

## Tips on Photography Bad Habits



Compiled by Bob Spalding

- Not checking your equipment to be sure you have everything you need before heading out on a photo shoot.
- Being cavalier with your gear. Camera gear is expensive, treat it with Tender Loving Care (TLC).
- Wiping your lens with anything vaguely soft (like a shirt). Use a dedicated Lens cloth.
- Failing to check your camera setting before you start shooting.
- Failing to really look at your subject before pressing the shutter button
- Relying too much on post-processing (I will correct the photo when I get home). Do it in the field.
- Not using a Tripod when you need the stability
- Standing still – take the shot but from different vantage points – Remember your tripod will move when you move your feet.
- Crooked Horizon. Water does not look good when it is running up hill.
- Battery Power – be sure your battery(s) are charged before you leave on the Photo Shoot. It is a good idea to have at least one extra battery for each camera you own.
- Composing your shot too quickly.
- Settling for one good shot and not looking for more
- Clutter background.
- Empty Skies – if there is nothing interesting in the sky, raise your horizon line to the top third of the image to minimize how much space the sky occupies in the frame.
- Not changing your Perspective – shoot from the ground, or try climbing on a table.
- Poor Lighting.
- Underexposing or Overexposing. Blown out Highlights (blinks).
- Letting dust get on your sensor. Change lens in the field with care. Always point your camera down.
- Relying too much on your LCD. Never delete photos from your camera. Always download them onto a computer, then delete out the bad pictures.
- Lack of Dimension – include something in the foreground in your photo.
- Sleeping late and missing that good early light.
- Bringing your camera down to change the settings – know your camera
- Tolerating a flash shadow.
- **Blaming your equipment when you don't get the shot you want.**