

Tips for Macro Photography

- Tripod is essential
- Can use macro lenses, extension tubes, or the macro setting on a point and shoot
- Make small focus adjustments
- In a “true” macro image the whole image will NOT be in focus, if it is this image has been photo stacked
- Set you camera on the tripod square to the item you are photographing
- Try to move the item being photographed rather than the camera for large adjustments then fine tune focus using the camera. Manual focus is best
- Flash at oblique angles to the lens so the light goes across your item and doesn’t bounce back into the lens.
- Adding water drops to flowers can be easily done with a syringe, spray bottle (atomizer) or water dropper and some glycerine mixed in. A 1 glycerin : 3 water ratio works best but can make as thick as will still spray from your sprayer or come out the syringe
- Use aperture to control depth of field, F2.8 will give you sharp focus on only a small sliver of your item with blurred background, F22 will give you clearer focus through the entire image but is still limited due to the closeness of the item
- Use a clip or brace to keep your item absolutely still
- Use a trigger release or the self timer so you do not move the camera when you press the shutter
- Use backlighting
- When outside avoid windy days and set your camera to “cloudy day “ white balance
- For insects outside, get up early before they move around to get close, or trap a few throw them in the freezer for a few minutes and photograph then release.