It should be noted that each camera’s manufacturer and even different cameras from the same manufacturer may have different ways to do the following. It is beyond the scope of this article to go through the precise steps necessary to set up a particular camera. Also of note, references are made in this document to Microsoft Windows and generally about phone cameras. If you have an apple device – you will need to research steps to do these things. Steps presented in this document are listed in alphabetical order and not in any type of order of preference.

1. Bluetooth
   1. Pretty much the same technology as using WiFi.
   2. Both devices need to have Bluetooth capability and you’ll need to turn them on in both places.
   3. Be sure to “pair” both devices.
   4. Once set up, you can pick and choose which pictures to send to your computer.
   5. One advantage to Bluetooth is that any two devices with Bluetooth capability can be used, as long as you “pair” them both so they see and talk to each other.
2. Cloud
   1. Some cameras allow pictures to be sent to the cloud. You need an account with a service, such as Google, Facebook, Instagram or a dedicated cloud service such as Backblaze to do this.
   2. You may need to turn on one or more features for this to work, like backup or sync.
3. Email
   1. Some cameras allow pictures to be sent to an email address. Phone cameras have this function available.
   2. Follow the steps for your phone to send an email. This includes whatever email client you’re using and whether you’re sending to a contact or to someone else.
4. Memory Card
   1. There are two ways to read a memory card into your computer. Some computers have a port for you to insert the memory card directly into the computer. The other way is to use a memory card reader, which should have a USB connector to plug into your computer.
   2. Once the memory card is available to be read by the computer, follow steps 1 a v-viii above.
5. USB Cable
   1. Connect the camera and computer via the cable that came with the camera.
      1. This is the most direct way to transfer photos from your camera to your computer.
      2. Turn off your camera.
      3. Connect the cable to your camera, then to your computer.
      4. Turn on your camera, if plugging the cable into the computer doesn’t already turn on the camera.
      5. View the camera’s DCIM folder on your computer, which can be found in Windows Explorer.
      6. Select the photos you want to transfer.
      7. Create a folder on your computer where you want to copy your photos. NOTE: Name the folder appropriately for the pictures you’re transferring. If it’s a trip to Seattle, Washington (for example) then name it something like “Seattle, WA Pictures – 2021”.
      8. Copy or move the photos to your computer. NOTE: A suggestion is to copy the pictures and not move them. Should there be some type of failure in the process because of the camera, computer, or connection – you don’t risk losing pictures should you move them instead of copy them. Once you’re assured the photos are on your computer, you can delete them from your camera’s memory card.
   2. NOTE: This process should work the same for transferring between your phone camera and computer.
6. WiFi
   1. Some cameras allow pictures to be uploaded using a WiFi feature between your camera and computer. You will have to set up those settings on each device for them to work.
   2. Some cameras then only allow this type of transfer if you’re using a WiFi enabled SD card. Check your camera’s manual to determine if that is so with your camera.