

Bitesized Review

By
John Hallett Photography



Bitesized Review: Lastolite Ezybox Speed-Lite

The Lastolite Ezybox Speed-Lite is a mini softbox that attaches to the front of a flash gun and diffuses the light - ideal when you are close to the subject because it vastly reduces harsh shadows.

The Ezybox comes in a protective, zipped, triangular pouch with two loops, the larger of which can be used as a carrying handle or it can be used to attached it to your camera bag or even looped onto your belt.



Note: Speedlite or Speed-Lite are trade names for Canon & Nikon flash guns and are irrelevant since the Ezybox fits many other brands of flash gun.

Inside is the box assembly itself, folded flat, and two diffusers.



The box assembly just needs manipulating into shape.

The smaller, inner, diffuser then fits inside using some Velco tags at each corner.



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The bigger, outer, diffuser then fits to the front of the box with Velcro which is along each edge.

Once assembled the Ezybox feels surprisingly sturdy.



At the rear of the Ezybox is a elastic aperture which is slid over the head of the flash gun.

A further double set of Velcro strips then secures it.



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Because the Ezybox is so light you can hardly feel that it is attached, but be warned: it does look a bit strange on top of the camera and I wouldn't suggest walking around the streets with it attached.



You then use your camera and flash gun in the usual way. Each diffuser reduces the exposure by about 1 stop, which you will need to compensate for if you are shooting in manual. However, in p-TTL mode the flash gun will take this into account.



It can be used with the flash both on, and off, the camera and either diffuser can be removed if you want a little more 'punch' to the shot.



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As a quick test, here is a shot of an ornament on our mantelpiece. With the flash gun on its own, harsh, dark shadows have been produced on the wall behind and there is a lot of heavy contrast.



Here is the same ornament, taken with exactly the same settings, but this time with the Ezybox attached. There are no dark shadows and the colours are much more evenly distributed. A much more appealing image.



The Lastolite Ezybox Speed-Lite costs about £45 (Sept 2016) and is an affordable option if you need diffused lighting without the expense, and hassle, of a full lighting kit.

Pro's

- Light
- Well made
- Sturdy
- Effective

Con's

- Looks a bit odd on-camera

Similar products from other manufacturers are also available.

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