

# A New Frame Of Mind

## Digital Picture Frames Provide A New Way To Display Photos

The lines between computers, electronics, and even home furnishings grow ever fainter as more of the items we use in our everyday lives are based on digital technology. Today, even picture frames come in digital varieties. A digital frame consists of an LCD, similar to the one on your LCD monitor or notebook screen; a port or slot for

connecting to a device that stores your digital photos; and a set of controls. In addition, many digital frames also feature wooden finish for a classic appearance, and some digital frames also come with a remote control for changing the image displayed on the frame. As you'll see, there are a variety of digital frames available today, with one to suit almost any taste.

### CEIVA 8-inch Digital Photo Frame

\$199.99; [www.ceiva.com](http://www.ceiva.com)

#### Pros:

This digital picture frame from CEIVA includes two faceplates—you can choose between black metal and wood. The CEIVA 8-inch Digital Photo Frame also provides several connectivity options. You can load images directly from a flash memory card, connect a USB card reader, or access images from a networked PC over a broadband or wireless connection (wireless connectivity requires an optional adapter). Finally, if the digital frame is connected to the Internet, you can order prints of your photos directly from the frame.



#### Cons:

Some of the other frames discussed here have a higher resolution than this frame, but the image is still clear and bright. Also, if your home or office décor has a classic look, this modern-looking frame may not fit in well.

### Coby DP-102

\$189.99; [www.cobyusa.com](http://www.cobyusa.com)

#### Pros:

Coby's DP-102 digital frame features an impressive 10-inch widescreen LCD. Similar to the CEIVA frame, the DP-102 comes with a pair of interchangeable faceplates, one white and one black. It is wall-mountable and comes with a remote control, which you can use to choose photos to display and to select MP3 or WMA (Windows Media Audio) files to play through the frame's built-in speakers. The DP-102 has memory card slots for reading images directly from flash memory cards, and it also has a USB port for connecting a card reader.



#### Cons:

The display resolution for this frame is about the same as that of the CEIVA frame, and it's another frame that would be more at home with a modern décor than with more traditional furnishings.

## Digital Foci Image Moments

\$229; [www.digitalfoci.com](http://www.digitalfoci.com)



### Pros:

The Digital Foci Image Moments frame has a more classic look than the CEIVA or Coby frames. Its 8-inch LCD can display still images and videos. It has built-in memory card slots and can play music through its built-in speakers. You can manage the photos on your memory card through the frame's menus, which let you copy, delete, and rename photos without touching a PC. The frame is wall-mountable and has an automatic on/off timer you can set.

### Cons:

Although this frame can access photos stored on miniSD (mini SecureDigital), MS Duo (Memory Stick Duo), and xD (eXtreme Digital) cards, you'll need an adapter. However, the frame supports most other formats natively.

## Fidelity Electronics DPF-5600F

\$199.99; [www.fidelityelectronics.com](http://www.fidelityelectronics.com)



### Pros:

Fidelity Electronics' DPF-5600F digital frame has a 5.6-inch LCD and several built-in memory card slots. This frame's unique feature is that it has a TV/Video output for viewing your photos on a television. It also supports most AVI movie files. The frame has a resolution of 960 pixels by 234 pixels, which is impressive, considering the small size of the frame.

### Cons:

Although the LCD has a high resolution, the clarity of images isn't as good as that of some of the frames with lower resolutions. This frame would also be much more useful if it included a remote control to make it easier to maneuver within the frame's menus. The buttons are on the back of the frame and not uniquely shaped, so it's hard to tell which button you're pressing without flipping the frame around.

## Kodak EasyShare EX1011 Digital Picture Frame

\$279.95; [www.kodak.com](http://www.kodak.com)

### Pros:

The Kodak EasyShare EX1011 Digital Picture Frame has a large, 10-inch LCD, but the frame's real selling point is its wireless connectivity. When connected to the Internet, the frame lets you display photos from a networked PC or from Kodak's on-line EasyShare Gallery. You can also print images directly from the frame to a networked printer without using a PC. The EasyShare EX1011 has built-in memory card slots and speakers and comes with a remote control.

### Cons:

Kodak plans to offer optional interchangeable faceplates, but they weren't available as of press time.



We felt that the Kodak EasyShare EX1011 Digital

Picture Frame was the best value, because it provides several ways to access your photos. With its built-in wireless connectivity, you need fewer cables that could otherwise make the frame look unsightly on a desktop or wall. When Kodak releases the optional faceplates, this will add even greater value to this frame by letting you customize it to match its surroundings.