

Fast, wide, close-focusing, and sharp

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

Sigma's "DG"-designated lenses are claimed to be optimized for both film and digital SLRs, with improved optics and new lens coatings.

HANDS ON: Finished in Sigma's matte-black "EX" surface, the lens is noticeably lightweight and compact for a constant-aperture lens.

IN THE LAB: SQF performance was excellent at the three tested focal lengths, and distortion was uniformly well controlled at all focal lengths. We noted slight barrel distortion (0.75%) at 24mm; minimal pincushioning (0.21%) at 40mm; and slight pincushioning (0.45%) at 60mm. Light falloff was gone by f/8 at 24mm and by f/4 at 40mm and 60mm. At the closest focusing distance of 14.08 inches at 24mm (1:10.6), center sharpness was very good at f/2.8 and f/8, excellent at f/22. Corner sharpness was very good at all three tested apertures. Optimum sharpness was at f/22. At the closest focusing distance of 13.4 inches at 40mm (1:6.7), center sharpness was below

SPECIFICATIONS

24–60mm (24.90–58.29mm tested), f/2.8 (f/3.00 tested), 16 elements in 15 groups. Focusing turns 60 degrees counterclockwise. Zoom ring turns 60 degrees clockwise.

Focal lengths marked at 24-, 28-, 35-, 40-, 50-, and 60mm. Diagonal view angle: 84–39 degrees.

Weight: 18 oz. Filter size: 77mm. Mounts: Canon AF, Minolta AF, Nikon AF, Pentax AF, Sigma AF. Included: lenshood, softcase. List price: \$549.

Street price: Approx. \$409.



SUBJECTIVE QUALITY FACTOR

key



Size	@24mm				
	5x7	8x10	11x14	16x20	20x24
2.8	A7.1	A6.1	A4.0	A8.9	A5.1
4.0	A7.2	A6.3	A4.3	A9.0	A5.9
5.6	A7.1	A6.2	A4.1	A9.0	A5.2
8.0	A7.0	A6.1	A3.9	A8.8	A4.8
11.0	A6.7	A5.6	A3.2	A8.5	A2.8
16.0	A6.2	A5.1	A2.3	A8.6	A0.2
22.0	A5.4	A4.1	A0.7	A3.8	A7.2

Size	@40mm				
	5x7	8x10	11x14	16x20	20x24
2.8	A7.8	A7.1	A5.4	A2.5	A9.0
4.0	A7.9	A7.2	A5.7	A3.1	A9.0
5.6	A8.1	A7.5	A6.2	A3.9	A9.4
8.0	A8.0	A7.4	A6.0	A3.6	A9.9
11.0	A7.6	A6.8	A5.0	A1.8	A8.0
16.0	A7.0	A6.0	A3.8	A9.6	A4.3
22.0	A6.0	A4.7	A1.8	A5.5	A7.6

Size	@60mm				
	5x7	8x10	11x14	16x20	20x24
2.8	A7.9	A7.2	A5.6	A1.9	A7.0
4.0	A8.0	A7.4	A5.8	A2.3	A7.7
5.6	A8.4	A7.9	A6.6	A3.9	A9.0
8.0	A8.1	A7.6	A6.2	A3.1	A8.2
11.0	A8.0	A7.4	A5.9	A2.7	A8.7
16.0	A7.7	A7.0	A5.3	A1.8	A7.2
22.0	A6.8	A5.9	A3.5	A8.3	A1.3

average at f/2.8, and good at f/8 and f/22. Corner sharpness was acceptable at f/2.8 and f/8, very good at f/22. Optimum sharpness was at f/22. At the closest focusing distance of 12.28 inches at 60mm (1:4.5), center sharpness was below average at f/2.8, very good at f/8, and good at f/22. Corner

sharpness was below average at f/2.8 and f/8, good at f/22. Optimum sharpness was at f/22.

CONCLUSION: This lens is about 22 percent lighter and more compact than Sigma's slightly longer 24–70mm f/2.8; its SQF performance is significantly better, too. Overall, a fine optic choice. 