Speed (mass storage, PTP)
	HDMI output	HDMI mini connector (Type C), BRAVIA Sync (Sync menu), PhotoTV HD supported
Supported OS environment	Windows	Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional / Windows XP* SP3 / Windows Vista SP2**
	Macintosh	* 64-bit editions and Starter Edition are not supported. ** Starter Edition is not supported.
Print	Compatible standards	Mac OS X (v. 10.3, v. 10.4, v. 10.5)
	Exif Print, Print Image Matching III, PictBridge	
Power	Power source	One Rechargeable Battery Pack NP-FM500H * NP-FM55H for DSLR-A100 is not usable.
	Battery performance	Approx. 1000 shots with viewfinder, approx. 520 shots in live view mode (CIPA standard)
	External power source	AC Adaptor/Charger AC-V900AM, AC Adaptor AC-PWT0AM (both sold separately)
Others	Dimension (WxHxD)	Approx. 137 x 104 x 84 mm (5-1/2 x 4-1/8 x 3-3/8 in.) (excl. protrusions)
	Weight	Approx. 597 g (1 lb 5.1 oz) (w/o battery, memory card, accessories)
	Operating temperature	0 - 40°C (32 - 104°F)

Specifications are based on the information available at the time of printing and are subject to change without notice.

Number of recordable frames for single media (Memory Stick Pro Duo)

α500 (Image size L 12M, aspect ratio 3:2)					
Media capacity	1GB	2GB	4GB	8GB	16GB
Standard	242	512	1015	2039	4136
Fine	174	368	730	1467	2975
RAW + JPEG	49	105	210	423	860
RAW	70	149	296	596	1210

When aspect ratio is set to [16:9], you can record more images than the numbers shown in the table above. However, if it is set to [RAW], the number is the same as that of the [3:2] aspect ratio.

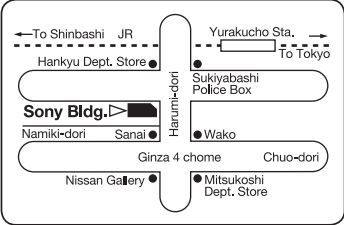
**Safety Cautions**

To ensure correct use of this product, read the "Instruction Manual" prior to use. Failure to follow all safeguards can result in fire, electric shock, or other accidents. Do not use headphones while driving and cycling, etc.

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Showroom



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- * InfoLITHIUM   is a lithium battery pack which can exchange data with compatible electronic equipment about its energy consumption.
Sony recommends that you use the battery pack with electronic equipment bearing the  mark.
- Design and specifications are subject to change without notice.
- Screen displays are simulated.
- The camera shown in this catalog is the α500.

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Contents of this catalog are valid as of October 2009