Canon SD550

Canon Powershot SD550 Digital Elph Camera Instruction Manual

Model: SD550

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the safe and effective operation of your Canon Powershot SD550 Digital Elph Camera. The SD550 is a 7.1-megapixel digital camera featuring a 3x optical zoom lens and a 2.5-inch LCD display, designed for capturing high-quality still images and video.

Figure 1.1: Front view of the Canon Powershot SD550 Digital Elph Camera. This image displays the compact design, lens, and flash unit of the camera.

2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- PowerShot SD550 Camera Body
- Lithium Battery Pack NB-3L
- Battery Charger CB-2LU
- 32 MB SD Memory Card SDC-32M
- Wrist Strap WS-700
- Digital Camera Solution CD-ROM

- USB Interface Cable IFC-400PCU
- Audio-Video Cable AVC-DC300
- Instruction Manual (this document)

3. SETUP

3.1. Charging the Battery

1. Insert the Lithium Battery Pack NB-3L into the Battery Charger CB-2LU.
2. Plug the battery charger into a standard electrical outlet.
3. The charging indicator light will illuminate. Charging is complete when the light changes or turns off (refer to charger specific indicators).

A fully charged battery provides approximately one day of good usage or several days of casual usage.

3.2. Inserting the Battery and Memory Card

1. Open the battery/card compartment cover on the camera.
2. Insert the charged Lithium Battery Pack NB-3L into the battery slot, ensuring correct orientation.
3. Insert the SD Memory Card (SDC-32M or other compatible SD/MMC card) into the memory card slot until it clicks into place.
4. Close the compartment cover securely.

The camera supports SD/MMC card types. Ensure the card is inserted correctly to avoid damage.

4. OPERATING THE CAMERA

4.1. Powering On/Off

Press the **POWER** button to turn the camera on or off. The camera powers up quickly, allowing for immediate capture.

4.2. Basic Still Photography

- **Framing:** Use the 2.5-inch LCD display or the optical viewfinder to compose your shot. Gridlines can be displayed on the LCD for assistance with composition.
- **Zoom:** Use the zoom lever to adjust the 3x optical zoom lens. The focal length ranges from 37mm to 111mm.
- **Focus:** The camera utilizes a 9-point AiAF system for automatic focusing, even on off-center subjects. iSAPS intelligence assesses the scene and adjusts settings for optimal results.
- **Exposure:** Select from evaluative, center-weighted, or spot metering. ISO settings can be adjusted to Auto, 50, 100, 200, or 400.
- **Shutter:** Press the shutter button halfway to focus, then fully to capture the image. The 7.1-megapixel CCD captures sufficient detail for prints up to 15 x 20 inches.

4.3. Shooting Modes and Special Effects

The Powershot SD550 offers various shooting modes to suit different situations:

- **Standard Modes:** Auto, Manual, Portrait, Landscape, Night Snapshot.
- **Scene Modes:** Includes an underwater setting for use with the optional Waterproof Case WP-DC80. This mode adjusts white balance for accurate underwater colors.

- **My Colors:** Apply special effects like Color Swap or Custom Color directly in-camera while shooting stills and movies. These effects are viewable on the LCD.

4.4. Video Recording

The camera records high-quality VGA movies (640x480) at 30 or 15 frames per second (fps). Continuous filming is possible until the file size reaches 1 GB or 60 minutes.

- **Fast Frame Rate Movie Mode:** A 60 fps option is available for slow-motion playback.
- **Digital Zoom:** Can be used during video recording.
- **Compact Movie Mode (QQVGA):** Records at 160 x 120 pixels at 15 fps, suitable for email sharing.

5. IMAGE PLAYBACK AND MANAGEMENT

- **Viewing Images:** Use the 2.5-inch LCD display for reviewing photos and videos. The wide viewing angle facilitates sharing.
- **Slide Show Functions:** Create impressive slide shows with transition effects directly on the camera.
- **Intelligent Orientation Sensor:** Automatically rotates stored images for correct playback when the camera is rotated from horizontal to vertical.
- **User Interface:** Enhanced options include a world time zone display and improved warnings for camera shake. The camera menu supports 22 different languages.

6. PRINTING IMAGES

The Powershot SD550 supports direct printing without a PC:

- **PictBridge Compatibility:** Connect directly to PictBridge compatible printers, including Canon's PIXMA range. Image enhancements like Noise Reduction, Vivid Photo, and Face Brightener are available with compatible PIXMA printers.
- **Canon Compact Photo Printers:** Compatible with Canon Selphy CP Compact Photo Printers (e.g., Selphy CP710) for producing ID prints and movie prints.
- **Print/Share Button:** Facilitates direct printing and easy uploading to Windows XP and Mac OS X.

7. SOFTWARE

The camera includes a CD-ROM with the following software for image management and editing:

- **ZoomBrowser EX 5.5 (Windows)** / **ImageBrowser 5.5 (Macintosh):** For image download, storage, retrieval, and management.
- **PhotoRecord 2.2 (Windows):** For managing image layout and printing.
- **PhotoStitch 3.1 (Windows/Macintosh):** For creating panoramic images.
- **Movie Edit Task:** For editing and enhancing movie footage.
- **PhotoStudio (by ArcSoft):** Photo manipulation software.

The bundled software supports Windows 98 (SE), ME, 2000 (SP4), XP (SP1/3) and Macintosh OS X v10.2-v10.3. The camera supports PTP for driverless transfer to supported Windows XP or Macintosh OS X.

Purchasers are eligible for membership to Canon iMAGE Gateway, where images can be uploaded and camera settings customized.

8. Maintenance

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, lint-free cloth to clean the camera body and LCD screen. For the lens, use a specialized lens cleaning cloth and solution. Avoid harsh chemicals.
- **Storage:** Store the camera in a dry, cool place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Remove the battery if the camera will not be used for an extended period.
- **Battery Care:** Avoid fully discharging the lithium battery frequently. Charge it regularly to maintain its lifespan.

9. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your camera, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause / Solution
Camera does not power on.	Ensure the battery is fully charged and correctly inserted. Check for any debris in the battery compartment.
Images are blurry or out of focus.	Ensure the lens is clean. Check if the camera is in the correct focus mode. Avoid bumping the lens while zoomed, as this can affect focusing.
Memory card error.	Reinsert the memory card. Try a different compatible SD/MMC card. Ensure the card is not locked (write-protected).
Battery/Card compartment cover does not close securely.	Inspect the latch mechanism for any obstructions or damage. Ensure the battery and card are inserted correctly and not preventing closure.
Camera freezes or becomes unresponsive.	Remove the battery, wait a few seconds, and reinsert it to reset the camera.

10. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Canon Powershot SD550
Photo Sensor Resolution	7.1 MP
Optical Zoom	3x
Digital Zoom	4x
Screen Size	2.5 Inches
Display Type	LCD
Image Stabilization	Digital, Optical
Minimum Focal Length	37 Millimeters
Maximum Focal Length	111 Millimeters
Maximum Aperture	2.8 Millimeters
Expanded ISO Minimum	50

Feature	Detail
Expanded ISO Maximum	400
Minimum Shutter Speed	15 seconds
Maximum Shutter Speed	1/2000 Seconds
Supported File Format	JPEG, RAW
Flash Memory Type	SD/MMC card
Connectivity Technology	USB
Hardware Interface	PictBridge, USB, VGA
Battery Cell Type	Lithium
Item Weight	0.41 Pounds
Model Number	0635B001
UPC	013803056051

11. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Canon support website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims. You can also visit the Canon Store on Amazon for additional product information and resources.