

**Wi-Fi**

Allows connection to a smartphone or tablet for easy image sharing and remote control of the camera. Set-up is quick and simple via a barcode displayed on the rear screen.

**Weatherproof construction**

The magnesium-alloy body is designed to be dust, splash and freeze-resistant for use in adverse weather conditions.

**Vari-angle touchscreen**

The 3in screen both swivels and tilts, enabling a range of shooting angles. The focus point can be specified by tapping the screen.

**At a glance**

- 16MP Four Thirds sensor
- Micro Four Thirds lens mount
- 2.36-million-dot electronic viewfinder
- 3in, fully articulated touchscreen
- 40-megapixel composite stills mode
- Full HD movie recording at up to 60fps and 77Mbps
- £899.99 body only, £1,099.99 with 12-50mm f/3.5-6.3 lens, or £1,249.99 with 14-150mm f/4-5.6 II lens.



# Olympus OM-D E-

**Andy Westlake** takes you through Olympus's updated **OM-D E-M5**

THE OM-D E-M5 Mark II is Olympus's update to its highly regarded two-year-old compact system camera. Like its predecessor, its design harks back to classic film SLRs. With a Micro Four Thirds lens mount, it is compatible with a comprehensive range of lenses from Olympus, Panasonic and third-party makers.

A 16-million-pixel Four Thirds sensor gives a standard sensitivity range of ISO 200–25,600, with an extended setting of ISO 100. Continuous shooting is available at 10fps with fixed focus, or 5fps with autofocus. The maximum shutter speed has been increased from 1/4000sec to 1/8000sec and, in a first for Olympus, a fully electronic silent shutter offers speeds from 1/16,000–60secs. The 81-point contrast-detection autofocus system covers almost the entire frame.

The headline-grabbing feature is a new

40-million-pixel composite stills mode. This takes eight images, using the camera's in-body image-stabilisation system to move the sensor by 0.5 pixels between each shot. They're then combined into a single high-resolution image.

This feature has its limitations: to use it, the camera has to be fixed to a tripod; moving subjects could blur between frames; and raw shooters will end up with vast files, which may only ever be recognised by Olympus's own software. Despite this, it's an exciting innovation.

Both the viewfinder and screen gain useful updates compared to the previous model. For eye-level composition, a higher resolution 2.36-million-dot electronic viewfinder gives a view similar in size to a full-frame SLR. Meanwhile the 3in, 1.037-million-dot touchscreen is now fully articulated, rather than tilting in only one direction.

There's no built-in flash, but a small external unit is included in the box. The weatherproof FL-LM3 has a guide number of 9.1m @ ISO 100, a tilt-and-swivel bounce head, and can be used as a controller for wireless flash.

The Mark II's body is about the same size as the original E-M5's, but the control layout now closely resembles that of the E-M1. The twin control dials are much deeper, with the rear one falling directly under your thumb. The various buttons have been enlarged and repositioned, and the mode dial has acquired a toggling lock button.

Video should be much improved, with the option of All-I encoding at 77Mbps for higher-quality footage. A microphone socket is built in, and the touchscreen can be used for changing settings silently. The camera can also output clean video to an external recorder over HDMI.



Olympus makes a range of weatherproofed lenses and accessories for the E-M5 Mark II

### Accessories

The E-M5 Mark II gets a similar two-part accessory grip to the original E-M5, the Power Battery Holder HLD-8. The first section adds a larger handgrip and includes a headphone socket; the second adds a vertical grip and a duplicate set of controls. Alternatively, the all-metal ECG-2 adds a larger handgrip, along with Arca Swiss-compatible tripod plates for both landscape and portrait-format shooting.

On the lens front, the M.Zuiko Digital ED 14-150mm f/4-5.6 II is a weather-sealed version of Olympus's existing superzoom, and will be sold as a kit

with the E-M5 Mark II. Other accessories include an underwater housing and a leather case that will accommodate the 12-40mm f/2.8 lens.

### First Impressions

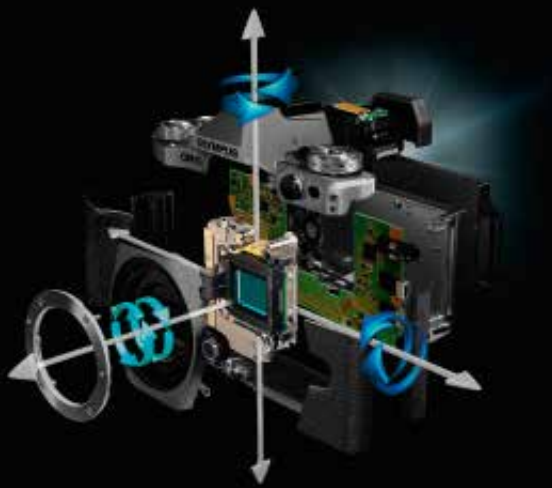
At first glance, the E-M5 Mark II may not look like much of an update over its predecessor, but delve a little deeper and Olympus has clearly been paying attention to user feedback, improving the camera in many ways.

The clever new 40MP composite mode will probably attract the most attention, but as a current E-M5 owner I find it's almost the least important. The fully articulated screen, improved control layout and silent electronic shutter all count as more practical improvements for everyday shooting. Overall, it looks like a very well-considered update.

# M5 Mark II

## Mark II compact system camera

Olympus has updated the five-axis image-stabilisation system of the OM-D E-M5 Mark II, now promising five stops of stabilisation for stills shooting. As always with in-body systems, it works with practically all lenses. Stabilisation has also been improved for movie shooting



## Get up & go

The most interesting things to see, to do and to shoot this week. By Jon Stapley

### LONDON



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### A Life with The Royal Ballet

Talented ballet dancer and photographer Colin Jones's black & white images from the Royal Ballet are a treat, with fleeting snaps of behind-the-scenes camaraderie as well as stark, evocative performance shots. 29 January-1 March, [www.proud.co.uk](http://www.proud.co.uk)

### BRADFORD



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### LONDON



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CONTEST BY ERIC BRANCKENFELT

### Realism in Rawiya

Rawiya, the first all-female photographic collective to emerge from the Middle East, presents an exhibition on gender and identity. The stories they tell from across the Arab world are rich and illuminating.

18 February-16 May, [www.impressions-gallery.com](http://www.impressions-gallery.com), [www.rawiya.net](http://www.rawiya.net)

### We Could Be Heroes

More than 20 photographers, including Roger Mayne and Bruce Davidson, feature in The Photographers' Gallery's love letter to youth culture, rites of passage and the dawn of the term 'teenager' throughout the 20th century.

6 February-12 April, [www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk](http://www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk)

### EVERYWHERE



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### Sony WPO Mobile Phone Awards

The World Photography Organisation has opened up its prestigious awards to smartphone users with a new mobile category, and a Sony Xperia smartphone is on the table as a prize. Get those entries in! Deadline: 27 February, [www.worldphoto.org](http://www.worldphoto.org)

### AOP Student Photography Awards

If you're a student of photography in any capacity (including part-time), why not have a pop at the AOP's Student Photography Awards? An excellent potential springboard for getting your work seen by a wider audience.

20 February-30 April, [www.the-aop.org](http://www.the-aop.org)