PHOTO MISSION

Your next adventure is just a click away!

Your Mission is to protect and secure your photos

Memory Card brief

Digital cameras store their images on memory cards - this is a non-volatile memory device. This means the device doesn't need external power to store data which is ideal for digital cameras.
Memory cards come in a variety of types, the most common being SD Cards {Secure Data}, Mini SD and Micro SD cards, CF Cards {Compact Flash}, MMC cards {Multimedia Card} and number of others.
Memory cards are quite robust but you do need to look after them, after all, they do contain all your work. Make sure you protect them from temperature - don't store in direct sunlight, keep them in a shady location, also avoid extreme cold and protect from moisture i.e. snap lock bags are ideal. You also need to protect them from mechanical damage i.e. bending or flexing – this can damage the card as well. You will find better quality cards come in a hard plastic case which offers some protection from moisture, bending or flexing. – But make sure you take precautions.

You will need to format the card in the camera you're going to use it in – yes, new cards are already formatted but it only takes a couple of seconds to format according to the camera, this way your camera shouldn't have any problems reading or writing to the new card otherwise you might find your photos won't save properly.
Not all memory cards are made equal, try and buy major brands which are generally better quality. Try to get the fastest cards - they are rated by class; a 'class 4' card is slower than a 'class 10' card, you will see a number followed by Mb/s (megabytes per second), this is the fastest speed the camera can write to the card - this is important if you shoot HD video on your camera or use burst shooting.

The other tip is to only use your cards once and store them safely – never delete the contents and treat them like negatives, this is also another backup of your work. Some people have experienced when you're writing images onto the card and constantly deleting and re-writing, it can cause the card to crash. It has also been noted that trying to write over a 'cleared' memory card can cause a corrupted file. This being due to when you totally wipe the card – the card is telling the camera its clear and ready to go like new, but in actual fact – yes, there are no images that the naked eye can see but all the old files are still there and you're just writing over the top of the file, so your camera may not complete writing the image to the card – causing corruption and losing your image!
You should consider the size of the card you use - they are available in very large capabilities. The largest card I use is 16GB because if you're using a 32 or 64GB card and you lose it or it crashes, you're losing a lot of work and time.
With there always being the chance of losing a card, when you get a new card you should label your card cases with contact details and a card number i.e. Joe Blow PH: 04** *** *** #2, print your details on a piece of paper and keep it in your camera bag and each time you start a new card take a photo using the first frame and the last frame – so if someone finds your camera or card – there is something on there to help them find the owner.
One last thing to get you on your way – try not to fill the card completely, when you get to about 10 frames left, change the card. This is to make sure your camera doesn't try to overwrite some images, as depending on the size of the photos – your camera may say it has 10 pictures left on the Card, but in actual fact the size of the photos may take up more than the average space per frame/photo.
It also eliminates those moments where you think you've got plenty of room on the card and all of a sudden runs out of space and you miss the perfect shot!!

Remember, the next photo you take could be your best yet! Happy Snapping ☺