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› [OM SYSTEM](#) /

› OM SYSTEM OLYMPUS SP-550UZ Digital Camera User Manual

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Model: SP-550UZ

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and effective use of your OM SYSTEM OLYMPUS SP-550UZ Digital Camera. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the camera and keep it for future reference. The SP-550UZ features a 7.1-megapixel sensor, 18x optical zoom, and dual image stabilization for versatile photography.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the main components of your camera.



Figure 2.1: Front View of the SP-550UZ Camera. This image displays the front of the camera, highlighting the lens barrel, flash, and grip.



Figure 2.2: Angled Front View of the SP-550UZ Camera. This image shows the camera from a slightly different angle, emphasizing the 18x optical zoom lens and the camera body's contours.



Figure 2.3: Top View of the SP-550UZ Camera. This image illustrates the top panel, including the mode dial, power button, shutter button, and zoom lever.

2.1 Package Contents

- OM SYSTEM OLYMPUS SP-550UZ Camera Body
- (Note: Batteries and memory card are typically sold separately unless specified by retailer.)

3. SETUP

3.1 Inserting Batteries

The SP-550UZ uses four AA batteries. Ensure correct polarity when inserting. Use high-quality alkaline or rechargeable NiMH batteries for optimal performance.

1. Open the battery compartment cover located on the bottom of the camera.
2. Insert four AA batteries according to the polarity indicators (+/-).
3. Close the battery compartment cover securely.

3.2 Inserting an xD Picture Card

The camera supports xD Picture Cards for image storage. Ensure the card is inserted correctly to avoid damage.

1. Open the memory card slot cover, usually located on the side or bottom of the camera.
2. Insert the xD Picture Card with the label facing the correct direction, pushing it gently until it clicks into place.
3. Close the memory card slot cover securely.
4. To remove, press the card gently to release it, then pull it out.

4. BASIC OPERATION

4.1 Powering On/Off

- To power on: Press the **POWER** button. The lens will extend.

- To power off: Press the **POWER** button again. The lens will retract.

4.2 Taking Photos

1. Turn the mode dial to the desired shooting mode (e.g., **AUTO**).
2. Frame your subject using the LCD monitor or electronic viewfinder.
3. Press the shutter button halfway down to focus. The focus indicator will illuminate.
4. Press the shutter button fully to take the picture.

4.3 Using the Zoom

The camera features an 18x optical zoom and a 5x digital zoom.

- To zoom in: Push the zoom lever towards **T** (Telephoto).
- To zoom out: Push the zoom lever towards **W** (Wide-angle).

4.4 Flash Modes

Adjust the flash setting according to your shooting conditions.

- **Auto Flash:** The camera automatically determines if flash is needed.
- **Fill Flash (Forced Flash):** Flash fires for every shot.
- **Flash Off:** Flash does not fire.

5. ADVANCED FEATURES

5.1 Shooting Modes

The mode dial allows selection of various shooting modes for different scenarios.

- **Program Auto (P):** Camera sets aperture and shutter speed, but you can adjust other settings.
- **Aperture Priority (A):** You set the aperture, camera sets shutter speed.
- **Shutter Priority (S):** You set the shutter speed, camera sets aperture.
- **Manual (M):** You control both aperture and shutter speed.
- **Scene Modes (SCN):** Pre-set modes for specific situations (e.g., Portrait, Landscape, Night Scene, Sports).
- **Movie Mode:** Records video with sound.

5.2 Dual Image Stabilization

The SP-550UZ incorporates dual image stabilization to reduce blur from camera shake and subject movement.

- **Sensor-Shift Image Stabilization:** Compensates for camera movement, ideal for low light or zoomed shots.
- **Digital Image Stabilization:** Increases ISO sensitivity and shutter speed to freeze action.

5.3 Video Recording

To record videos:

1. Turn the mode dial to the movie camera icon.
2. Press the shutter button to start recording.
3. Press the shutter button again to stop recording.

The camera records TV-quality AVI movies (640 x 480 resolution at 30fps).

6. MAINTENANCE

6.1 Cleaning the Camera

- **Camera Body:** Wipe with a soft, dry cloth. For stubborn dirt, use a cloth lightly dampened with water, then wipe dry.
- **Lens:** Use a lens brush to remove dust, then gently wipe with a lens cleaning cloth. Do not use solvents.
- **LCD Monitor:** Wipe gently with a soft, dry cloth.

6.2 Storage

When not in use for extended periods, remove batteries and store the camera in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

7.1 Common Issues and Solutions

- **Camera does not power on:**
 - Check if batteries are inserted correctly.
 - Replace with fresh batteries or fully charged NiMH batteries.
- **Cannot take pictures:**
 - Ensure an xD Picture Card is inserted and has free space.
 - Check if the lens cap is removed.
 - Verify the camera is in a valid shooting mode.
- **Images are blurry:**
 - Ensure Dual Image Stabilization is active.
 - Hold the camera steady or use a tripod, especially in low light or when using high zoom.
 - Check focus settings.
- **Flash does not fire:**
 - Check flash mode settings (ensure it's not set to "Flash Off").
 - Allow time for the flash to recharge.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Model Name	OM SYSTEM OLYMPUS SP-550UZ
Effective Still Resolution	7.1 Megapixels
Optical Zoom	18x
Digital Zoom	5x
Image Stabilization	Dual (Sensor-shift and Digital)
Sensor Type	CCD (1/2.5-inch)

Display	2.5-inch LCD (230,000 pixels)
Minimum Focal Length	28 Millimeters (equivalent)
Maximum Focal Length	504 Millimeters (equivalent)
ISO Sensitivity	Expanded ISO Minimum 100, Expanded ISO Maximum 3200 (up to ISO 5000)
Shutter Speed	1/2000 Seconds to 15 seconds
Video Resolution	480p (640 x 480 at 30fps)
Storage Media	xD Picture Card, Internal Memory
Power Source	4 x AA Batteries
Item Weight	1 Pound

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This product comes with a 14-day no-hassle satisfaction guarantee and a 90-day parts and labor warranty. For technical support or warranty claims, please contact your retailer or the manufacturer's customer service.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

Name

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question