

Tips for Photographing Flowers



Compiled by Bob Spalding



Unless you have a really steady hand or are in a hurry, use a tripod. Inexpensive ones will help you take better photos. The better tripods, usually more expensive allow you much more flexibility. Tripods help you get sharper photos. Keep in mind that some public gardens may require permission to use a tripod.



In general, the best time to take photos of flowers is early in the day, usually before 10 a.m. and later in the afternoon, usually after 4 p.m., The sun is lower at these times and not as bright, so colors are often more vivid and warm.

In the early morning, there is usually no wind. That will help to make your photo sharper.



One of the main keys to a good photo is good composition. What is in the picture? Those with a good sense of composing pictures are said to have "an eye for photography." Decide what you are photographing (shooting), and fill the frame with only this image. This could be a whole vista or a single flower. If a vista, try to take the photo so that roads, adjacent buildings, or undesirable sites are NOT in your camera viewfinder.



If photographing a single flower, pay attention to what is in the background. Get the right angle so you don't see items like a garden hose, other flowers not of interest, and especially not your feet!

