

CAMERA 35

THE MAGAZINE OF MINIATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

tests the

Canon

TELEPHOTO LENSES



LENS TEST SERIES

NO. 14

Long ago, Canon built a solid reputation on its superb lenses. Are they as good today as they were then? Our tests tell the story. But one thing's for sure... few lens lines are more extensive!



ONLY A FEW of the many fine telephotos available from Canon. From the left, the 100mm f/3.5, the 200mm f/3.5, the 135mm f/2.5, the 85mm f/1.8 and the 300mm f/4. Note the unique mount on the latter lens, consisting of a focusing bellows.

THE CANON TELEPHOTOS



The 600mm f/5.6 Canon

RESOLUTION TEST

	CENTER	EDGES
f/5.6	34	28
f/8	40	34
f/11	48	40
f/16	56	40
f/22	56	40
f/32	48	34

WEIGHT 7 Lbs.
 LENGTH 15½ In.
 MAXIMUM DIAMETER 4½ In.
 FINISH Satin Black
 DIAPHRAGM Manual
 FOCUSING Bellows
 DIAPHRAGM RANGE f/5.6-32

Believe it or not, this is a fast, lightweight lens. At 600mm, f/5.6 is fast. And seven pounds is certainly light. This lens and the 1000mm share the same bellows-plus-adapter close focusing mount as the 300mm. Performance was very good, despite atmospheric haze all during testing. \$550.00.

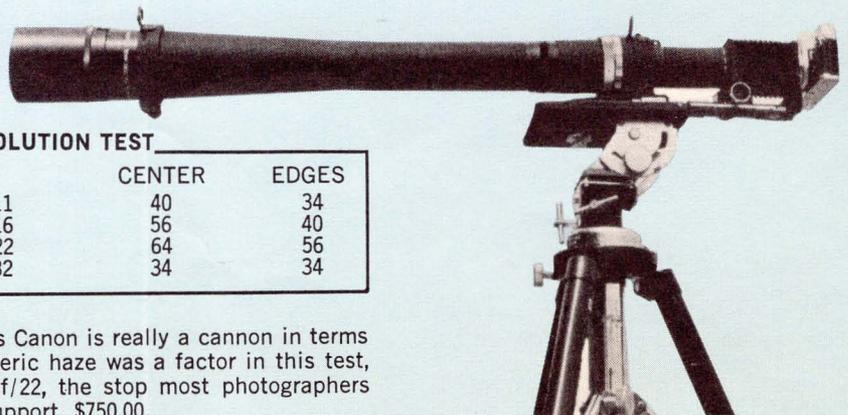
The 1000mm f/11 Canon

WEIGHT 8 Lbs.
 LENGTH 27 In.
 MAXIMUM DIAMETER 4¼ In.
 FINISH Satin Black
 DIAPHRAGM Manual
 FOCUSING Bellows
 DIAPHRAGM RANGE f/11-32

RESOLUTION TEST

	CENTER	EDGES
f/11	40	34
f/16	56	40
f/22	64	56
f/32	34	34

Again, eight pounds is light for a 1000mm, but this Canon is really a cannon in terms of length. Bearing in mind the fact that atmospheric haze was a factor in this test, too, performance was quite good, especially at f/22, the stop most photographers would probably use for depth. Note rigid lens support. \$750.00.



THE CANON LENSES tested here provide seven good reasons for using Canon SLR's. I've said it before, but there's no harm in repeating it: the knowledgeable photographer will base a good part of his decision to buy a camera on the range and quality of the lenses available for it. Now, if we were to test **all** the Canon FL-Series lenses, starting with the superb 19mm on up to the mammoth 2500mm, we'd no doubt fill half the magazine. So much for range.

The lenses we have tested are all telephotos, in focal lengths and maximum apertures we felt a serious photographer would be most interested in. Quality? Well, I've always had a soft spot for Canon optics. There's something about the images they deliver that sets them apart. But I'd be hard put to define it further than that. As for mechanical characteristics, the focusing mounts in the "shorter" lengths were all well-finished, smooth and positive. Ditto the automatic diaphragms.

—Arthur Kramer

The 85mm f/1.8 Canon

WEIGHT10.6 Oz.
 LENGTH2¼ In.
 MAXIMUM DIAMETER2⅜ In.
 FINISHGlossy Black
 DIAPHRAGMAutomatic
 FOCUSING RANGE3½ Ft.-Inf.
 DIAPHRAGM RANGEf/1.8-16

RESOLUTION TEST

	CENTER	EDGES
f/1.8	40	34
f/2	40	34
f/2.8	48	40
f/4	80	48
f/5.6	80	56
f/8	80	56
f/11	80	64
f/16	48	40

A fine piece of glass! Its performance of 80 lines/mm at four consecutive stops is very impressive. And 40 lines/mm wide open isn't bad, either. Brilliance at the middle stops is delightfully high, and flare wide open seems minimal. This is one lens you really enjoy focusing—it snaps in and out with an almost audible ping. This is not just a good high-speed "short tele", but a fine general purpose lens . . . and I'd say it could handle whatever challenges you care to throw its way. Mechanically, this lens is as good as it is optically. Light, but not too light. When mounted on the FT, balance is perfect. \$135.50.

The 100mm f/3.5 Canon

WEIGHT10.2 Oz.
 LENGTH2½ In.
 MAXIMUM DIAMETER2⅔ In.
 FINISHGlossy Black
 DIAPHRAGMAutomatic
 FOCUSING RANGE3½ Ft.-Inf.
 DIAPHRAGM RANGEf/3.5-22

RESOLUTION TEST

	CENTER	EDGES
f/3.5	56	48
f/4	80	56
f/5.6	80	68
f/8	80	68
f/11	68	56
f/16	56	48
f/22	48	34

Sharp. Crisp. Lovely image quality. A rare lens that somehow manages to give you the best of both optical worlds: outstanding resolution and high contrast. In fact, this Canon's contrast and brilliance at all stops put it in a class by itself among lenses of this focal length I've tested previously (and I've tested lenses that cost an awful lot more than this one!). Note the 80 lines/mm resolution at f/4 . . . this piece of glass hits its stride virtually wide open. Quite an accomplishment. All in all, I'd say that this is one of the greatest bargains extant, and I unhesitatingly recommend it for any job . . . critical or otherwise. \$87.50.

The 135mm f/2.5 Canon

WEIGHT1 Lb. 7 Oz.
 LENGTH4½ In.
 MAXIMUM DIAMETER2½ In.
 FINISHGlossy Black
 DIAPHRAGMAutomatic
 FOCUSING RANGE5 Ft.-Inf.
 DIAPHRAGM RANGEf/2.5-16

RESOLUTION TEST

	CENTER	EDGES
f/2.5	40	34
f/4	40	40
f/5.6	40	40
f/8	48	40
f/11	56	48
f/16	56	40

Strictly in terms of resolution, this lens has to suffer when compared to its kid brother, the 100mm f/3.5. But remember, they were designed with different objectives in mind. This is a high-speed medium telephoto. In fact, there are only two other 135mm lenses presently in production that offer larger maximum apertures than this f/2.5 Canon. This lens was designed for optimum performance at its widest apertures—and that it delivers. Also note that at all apertures, edge fall-off is virtually nonexistent, and performance is very good at the "depth" apertures. You get quite good contrast, too. \$129.50.

The 200mm f/3.5 Canon

WEIGHT1 Lb. 9 Oz.
 LENGTH6 In.
 MAXIMUM DIAMETER2¾ In.
 FINISHGlossy Black
 DIAPHRAGMAutomatic
 FOCUSING RANGE8 Ft.-Inf.
 DIAPHRAGM RANGEf/3.5-22

RESOLUTION TEST

	CENTER	EDGES
f/3.5	40	34
f/5.6	40	34
f/8	40	34
f/11	56	48
f/16	56	48
f/22	56	40

Good lenses of this speed and focal length are hard to find—but this is one of them (and it's automatic, too). Handling is smooth, easy, beautiful. Optical performance seems to rest on two plateaus: good at f/8 and above, very good at f/11 and below. In fact, 40 lines/mm wide open is good, indeed, and makes focusing a pleasure. Generally, images produced by this lens have a pleasing roundness, a fine three-dimensional quality. In other words, this lens may compress distances, but it won't compress tonal values. No flat pictures here. And when you stop down for depth, you don't lose crispness. \$159.50.

The 300mm f/4 Canon

WEIGHT2 Lbs. 9 Oz.
 LENGTH6¼ In.
 MAXIMUM DIAMETER3¼ In.
 FINISHSatin Black
 DIAPHRAGMManual
 FOCUSINGBellows
 DIAPHRAGM RANGEf/4-22

RESOLUTION TEST

	CENTER	EDGES
f/4	34	28
f/5.6	40	40
f/8	48	40
f/11	56	48
f/16	64	48
f/22	56	48

A 300mm macro?! Well, not exactly. But because this lens was designed to be used on television cameras as well as on Canon SLR's, it is made in a double duty mount: a wide-flange barrel, to mate directly with TV cameras; and a bellows-plus-adapter, for SLR's. The adapter itself has a telescopic barrel arrangement, which can be locked up tight in any number of extended positions. With bellows racked out all the way and adapter fully extended, this lens will focus within inches of your subject! But I won't guarantee optimum performance. At regulation distances, however, it does quite well. \$321.00.

There are a total of 23 breech-lock mount Canon FL lenses designed especially for the Canon FP, FX, FT-QL, Pellix, and Pellix QL cameras. Ranging from 19mm super wide-angle to 1000mm super telephoto, the lenses feature exceptional optical and mechanical quality. Here is a complete listing:

Catalog No.	Description	Suggested List Price	Catalog No.	Description	Suggested List Price
112245	19mm f/3.5R Wide-Angle Lens with Case and Filter Holder	\$279.95	112175	100mm f/3.5 Telephoto Lens with Case and Lens Hood	\$ 99.95
112159	28mm f/3.5 Wide-Angle Lens with Case and Lens Hood	174.40	112188	135mm f/3.5 Telephoto Lens with Case and Lens Hood	109.95
112155	35mm f/2.5 Wide-Angle Lens with Case and Lens Hood	124.95	112185	135mm f/2.5 Telephoto Lens with Case and Lens Hood	144.50
112154	38mm f/2.8 Wide-Angle Lens (for Pellix and Pellix QL only) with Case	94.95	112191	200mm f/4.5 Telephoto Lens with Case (Lens Hood Built-In)	129.95
112169	50mm f/3.5 Macro Lens with Life-Size (1:1) Adapter and Case	169.95	112195	200mm f/3.5 Telephoto Lens with Case (Lens Hood Built-In)	175.50
112102	50mm f/1.8 Normal Lens	76.00	112130	300mm f/4 Telephoto Lens with Case and Intermediate Tube (Hood Built-In)	321.00
112149	50mm f/1.4 Normal Lens	126.00	112140	400mm f/4.5 Telephoto Lens with Case and Intermediate Tube (Hood Built-In)	471.00
112101	58mm f/1.2 Normal Lens	161.00	112160	600mm f/5.6 Telephoto Lens with Case and Intermediate Tube (Hood Built-In)	550.00
112126	55 → 135mm f/3.5 Zoom Lens with Case and Lens Hood	299.50	112180	800mm f/8 Telephoto Lens with Case and Intermediate Tube (Hood Built-In)	650.00
112179	100 → 200mm f/5.6 Zoom Lens with Case (Lens Hood Built-In)	209.95	112190	1000mm f/11 Telephoto Lens with Case and Intermediate Tube (Hood Built-In)	750.00
112200	85 → 300mm f/5 Zoom Lens with Case (Lens Hood Built-In)	578.50			
112165	85mm f/1.8 Telephoto Lens with Case and Lens Hood	149.95			

A complete line of accessories is available for Canon single-lens reflex cameras. For complete information on the complete Canon line of fine photographic equipment, write to the Bell & Howell Customer Relations Department at the address below.

Canon cameras, made in Tokyo, Japan by the Canon Camera Co., are exclusively sold, serviced, and guaranteed throughout the U.S. and Canada by Bell & Howell.

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The article "LENS TESTS NO. 14, The Canon Telephotos" is reprinted through the courtesy of CAMERA 35 magazine, published by U.S. Camera Publishing Corporation, 9 East 40th Street, New York, New York 10016.