

# McGill Commercial House

111 North Bridge Road, #27-01/02 Peninsula Plaza,  
S(179098), Republic of Singapore.  
Tel: +65-6389-1734 Fax: +65-6389-3988  
www.mcgill.com.sg

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## Detailed Technical Information for

## **MCGILL-RAYNOX CM-2000A 3-in-1 MacroExplorer Set**

(This Update: 16 Dec 2009)

This MacroExplorer 3-in-1 Lens Combo Set is designed to be used with any DSLR lens in the range of 50mm to 300mm focal length. Lenses having filter diameters of more than 67mm require step-down rings. The ultimate combination for DSLR cameras is the Sigma 18 - 200 mm lens with the DCR-150(+4.8-Diopter) close-up lens. You'll never have to change lenses, so no dust can get in and you can photograph things from pin-head sized flowers to elephants!

Depending on DSLR lens specifications, this MacroExplorer set can yield ratios from 1:4 in the macro range to 4:1 in the micro range, including the very popular macro ratio of 1:1 (ie. life size on 35mm film format). There will be no degradation to optical performance of the main lens nor is there a need to vary the f-stop. Hence this macro lens set is designed as a BETTER alternative to extension tubes which affects f-stops, resulting in darker images due to loss of ambient light.

The trade-off for using this unique type of macro apochromatic converter lenses (not in the same category as inferior close-up filters which are only 1-piece glass elements) is the reduction in normal focusing distance if used with DSLR lenses. A higher magnification would result in a shorter focusing distance, eg. DCR-150 has an optimum focusing distance of around 20cm while that of the DCR-250 is about 12cm. If both lenses are stacked, focusing distance would be further reduced to around 5cm. However this is not an issue with prosumer or compact digital cameras.

Although the CM-2000A is versatile with many DSLR lenses, vignetting (edge darkening) might occur if lenses have:

1. shorter focal lengths of less than 50mm
2. very small apertures
3. very close focusing lenses
4. certain lens design specifications which are not compatible, such as the 18-200mm Nikkor f/3.5-5.6G ED DX VR.

DSLR lenses which are compatible with the McGill-Raynox CM-2000A:

### **Nikon:**

16-85mm (slight vignetting at 85mm), 35mm f/1.8G, AFD 50mm, 60mm, 85mm prime lens, 18-55mm (no vignetting after 27mm), 18-70mm (vignetting throughout zoom, not very obvious at 70mm), 18-105mm VR (vignetting throughout zoom, slight vignetting at 105mm), AF-S 18-135mm (slight vignetting at maximum zoom), 55-200mm VR, 70-200mm VR (no vignetting after 160mm), 105mm, 200mm & other macro lenses, 70-300mm, 75-300mm, AF-S Nikkor 24-70mm f/2.8G ED (no vignetting after 60mm but requires a stepdown ring), AF 70-210mm. Some lenses with filter size of 72mm or 77mm are not compatible, such as the 18-200mm VR.

**Canon:**

18-55mm, 28-105mm, 55-250mm zoom lenses, 50mm Prime, macro lenses, 70-200mm f/4, certain lenses of >100mm;

**Olympus (Four Thirds Lenses):**

Zuiko 70-300mm 1:4-5.6 ED, Zuiko 50mm Macro, Zuiko 18-180mm 1:3.5-6.3 (no vignetting after 60mm), Zuiko 14-42mm (vignetting throughout, not suitable for macro beginners); Zuiko 35mm 1:3.5 Macro, Zuiko 40-150mm Kit Lens (vignetting throughout), Zuiko 55-200mm (vignetting throughout);

**Panasonic:**

Lumix G1 14-45mm (no vignetting after 22mm), 45-200mm; GH1 14-140mm (no vignetting after 110mm)

**Sony:**

18-70mm 1:3.5-5.6 (no vignetting after 28mm) and other kit lenses;

**Pentax:**

Most kit lenses;

**Sigma:**

18-200mm f/3.5-6.3 (slight vignetting throughout), 70-300mm f/4-5.6 APO DG MACRO, 150mm f/2.8 EX DG HSM Macro Lens;

**Tamron:**

SP90mm, 18-200mm, 28-75mm (slight vignetting at 75mm), 70-300mm. 17-50mm f/2.8 is not compatible due to excessive vignetting.

(NOTE: Users of DSLR lenses with more than 67mm diameter threads, such as the Nikon VR18-200mm, may consider the DCR-5320PRO 3-in-1 Macro Lens Set instead due to possible excessive vignetting. However this combination needs to be tripod-mounted due to excessive weight!)

Range of lenses suitable for use with the CM-2000A can be determined on the following page. Remember to extrapolate the lens focal length by multiplying with the relevant crop factor if your DSLR camera is not using a full-frame sensor!

The CM-2000A has also been extremely popular with users of normal digital cameras. Some common digital cameras which can be attached directly to the CM-2000A using the supplied 52-67mm universal snap mount:

Panasonic Lumix FZ50/FZ30

Leica V-Lux 1

Fujifilm S9000 Series, S6000fd, S5200, S5000 & S304

Fujifilm S5000 and S304 (direct to 43mm thread)

**Email** us your camera model to see if there's a need to get an optional lens adapter to connect to it

Written by:

McGill Commercial House

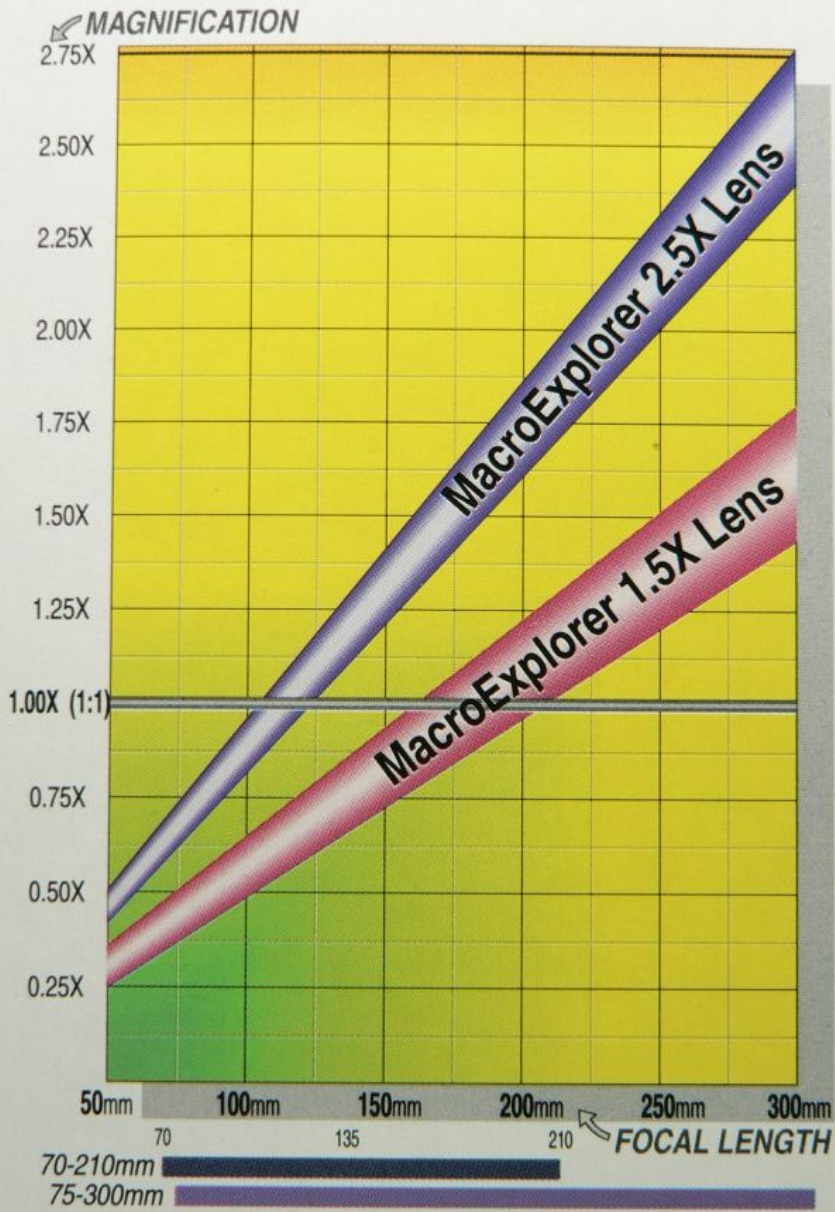
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**raynox**

# MACROEXPLORER RANGE OF MAGNIFICATION



**Addendum:**

What are the differences of the models below:

1. Raynox DCR-250 Super Macro Lens
2. Raynox MSN-202 Super Macro Lens
3. McGill-Raynox CM-2000A MacroExplorer 3-in-1 Set

DCR-250 appeals most to a client who wants to take superb macro pictures with minimal investment, as it is the most affordable of the 3 lenses mentioned. With a diopter value of +8.0, this macro converter lens easily magnifies any object to a magnification level beyond the original capability of his compact digital camera or DSLR camera lens. It is best used with digital cameras of more than 10x optical zoom and with DSLR lenses having more than 50mm in focal length. There should be no need to use a tripod if the hands are relatively steady when using this lens.

The McGill-Raynox CM-2000A is a custom-made MacroExplorer set containing both the DCR-150 (+4 diopter) and DCR-250 (+8.0 diopter) lenses. The lenses can be used on its own or combined. When used together with the supplied adapter ring, DCR-150 and DCR-250 can be combined or "stacked" so as to achieve an even higher level of magnification. The combined diopter value is +12.8. This set certainly appeals to clients who desire to shoot a wide variety of objects, ranging from small bugs to palm-sized flowers. In fact, the CM-2000A is the most popular model preferred by DLSR camera users, since most of them have 2 or more lenses, thus making it possible to employ different combinations of magnification to suit their needs. It is truly a great and versatile investment which can last for ages with proper care.

The DCR Series were originally designed for 35mm SLR camera lenses a few decades ago, in an attempt to replace extension tubes, which were and are still cumbersome to use and seriously impair good ambient lighting. These lenses have front threads to connect to other accessories supplied by McGill, such as the MCLS-1 Macro Constant Ring Light.

The MSN-202 is a super macro converter lens which has a diopter value of +25. Thus it is 3x more powerful than the DCR-250! As with all aspects of macrophotography, the depth of view is extremely shallow even when used with a 50mm DSLR lens due to such a high magnification. This lens is most suitable for use with digital cameras with less than 5x optical zoom, such as the highly popular Panasonic Lumix LX-3 camera or Canon Powershot A Series. In some cases, the main camera may have to be tripod-mounted so as to produce pictures of high clarity. This lens does not come with any front thread and hence, does not allow attachment of other accessories. The lens size is also smaller than the DCR-250 series.