

CAMERA TIPS

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BACK LIT

- DarryDFL, Feb 2013: If the light/sun is behind the subject you are shooting, turn on your flash. That will brighten your subject and lessen the impact of the back lit effect.
- TwoDogs, Feb 2013: I tried this and it does work.



DIM LIGHT

- DarryDFL, Nov/18/2010: On most cruise ships and in many meeting facilities, you do not need flash to get the best photos. Take 2 photos in quick succession: one without flash & one with flash. Now look at the playback & see which gives the best result. Remember that the flash highlights the near by objects causing those in the distance to be darkened & obscured.
- Amy Lundeen, Photo Director, *Budget Travel* magazine, March 2010, p. 12: To get sharper shots in dim light when you can't use a flash, set the camera on a timer. Even a 2-second delay will eliminate the movement caused by pushing the camera's button.



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FIREWORKS

➤ Michael Carr, “Capture July 4th Festivities With Great Photos”:

- ❶ Use a tripod. Consider using a [String Tripod](#).
- ❷ Find a spot.
- ❸ Exposure/shutter speed set to 1–4 seconds
- ❹ Set focus to infinity or landscape mode. If your camera is equipped, put the setting to fireworks mode.
- ❺ Bring a small flashlight to see your camera in the dark if you need to make changes.
- ❻ Turn camera’s flash off.
- ❼ Bring spare memory cards.
- ❽ Use highest quality setting on your camera.

FULL-FIGURED FOLKS

➤ DarryDFL, Nov/18/2010: When photographing full-figured folks, hold the camera above your head so that you are shooting in a downward angle. This reduces the ‘double-chin’ shadow that can appear when you shoot directly at the person.

LANDMARKS

➤ *Budget Travel* magazine, March 2010, p. 12: A common mistake is snapping the same ho-hum shot as everyone else. Scan the perimeter for groups of shutterbug tourists. Now walk away from them. You’re far more likely to land a one-of-a-kind photograph if you remove yourself from the crowds. You don’t have to include every last brick of a building to get a great picture. Focusing on a particular segment of a structure can yield much more surprising, compelling, and dramatic results.

LOOK ALL AROUND

DarryDFL, Nov/18/2010: Look up, left, right, and down. See the obvious that others miss. Look for shadows, reflections, and angles that others miss.

SPLASH-PROOF

➤ “Top 10 DIY photography tips,” by Chris Stevens, Cnet UK, Nov/1/2009:

Some companies will try to sell you expensive waterproof housing for your camera, but did you know you can defend your camera against the elements using nothing more advanced than a bin liner ❶?

Simply wrap the liner around your hands and the camera, make a hole for the lens to poke out, and tape everything into a decent shape ❷.

Before anyone posts that this is ridiculous, you might want to consider that the UK’s top press photographers can often be seen walking around the rain-drenched Glastonbury festival with \$10,000 cameras wrapped in nothing more than bin liners.



Splash-proof

STRING TRIPOD

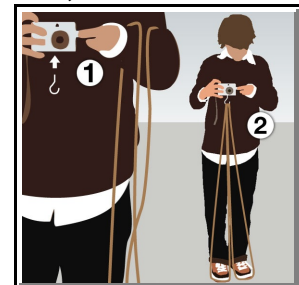
➤ “Top 10 DIY photography tips,” by Chris Stevens, Cnet UK, 1 Nov 2009:

Some ‘pro’ photographers will tell you that you need to buy a tripod to steady your shots. But you can make a decent tripod replacement out of a piece of string.

Go to your DIY shop and find a hook that fits your camera’s tripod binding. The binding is a little threaded hole on the base of the camera. If you can’t find a hook, get a bolt the right size and tie the string to that.

The insertion point is ❶ in the diagram. Once you’ve attached something to bind the string to the camera, ❷ thread the string around the binding and loop it around your feet as shown above.

If you’ve got the length right, you should be able to pull up lightly on the camera to produce tension in the strings. Widen your stance to steady the camera even more. It’s even possible to toddle about in this position, snapping passers-by and making penguin noises.



String Tripod

SUNSET: TURN FLASH OFF

► “Essentials,” *Budget Travel* magazine, March 2010, p. 12: Turn off the flash. Yes, even the ‘night flash’ setting — it will only highlight potentially distracting elements in the foreground and won’t add anything to the sky’s rich showing. If you have time, take several shots from the same spot over the course of the sunset.”

