

CAMERA WITH THE WORKS
Panasonic Lumix DMC-TZ3

- » Number of scene modes 31
- » Zoom 10x optical
- » Light sensitivity Up to 1250 ISO equivalent
- » Megapixels 7.2
- » Price \$350
- » Get it panasonic.com

Essential wisdom from Gina Trapani, our solutions expert



5 Ways To...

ROCK A ROAD TRIP WITH THE GIRLS THIS SUMMER

1 Gather intel from truckers.

Nothing kills the mood like a fat ticket. Spare yourself by logging on to the Bear Trap Guide (beartraps.com) before you hit the road. Written by and for truckers, this site lists exits on major interstates where radar guns are most likely to lurk.

2 Fuel up on the cheap.

Don't let the pump screw you. Enter your city and state at gasbuddy.com for the addresses of the lowest-priced stations in town. To find one from the road, text your city and state to gas@fuelgo.com to get listings on your cell in just minutes.

3 Let Honest Abe check your tires.

Stick a penny into one of the tire's grooves, top of Lincoln's head first. If you can see "In God We Trust," your tire has more slip than grip. Have a mechanic replace it, pronto.

4 Never get lost.

Text GOOGLE (466453) with your location and destination separated by "to" (e.g., "Daytona to Miami") and you'll get directions within minutes.

5 Cruise to your iPod.

Streaming a playlist through your car radio (via an FM transmitter that plugs into your iPod) seems brilliant—until static takes over lead vocals. Fuzz isn't a problem with the new-generation Griffin iTrip (\$50, griffintechnology.com).

Womenshealthmag.com/easyway
 Gina Trapani is the founder and editor of the blog *Lifehacker.com*. Submit topics to Gina today.



FIRE UP THE AUTOPILOT

Spec to shoot for Easy access to about 30 scene modes
Say what? Modes like Sunset, Portrait, and Fireworks automatically optimize light sensitivity, flash, and focus for that shot.
Choose it over 50-plus scene modes—90 percent of them are useless, and the cameras generally cost more.
Shoot like a pro tip Switch to Night mode to snap great shots in a dimly lit bar.

PIXEL PERFECT

Spec to shoot for 5.1 to 7.2 megapixels
Say what? These are the millions of dots that make up your pic.
Choose it over Anything higher than 7.2. Unless you're a pro, it's not worth the extra money.
Shoot like a pro tip Splurge on a big memory card—1 gig (\$20 to \$40) stores 300 high-resolution images—so you can click away without having to worry about running out of room.

GET A ZOOM

Spec to shoot for At least 5x optical zoom
Say what? This type of zoom works like a film camera. When you press a button, gizmos inside move to capture the shot.
Choose it over Digital zoom, which relies on an internal computer to manipulate images and often produces grainy pics.
Shoot like a pro tip To steady your shot, lean against a tree or a wall when you're photographing objects from more than 100 feet away.

LIGHT RIGHT

Spec to shoot for An ISO equivalent of at least 800
Say what? This indicates how sensitive the camera's sensor is to light. When the number is low, the shutter has to stay open longer, making a blurry shot more likely.
Choose it over ISO equivalent under 800
Shoot like a pro tip Flash zaps detail. An 800 ISO camera collects enough light that you shouldn't ever need to turn on the flash indoors.

it's a snap

» Everything you need to know to pick a picture-perfect digicam

MISSION: BYPASS THOSE blue-clad Best Buy salesmen spewing technobabble and find an easy-to-use, easy-to-stash, affordable digital camera. We combed the massive annual Vegas-based photo trade show in March, where thousands of new cameras make their debuts, and spotted a few prime specimens, including the Panasonic Lumix DMC-TZ3 (pictured; \$350, panasonic.com). To help you find more models like it, we created this cheat sheet with fashion photographer Bill Streicher and Mike Hodson, moderator on thephotoforum.com. It lists the features that will make your pictures really pop—without making your head spin.

Click Here Now scanmyphotos.com

Need a party favor for this summer's family reunion? Sort through your old photos—the ones collecting dust in a shoebox under your bed—and mail them to scanmyphotos.com. For \$100, you'll get a prepaid box, which you can stuff with as many pics as you want. They'll scan them onto a CD and return the originals just as you sent them. We recommend omitting that one of you breaking your school's keg-stand record.

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