

Bitesized Review

By
John Hallett Photography



Bitesized Review: Rainsleeve

I recently decided to treat my Sigma 'Bigma' 50-500mm lens to new coat for the winter. Why? Well, at a recent motorsport photoshoot I realised that even a minor rain shower would effectively curtail my photography because I had no way of protecting that lens from the elements due to its length.

I did an internet search but was surprised that there was a distinct lack of choice. Most seemed to be glorified plastic bags - they probably do the job but didn't seem to be very sturdy.

Eventually however I found this 'Rainsleeve' at Wildlifephotographyshop.com. At £27 (Sept 2016) it was significantly dearer than the 'plastic bags' but seemed sturdier.



The front has elastic which grips around the lens hood.



The rear has a draw-cord which can be altered to give easy access to the camera or even closed altogether in a storm.



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The lower part of the cover has Velcro to allow easy fitment to the camera but also to allow a tripod collar to fit.



There are different sizes available depending on the length of your lens. This is 'medium' and, at 56cm, comfortably fits the Bigma even at maximum zoom.



When removed it easily folds into a small package that can easily be stored in a camera or lens bag.



Of course, by putting a sleeve around the camera and lens it does make it trickier to adjust focus, zoom and to access some of the smaller camera buttons, particularly those at the front. But it means that you can continue shooting when it starts to rain then that is a price worth paying.

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Pro's

- Sturdy material
- Easy to fit
- Easy to store
- Covers the camera and lens very well

Con's

- More expensive than alternatives
- Makes zooming and manual focus more tricky
- Hinders access to some camera buttons

Similar products from other manufacturers may be available.

If you found this review useful please let me know by leaving a comment on my Facebook page (or just 'Like' it) at <https://www.facebook.com/johnhallettphotographs/> . Thanks