



Garden Photography Tips

Gear

Bring a good camera with a macro lens (or macro function) if you have one. Bring a tripod so you can have a nice steady shot. Use a cable release or a remote so you don't transmit your body movements to the camera. Tie a ribbon to the bottom of the camera so you can tell when the wind is not moving. Make sure you have extra chips or film, extra batteries, and a flash (for fill). Show the bag that carries all your gear.

Light, angle and focus

Check the light. Early morning and late afternoon can be the best (golden time/light). High noon is not the best; it can make your picture flat and washed out (too much light). The best light can be on a rainy or cloudy day. Soft defused light is the best, most of the time. (no harsh highlights, no deep shadows, nice mid-tones) Also try a few pictures with a flash. Sometimes the flash will fill in details and highlight areas that get lost.

Angle is important. Everyone can look down on a flower. Get on your belly to get a different angle and include other elements behind the flower you are focusing on, or eliminate the other distractions in the frame by shooting directly down on the flower.

Focus can add or distract from a picture. By adjusting the focus you can add depth of field to your pictures or knock everything else out of focus. The best thing is that you have a digital camera and you can try many different things and see what works.

Eliminate movement

Use the tripod and use the cable release or a remote. You will get good detail when your subject is completely still. Have patience!

Experiment

Try shooting in the rain or bring a mister with you. Try a time lapse photo and see what it does, that works well with fountains and statues.

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