

# Tips on Close Up Photography

By Bob Spalding



**Close-up photography** refers to taking photos of objects at close distances generally less than two feet. Whereas **Macro photography** is when a photographed object itself is the same size as in real life (magnification is 1:1).



First you need a lens that will allow you to move in close. Many of the lenses will tell you on its barrel what its range is. Ex the Canon 24-105mm lens (pictured) is a 1:4. The 1:4 ratio will allow a photographer to get an almost life-size image when moved in really close to the subject.



Another consideration is using a wide angle lens (Ex: 17-40mm). Then you can move in real close to an object. The foreground will be large and the background will be small. The lens allows you to see a wider and closer view of the object you are photographing.



If you have a steady hand, you maybe able to hand hold your camera, but to get a really sharp photo, you should use a tripod. Ideally it should have a head on it that will allow the photographer to adjust it in the manner wanted to get the shot. Most Ball Heads will allow this.



**Composition:** If you are photographing more than one object, try to include an odd number of objects, such as flowers. Odd numbers are more visually appealing. The eye tends to wander to the center of the group. With an even number of objects, the eye will end up at the negative space in the center.