

Tools of the Trade

Ghost Hunting on the Cheap

Kevin Clayton, Limbo Paranormal

One aspect of paranormal investigations that almost EVERYONE in the field can agree upon is the cost. This field is very expensive to be in. Be it pay sites like Ashmore Estates or Waverly Hills, gas for the road trips, food for your late night energy, or the fancy must have equipment, researching spirits can take a toll on the bank accounts. Accordingly, we all try to find ways to save money where possible. Listed below are a few ideas to help save money for everyone in the equipment areas at least.

Compass – one of the prevailing theories in the paranormal field is that spirits are made up of or can manipulate the electromagnetic spectrum in some fashion. Using this theory all sorts of EMF detectors are marketed to paranormal teams. If this theory holds any validity, then a simple compass can be used with a similar result. Many teams have reported using a compass during an investigation and it spin around rapidly with no simple explanation.

Camera- whether digital or film, a basic camera is an excellent tool for paranormal investigators and is something that doesn't need to be super expensive. While yes, having that 20 megapixel Full Spectrum camera with the full spectrum flood light would be nice, no evidence exists that says Full Spectrum cameras or IR cameras are better at picking up the image of a spirit. A regular digital camera or a film camera using a high speed film (ASA/ISO 400 or greater) is perfectly acceptable.

Digital recorder – this is the one piece of equipment you SHOULD spend the money on. The better the digital recorder the better. You want one with a very sensitive microphone. The more sensitive the better. Since no one knows at what frequency or sound level is best for capturing EVP's, the more sensitive the mic the better. A popular brand is the ZOOM recorder. In addition to a sensitive mic, you want a recorder that either has a separate memory stick, or a USB port. These make getting the data off the recorders MUCH easier.

Different teams may have various opinions on the bare essentials for an investigation. What was listed here is the bare, bare minimums. But almost any respectable team will agree on one thing. LEARN YOUR EQUIPMENT! One of the biggest mistakes a team can make is to not learn how their equipment works or the equipment's limitations.

