

## Buying Cameras Medium-Format Buyers' Guide

Thinking of switching to medium-format? Buying Cameras has the low down on how to move on up.

# HAPPY

**W**e've all asked ourselves the \$64,000 question. Would a shift up to medium-format improve our photography? Arriving at the answer isn't straightforward, because numerous factors and variables have to be taken into account.

For starters, the term medium-format itself is a rather elastic one, encompassing image sizes all the way from 6x4.5cm up to the elongated 6x17cm panoramic ratio. Normally, though, we think of roll-film as being either 6x4.5cm, 6x6cm or 6x7cm. Each format is significantly larger than the teeny 35mm frame — some 3x to 4½ times its size, in fact.

It naturally follows that the larger image area can carry a great deal more information, and bring substantial benefits in terms of picture sharpness, detail and smoother tonal transition. The difference in quality is particularly observed at higher magnifications, as with exhibition prints or projected slides. 120 format transnics also have far more impact than 35mm versions on a lightbox.

So far so good. Some 6x4.5cm and 6x6cm SLRs and rangefinder types are fairly compact physically and can be comfortably hand-held. But few approach the 35mm camera for handling ease, convenience or speed of operation. Most 6x7cm versions are

bulky and best bolted to tripods in the studio.

Conversely, the slower pace of working with a medium-format camera can be a blessing in disguise. As there are only 10 to 15 exposures per roll, every shot counts. Suddenly you find yourself applying far more care and consideration to the various processes of picture-taking. And that can only be a good thing.

Lens choice is good with 120 system cameras, though not as broad as that offered for the major 35mm marques. But numerous accessories make these cameras flexible. Cost rears its ugly head at this point, and there's no hiding from the fact that quality doesn't come cheaply.

Sit down, and use our *Photo Shopper* section towards the rear of this issue to work out what a system might total. Remember to allow for lenses, extra film backs and other accessories, and you may also require a bigger tripod, filters, enlarger and so on.

OK it's decision time. If sport and action pictures are your chosen area you would be better off sticking to the ease and portability of 35mm. Medium-format comes into its own when quality is paramount, and it doesn't matter a jot whether you shoot landscapes, portraits, still-lives or anything else. If you think that a picture is worth a good picture then you're already half-way towards medium-format camera ownership.

### ANATOMY OF A MEDIUM-FORMAT CAMERA — THE 120 SLR

Many medium-format cameras are built on modular principles, so that components can be interchanged to suit different needs. The best systems include a wide range of lenses from fish-eye or super-wide through to long telephoto, and include specialist optics such as macros and shift versions.

Film backs can also be swapped, even in mid-roll if necessary, via an ingenious dark slide mechanism. This enables a variety of emulsions or formats to be used in succession, plus the option of Polaroids for testing. Both focusing screens and entire viewfinders can be

interchanged, depending on the job in hand.

Because roll-film cameras are produced with professionals in mind, they're rugged, of extremely high quality and built to last. Pros toss these cameras in the bottom of bags, or in the boot of the car, and expect them to keep working. Remarkably, they usually do, so reliability and longevity are major pluses. The chances are that your roll-film camera will remain the current model for far longer than with 35mm too, as the pace of change is far less frantic.

● Fold-out manual crank on side of camera body provides single-frame film advance. Faster handling is often available via add-on grips, winders and even motordrives, but as film is much larger don't expect 35mm rates of winding.

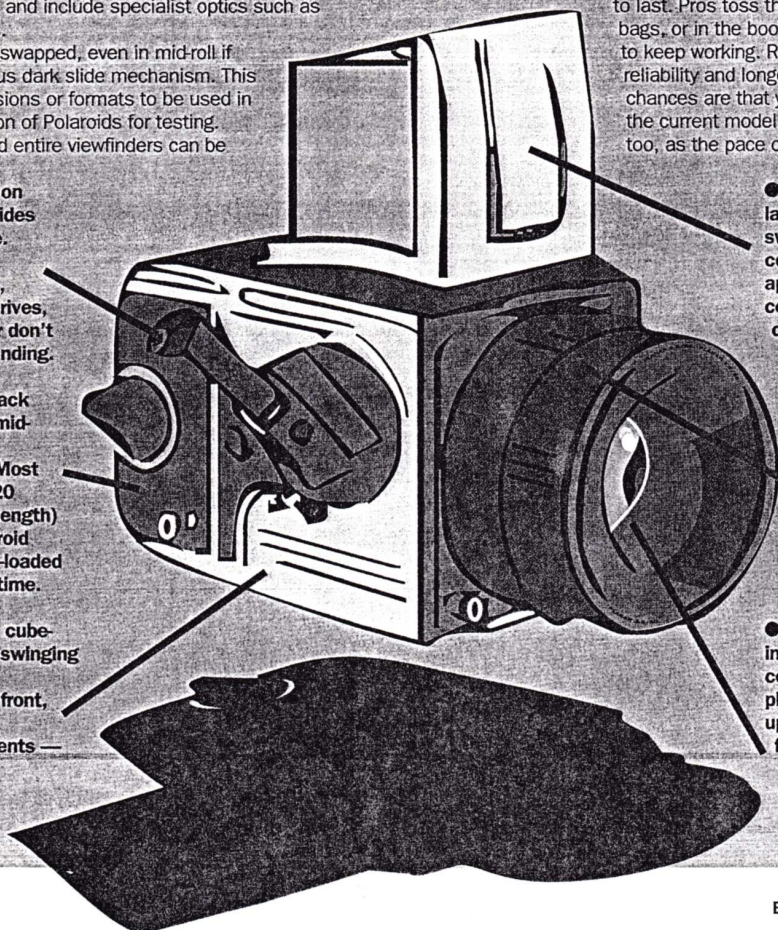
● Interchangeable film back clips on and off to allow mid-roll change to different emulsion or film format. Most SLRs can accept both 120 (normal) or 220 (double length) film backs, plus the Polaroid option. Backs can be pre-loaded to speed up film change time.

● Camera body is simple cube-like structure containing swinging mirror and film advance mechanisms. Orifices on front, back and top accept interchangeable components — lenses, film backs and viewfinders all part of modular system.

● Waist-level viewfinder gives laterally reversed image. Can be swapped for eye-level prisms to cope with differing picture applications. These give corrected image, and some contain metering cells for manual or auto exposures.

● Standard lens for 6x6cm format is 80mm, and other focal lengths are typically 1.6x their 35mm equivalents. This means smaller apertures are needed with roll-film lenses to produce the same depth-of-field as the smaller format.

● Roll-film SLRs feature interchangeable lenses, with comprehensive optical systems plus teleconverters and close-up accessories. Some have a focal-plane shutter just like 35mm, whereas leaf-shutter types provide full flash sync at all speeds, including 1/500sec top setting.





# MEDIUM

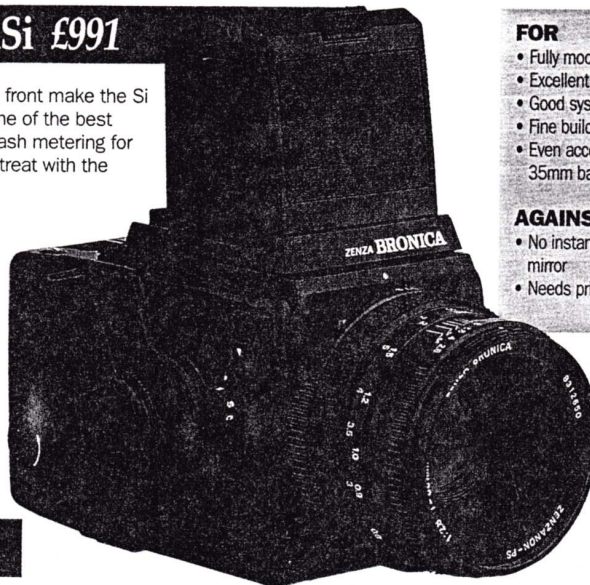
## 6x4.5cm

Smallest format on roll-film gives 15 exposures on 120, so is economical with film. Cameras are reasonably compact, and therefore score well for portability and speed of handling. Fully modular SLRs in both leaf-shutter and focal-plane designs are available. Makes a good first choice for those graduating up from 35mm.

## BRONICA ETRSi £991

IMPROVEMENTS ON THE FLASH front make the Si version of the leaf-shutter ETR one of the best 6x4.5cms around. Boasts TTL flash metering for optimum accuracy, and works a treat with the leaf-shutter lenses. These are considerably more expensive than optics for its focal-plane SLR rivals, however.

A mirror-lock facility improves the specification. The basic camera is good value, but adding a prism and grip transforms the handling speed and makes vertical shots much easier. An extensive range of film backs and other finders also feature in the system.



### FOR

- Fully modular design
- Excellent flash
- Good system
- Fine build quality
- Even accepts a 35mm back

### AGAINST

- No instant return mirror
- Needs prism and grip

## MAMIYA M645 Pro £875

SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED OVER the previous Super model, the Pro feels sturdier and much more of a professional tool. Compact body features a focal-plane shutter speeded 4-1/1,000sec, but a trio of leaf-shutter optics can also be fitted for better flash operation. Conventional lens range is huge, spanning from 24mm fish-eye up to 500mm mirror, with specialist optics and zooms too.

Like the Bronica, the latest Mamiya is a much faster camera with the AE prism and powerdrive attached, though they're expensive. The prism gives average, spot or auto-shift metering options, and has an easy to use compensation dial.



### FOR

- Stronger body
- Instant-return mirror
- Interchangeable backs
- Retains compatibility with earlier 645

### AGAINST

- Quite heavy for a 6x4.5cm
- Slow flash sync

## PENTAX 645 £1,100

WITH ITS LOW-PROFILE PRISM, multi-mode exposure options, push-button controls and LCD panel, this design comes closest to 35mm automation and handling ease. Exposure modes include program, shutter and aperture-priority, full manual and TTL flash. A large permanent handgrip permits the camera to switch smoothly from horizontal to vertical framing.

The focal-plane shutter is speeded 15-1/1,000sec, but a 75mm leaf-shutter optic is also available for higher flash sync. Fine lens system ranges from 35mm up to massive 600mm telephoto, mostly at fair prices. Fully integrated design makes the Pentax easy to use, if not as versatile as some.

### FOR

- Superbly integrated design
- Excellent handling in standard trim
- Smooth, quiet 1.5fps motorwind
- Brilliant viewfinder

### AGAINST

- No interchangeable film backs or prisms
- No spot metering facility





## Buying Cameras Medium-Format Buyers' Guide

# HAPPY MEDIUM

## 6x6cm

CLASSIC ROLL-FILM FORMAT ORIGINALLY made popular by Hasselblad SLRs and Rolleiflex twin-lens reflexes. Now all types of cameras can be found, from the bargain-basement Lubitel 166U TLR at £22, through to rangefinder models such as the Mamiya 6. 6x6cm gives 12 exposures on 120 and represents a good compromise between image quality and camera size, though the format needs cropping to fit a rectangular page.

## SEAGULL 4A-103 £80

IF YOU'RE NOT QUITE ready to sell the 35mm outfit just yet, but still want to try your hand at medium-format, this simple Chinese camera fits the bill perfectly. The twin-lens layout may look old-fashioned, but it still works efficiently, except at close focusing distances. The top lens of the fixed 75mm pair is used for framing and the lower f/3.5 one for actually taking the shot. So unlike an SLR viewing is uninterrupted.

Shutter speeds are 1.1/300sec, set by a clearly marked lever by the

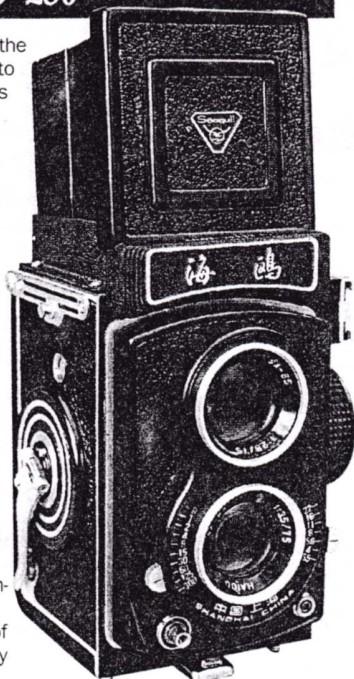
lower lens. There's a generous focusing knob, a fold-out crank and hot-shoe flash connection. Capable of fine quality if used carefully.

### FOR

- Low price
- Simple to operate
- Image doesn't black out
- Flash sync at all speeds
- Bright finder image

### AGAINST

- No metering system
- Can't switch to other lenses



## HASSELBLAD 500 CLASSIC £2,405

ECONOMY (!) VERSION OF SWEDISH LEGEND is based closely on the original leaf-shutter 500C and CM designs, with detail improvements and a far brighter viewfinder image.

Impeccable build quality and optical performance from the Zeiss lens mark the Hasselblad out from the crowd.

Modular construction gives great flexibility, as the accessory system of prisms, film backs, lenses etc is vast. Costs a small fortune, but will last for ever.



### FOR

- Still beautifully made
- Bright viewing image
- Stunning definition

### AGAINST

- Frightening cost
- Handling from another era

## ROLLEIFLEX 6008 £3,607

PROBABLY THE MOST SOPHISTICATED medium-format camera of them all and even at this price, tremendous value for money.

Stylish, carefully built and an ergonomic masterpiece with the adjustable action grip fitted, the Rollei inspires confidence. A true multi-mode camera, you can either point-and-shoot, use wide exposure compensation in auto or use full manual override. Spot or multi-pattern

metering again gives the best of both worlds.

The body houses an integral 2fps motordrive and an ingenious insert system for speedy film change. Leaf-shutter lenses are employed, though the shutter dial speeded 30-1/500sec is on the camera body. There's much more to this magnificent machine too.



### FOR

- Advanced design
- Excellent metering and exposure
- Full LED viewfinder
- Schneider optics

### AGAINST

- Battery dependent
- Quite bulky

## 6x7cm

Often termed the 'ideal' format, as the rectangular proportions fit a page with little or no cropping. Gives 10 exposures per 120 roll, so burns through film rapidly unless 220 backs are available. Larger image area gives superb quality, but also means SLR-type models are heavy and bulky, so these are best suited to studio purposes. Exceptions are the rangefinder Fuji GW670III and the Pentax 6x7 — both great location cameras.

## MAMIYA RZ67 £1,610

A MODERNISED, ELECTRONIC VERSION of the workhorse RB67, with coupled film advance to give speedier handling. Chunky styling forgoes compactness for practicality, and there's little the RZ can't handle in standard trim. Bellows focusing on the body enables very close subjects to be sharply rendered, while the ingenious revolving back mechanism permits rapid switching between landscape and portrait compositions without the need for a prism.

Mamiya have built a fine system to back the RZ, with excellent leaf-shutter lenses, a choice of prisms including an eye-level metering version, film backs for various formats, plus motordrives, grips and so on. Camera and system prices are still reasonable.



### FOR

- Versatile system
- Neat revolving back
- Bellows focusing
- Flash sync up to 1/400sec
- Reasonably affordable

### AGAINST

- Hard to hand-hold
- Fiddly breech-lock lens mount



## 6x8cm and above

BEYOND THE THREE MAIN roll-film sizes described in this review are even bigger formats, ranging from 6x8cm right up to the panoramic 6x17cm! Apart from a pair of rangefinder Fuji models, cameras tend to be very much on the monolithic scale and usually need a sturdy tripod for support. But they produce staggering image quality capable of considerable enlargement. Film use is high though, as 9 shots per roll is the most you can take.

### FUJI GX680 £2,682

VAST LEAF-SHUTTER 6x8cm SLR of extremely modern and practical design. The body features advanced electronics giving manual and auto exposures, a revolving back plus an integral motorwind to speed up handling. The unique bellows lens board permits both tilt and shift, to give ultimate control over perspective and depth-of-field. With architectural shots, converging verticals can also be corrected.

A true system SLR, the big Fuji can interchange film backs, screens and finders, while the leaf-shutter lens range is also impressive. Delivering biting definition, optics from 65mm wide-angle up to 300mm telephoto are available, and reasonably priced. Each is speeded 8-1/400sec for full flash sync.



#### FOR

- Incredibly versatile
- Tilt & shift lens board
- LCD and LED indicators
- Ultra-crisp lenses
- Built-in motordrive

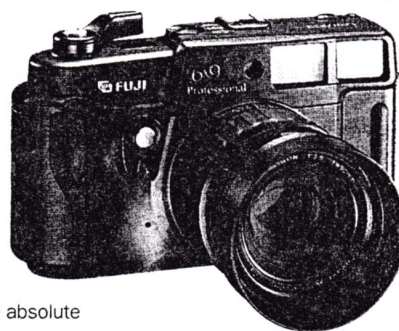
#### AGAINST

- Quite a beast to hand-hold
- Needs an expert to get best out of it

### FUJI GW690III £836

FOR THOSE WHO ADORE big format negatives or transparencies, but can't be bothered trundling a large camera around, this recently upgraded 6x9cm Fuji is a perfect 'travelling light' companion. Though it only gives 8 shots per roll, the fixed 90mm standard lens and rangefinder focusing keep overall weight and bulk to an absolute minimum.

The leaf shutter lens gives sync at all speeds for excellent flash versatility, while film advance is rapid with a large thumb lever wind. If the standard lens doesn't suit you, Fuji also make a similarly specified version wearing a fixed 65mm wide-angle instead, so it's great for landscapes.



#### FOR

- Weight and size
- Quiet in operation

#### AGAINST

- Not very flexible

### FUJI G617 £2,659

TO PRODUCE SCENICS with a difference, take a look at this extraordinary panoramic camera from Fuji. It takes just four elongated 6x17cm shots per roll of 120 film, or 8 on 220. The fixed 105mm lens is caged in a protective structure, and the long body features a viewfinder on the top to frame the image. Film is advanced with a normal lever wind.

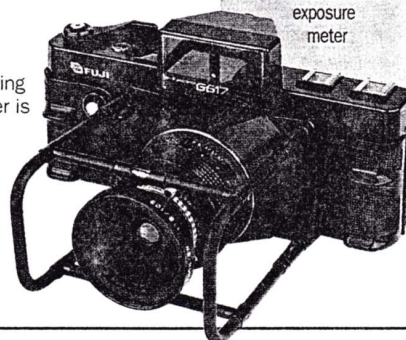
The lens leaf-shutter is speeded 1-1/500sec, but there's no exposure metering built in — a separate meter is required. After each exposure the shutter is cocked by another lever on the lens, just like a 5x4in technical camera. Loading film and setting up takes ages, but the results are worth it.

#### FOR

- Unusual format
- Built-in spirit level
- Takes 120 or 220

#### AGAINST

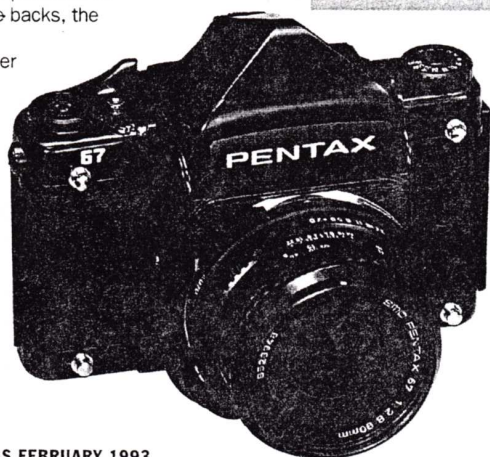
- Needs separate exposure meter



### PENTAX 6x7 £1,400

A UNIQUE CAMERA IN MEDIUM-FORMAT circles, nevertheless 6x7cm, as it is just like a scaled-up 35mm SLR. This means an eye-level prism is fitted as standard, or it can be changed for a metering version. The shutter is of the focal-plane variety, and speeded 1-1/1,000sec. Film advance is by the familiar lever wind for handling convenience.

As there is no provision for interchangeable backs, the Pentax isn't as versatile as other modular designs. But the big format and a superb stable of optics, some with amazingly fast maximum aperture, make this a firm favourite for landscape buffs.



#### FOR

- Handles like a giant 35mm SLR
- Quite compact for a 6x7cm
- Accepts 120 and 220 film

#### AGAINST

- No interchangeable backs

### BRONICA GS-1 1,846

THE LARGEST OF THE THREE Bronica SLRs is an electronic, leaf-shutter design, with an excellent range of lenses and accessories. Unlike the Mamiya RB and RZ rivals, there's no revolving back facility however, so the camera performs best with a handgrip and eye-level prism. Plain and metering versions are available.

Flash sync at the full range of speeds from 16-1/500sec makes the GS-1 handy for studio. A wide range of film backs include smaller formats down to 35mm.



#### FOR

- Modern design
- Wide system accessories

#### AGAINST

- No revolving back
- Optics expensive

## CONTACTS

For more information telephone:

BRONICA (c/o Introphoto): 0628 74411  
FUJI: 071 586 5900  
HASSELBLAD: 081 903 3435  
MAMIYA (c/o Johnsons Photopia): 0782 717100  
PENTAX: 081 864 4422  
ROLLEI (c/o AV Distributors): 071 226 1508  
SEAGULL (c/o MrCad): 081 864 8282



# Medium-Format and Specialist Medium-Format

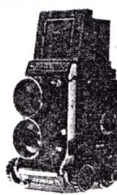


## MEDIUM - FORMAT



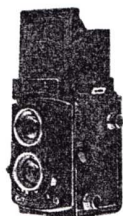
**Lubitel 166U**  
**Price: £22**

Type: TLR  
Format: 6 x 4.5/6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: None  
**BC COMMENT:** Titter ye not – this budget twin-lens reflex works. And takes remarkably good snaps in the process. At the price of just four rolls of film.



**Mamiya C330S**  
**Price: £600**

Type: TLR  
Format: 6x6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Limited range of lenses and accessories.  
**BC COMMENT:** Silent but deadly TLR. A work horse for wedding photographers.



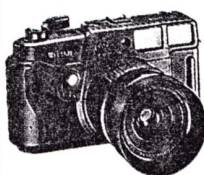
**Seagull 4B**  
**Price: £70**

Type: TLR  
Format: 6 x 4.5/6  
Shutter speeds: 1-1/300 sec  
Flash sync: AS  
System: None  
**BC COMMENT:** Well built and superb value for money makes it an ideal entry into the world of medium-format photography.



**Exakta 66**  
**Price: £713**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6x6  
Flash sync: 1/30sec  
System: Interchangeable lenses but fixed backs.  
**BC COMMENT:** Doesn't have the sparkling looks offered by some of its competitors but handling is good and so is cost.



**Fuji GW690III**  
**Price: £836**

Type: Rangefinder  
Lens: 90mm f/3.5  
Format: 6 x 9cm  
Flash sync: AS  
System: None  
**BC COMMENT:** Its ergonomic design makes handling excellent. Good for the photographer who likes to travel light.



**Mamiya M645 Pro**  
**Price: £900**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 4.5  
Flash sync: 1/60sec  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and large range of lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** An excellent system camera with smooth finish. Handling improved further by adding optional motor drive and prism finder.



**Fuji GSW690III**  
**Price: £970**

Type: Rangefinder  
Lens: 65mm f/5.6  
Format: 6 x 9cm  
Flash sync: AS  
System: None  
**BC COMMENT:** Lightweight fixed lens camera with an ultra wide-angle lens. Ideal for landscape photography.



**Pentax 645**  
**Price: £1300**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 4.5  
Flash sync: 1/60sec  
System: Large range of lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Tidy model with easy to use built-in automation. If you own a 35mm auto SLR and fancy a medium-format you'll find this a doddle to use.



**Mamiya 6**  
**Price: £1380**

Type: RF  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: A small range of interchangeable lenses and accessories.  
**BC COMMENT:** Ideal for landscape photographers. Small and light three lens system.



**Rolleiflex 2.8GX**  
**Price: £1469**

Type: TLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Interchangeable finders and screens.  
**BC COMMENT:** A rather expensive TLR that offers super duper quality. But lacks interchangeable lens facility.



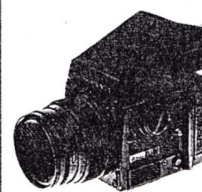
**Bronica SQ-Ai**  
**Price: £1660**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Stiff competition for Hasselblad. Excellent lens with spot-on electronic shutter.



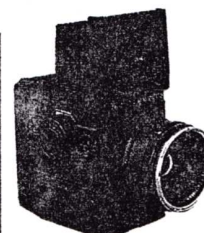
**Mamiya RB67 Pro SD**  
**Price: £1700**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 7  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders, lenses and accessories.  
**BC COMMENT:** On the heavy side but ideal studio camera. Neat revolving back reduces need for a prism finder.



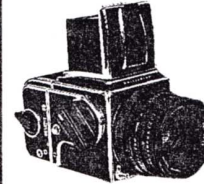
**Bronica GS-1**  
**Price: £1740**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 7  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders lenses and accessories.  
**BC COMMENT:** Excellent system with a relatively light body. Wonder if there'll be a GS-1?



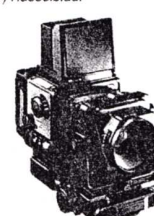
**Rolleiflex 6006 Profi Combi set**  
**Price: £2344**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and a large range of lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Quality at a price. Sold in set with ni-cad pack.



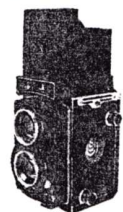
**Hasselblad 500 Classic**  
**Price: £2406**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Impeccable performance from this budget (?) Hasselblad.



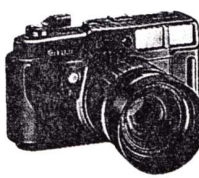
**Fuji GX 680**  
**Price: £2682**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6x8  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Interchangeable finders, backs and lenses  
**BC COMMENT:** Heavy beast but extremely versatile. The lens board allows tilt and shift so verticals can be corrected and perspective controlled.



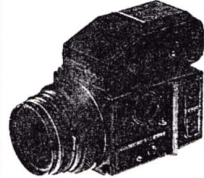
**Seagull 4A**  
**Price: £85**

Type: TLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Shutter speeds: 1-1/300 sec  
Flash sync: AS  
System: None  
**BC COMMENT:** Similar to the 4B but with a slightly better focusing knob, a hotshoe flash connection and faster lens.



**Fuji GW670III**  
**Price: £836**

Type: Rangefinder  
Lens: 65mm f/5.6  
Format: 6 x 7cm  
Flash sync: AS  
System: None  
**BC COMMENT:** Smaller sister to the GW690, gives 10 shots on 120 film. Lightweight and portable.



**Bronica ETRSi**  
**Price: £991**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 4.5  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders, lenses and accessories.  
**BC COMMENT:** Furnished with TTL flash metering and backed up by a large range of accessories.



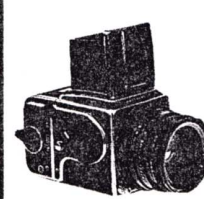
**Pentax 67**  
**Price: £1600**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 7  
Flash sync: 1/30sec  
System: Large range of lenses and interchangeable finders.  
**BC COMMENT:** 35mm shaped camera with rather loud shutter. Superb for landscape photography. Japanese quality at its best.



**Mamiya RZ67**  
**Price: £2000**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 7  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders lenses and accessories.  
**BC COMMENT:** Electronic version of the RB67, with extra swish features such as coupled film advance.

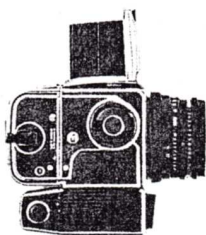


**Hasselblad 503CX**  
**Price: £2825**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and a large range of lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Superb bright focusing screen and TTL flash exposure plus Planar lens quality.



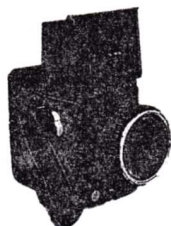
# General and Specialist Medium-Format and SLR



## Hasselblad 553ELX

**Price: £3524**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Rolex, Rolls Royce, need we say more? We think not.



## Rolleiflex 6008

**Price: £3607**

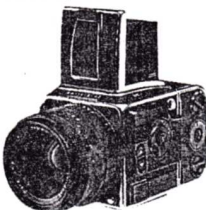
Type: SLR  
Format: 6 x 6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and a large range of lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Auto film advance and an amazingly sharp lens.



## Hasselblad 903SWC

**Price: £4031**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6x6  
Flash sync: AS  
System: Film backs and interchangeable finders.  
**BC COMMENT:** Comes with fixed 38mm Biogon wide-angle lens, superb for interiors and landscape photography. Takes A12 and polaroid backs.



## Hasselblad 205TCC

**Price: £6616**

Type: SLR  
Format: 6x6  
Flash sync: 1/90sec / AS  
System: Film backs, interchangeable finders and lenses.  
**BC COMMENT:** Stunning body with zone system metering. Pity you'll have to sell the car.



## Polaroid Supercolor 635CL

**Price: £30**

Lens: 113mm f/14.6  
Flash: built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: 1/15-1/245  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Extremely low cost instant picture camera with a built-in close-up lens.



## Polaroid Impulse Portrait

**Price: £43**

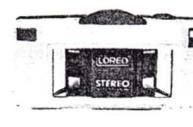
Lens: 113mm f/10  
Flash: built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: 1/15-1/245  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** No birthday party is complete without an instant camera like this one.



## Polaroid Impulse AF

**Price: £65**

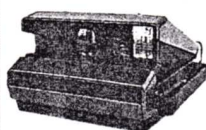
Lens: 125mm f/10  
Flash: built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: 1/15-1/245  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Instant picture camera, breaks the ice at parties. Just watch your friends' faces as the picture appears.



## Loreo Stereo

**Price: £71**

Lens: 28mm f/22  
Flash: Built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: 1/90 sec  
Metering: N/A  
**BC COMMENT:** Special optical system makes stereo images on standard 35mm film. Camera is supplied with a viewer to see the three dimensional results.



## Polaroid Image

**Price: £100**

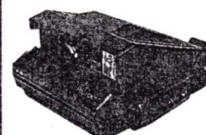
Lens: 125mm f/10  
Flash: Built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: 2-1/245sec  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Sophisticated instant camera. Folds flat for portability. Range of accessories available for more versatility.



## Polaroid Vision

**Price: £100**

Lens: 107mm f/12  
Flash: Built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: 40-1/180  
Metering: C/W  
Type: Instant film camera with special film chamber.  
**BC COMMENT:** SLR design offering quality instant results.



## Polaroid Image Pro

**Price: £160**

Lens: 125mm f/10  
Flash: Built-in  
Motorwind: Yes  
Shutter speeds: 1/15-1/245  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Fun to use, high quality instant camera. Ideal for parties special occasions and fun times. Capture those magical moments instantly.



## Minox 35 GT-E

**Price: £200**

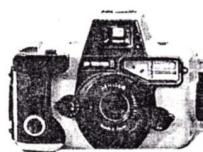
Lens: 35mm f/2.8  
Flash: opt  
Motorwind: No  
Shutter speeds: 8-1/500sec  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Minute, Miniature, Minox. Aperture priority ultra compact with a razor sharp lens.



## Minox 35ML

**Price: £240**

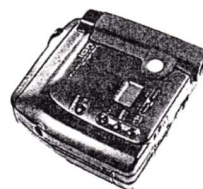
Lens: 35mm f/2.8  
Flash: included  
Motorwind: No  
Shutter speeds: 4-1/500 sec  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Rather fiddly to use, but brilliant lens quality makes up for this relatively minor problem.



## Sea & Sea Motormarine II

**Price: £300**

Lens: 35mm f/3.5  
Flash: Built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: 1/125 sec  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Rugged waterproof camera capable of going 45 meters underwater.



## Canon ION RC-260

**Price: £511**

Lens: 9mm f/2.4  
Flash: Built-in  
Motorwind: yes  
Shutter speeds: N/A  
Metering: N/A  
**BC COMMENT:** Still video. Take 50 pictures on a disc, plug it into your TV for instant results. Could this be the future?



## Nikonos V

**Price: £596**

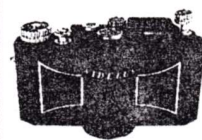
Lens: 35mm f/2.5  
Flash: Sync 1/90  
Motorwind: No  
Shutter speeds: 1/30-1/1000 sec + B  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Solid waterproof camera, a must for mermaids and Jacques Cousteau fans. Can go to 50m underwater.



## Horizon 202

**Price: £644**

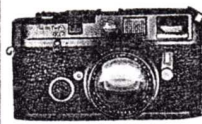
Lens: 28mm f/2.8  
Flash: opt  
Motorwind: No  
Shutter speeds: 1/2-1/250  
Metering: No  
**BC COMMENT:** A new entry into the panoramic world. Uses 35mm film and 22 shots can be taken on a 36 exposure film.



## Widelux

**Price: £1100**

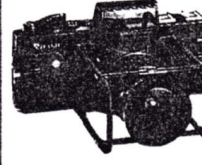
Lens: 26mm f/2.8  
Flash: No  
Motorwind: No  
Shutter speeds: 1/15, 1/125, 1/250  
Metering: N/A  
**BC COMMENT:** Quite a gimmick but fashionable at the moment. We're talking panoramas.



## Leica M6

**Price: £2454**

Lens: 50mm f/2  
Flash sync: 1/50sec  
Motorwind: No  
Shutter speeds: 1-1/1000sec + B  
Metering: C/W  
**BC COMMENT:** Amazing quality at a price. Interchangeable lenses in a small and tidy body.



## Fuji Panorama G617

**Price: £2659**

Lens: 105mm f/8  
Flash: AS  
Motorwind: No  
Shutter speeds: 1-1/500sec + B  
Metering: None  
**BC COMMENT:** A massive 6 x 17cm panoramic negative is produced from this whopper.

## BUYING CAMERAS

### PRICES AT A GLANCE

MEDIUM-FORMAT:	
Lubitel 166U	£22
Seagull 48	£60
Seagull 4A	£85
Mamiya C330S	£564
Exakta 66	£713
Fuji GSW 690 III	£836
Fuji GW 690 III	£836
Mamiya M645 Pro	£900
Fuji GW 670 III	£970
Bronica ETRSI	£991
Pentax 645	£1300
Mamiya 6	£1380
Rolleiflex 2.8GX	£1469
Pentax 67	£1600
Bronica SQ-AI	£1660
Mamiya RB67	£1700
Bronica GS-1	£1740
Mamiya RZ67	£2000
Rolleiflex 6006	£2344
Hasselblad 500Class	£2406
Fuji GX 680	£2682
Hasselblad 503CX	£2825
Hasselblad 553ELX	£3524
Rolleiflex 6008	£3607
Hasselblad 903SWC	£4031
Hasselblad 205TCC	£6616
SPECIALIST:	
Polaroid 635CL	£30
Polaroid Portrait	£43
Polaroid Impulse AF	£65
Loreo Stereo	£71
Polaroid Image	£100
Polaroid Vision	£100
Polaroid Image Pro	£160
Minox 35GT-E	£200
Minox 35ML	£240
Motormarine II	£300
Canon ION RC-260	£511
Nikonos V	£596
Horizon 202	£644
Widelux	£1100
Leica M6	£2454
Fuji Panorama G617	£2659

### KEY TO MED-FORMAT

#### GUIDE PRICE:

The figures quoted are for the camera body, standard lens, film back and basic finder.

#### TYPE:

SLR: single-lens reflex. TLR: twin-lens reflex. RF: rangefinder.

#### FORMAT:

quoted figures are for the largest possible format size available.

#### FLASH SYNC:

AS: flash sync at all shutter speeds.

#### SYSTEM:

film backs: interchangeable film backs are available allowing you to change film type and format whenever necessary. Finders: different types of finders can be fitted to aid viewing. The most common is a prism finder, this allows the image on the screen to be viewed upright at all times.

#### LENSES:

all but a few cameras accept interchangeable lenses. Some of the ranges are extensive, others are smaller - check out the medium format lens pages.