Disassembly of the Camera

The functional components of the camera include the lenses, the flash, the circuit board, the shutter, the shell, the film, and the battery. Each of the components is arranged inside and around the camera making up the entire body structure of the camera.

The materials used for parts include different types of metal and plastic. They use polystyrene plastic because it is low cost and durable. Polystyrene is also used in other household materials like audio cassettes and office products. The metal used in the camera is predominantly copper. This helps the camera features engage in an electrical relationship. In order to disassemble the camera, you first peel off the plastic covering and open the camera where there is a split. After the camera is in two pieces you take out the batteries and the film. Then you can take out the circuit board from the shell along with all of the other smaller components. Be sure to discharge the flash before touching any part of the circuit board. To put it back together just follow those steps in reverse.

The new film is placed around a spool and runs to the opposite side of the camera where the used film container is located. As the film is used, it passes from the spool to the container. The battery provides the power to the circuit board and capacitor where energy is stored. Upon the discharge of the flash, the power flows from the capacitor to the flash where it is released as light from the flash tube. The button on the outside of the camera is connected to a spring, which controls the shutter.

Most of the plastics are reused in the camera. While the larger pieces are less sturdy and more breakable, the camera plastics can always be melted down to be reused again. The film obviously cannot be reused. The shell and small components are typically eligible for reuse. After so many uses the remaining parts will also wear out presenting a need for replacement.
Functional Decomposition of a Single Use Camera Flow Chart

Process Flow Chart of a Single Use Camera
Camera Parts