"Flower Photo Shoot" Tips

- 1. Camera settings
 - ✓ Highest resolution
 - ✓ Point & Shoot Digital—set on "flower"
 - ✓ Digital SLR—may need to set on "macro" or else zoom in
 - ✓ Turn off the flash
- 2. Choose flower
 - ✓ Consider shape, color, contrast, lines
 - ✓ Do odd numbers—one, three, etc.
 - ✓ Mist with water to brighten the color of the flower
- 3. Select background
 - ✓ Make it as plain as possible—or get so close that there is no background
 - ✓ Draped black cloth or black foam board could be used as background
 - ✓ Use short depth of field to blur background
 - ✓ Smooth or simple pattern—not busy
 - ✓ Contrasting or complimentary color
- 4. Select setting and props
 - ✓ Use your artistic abilities to enhance the subject
 - ✓ Pedestals
 - ✓ Table covers, doilies
- 5. Arrange
 - ✓ Try several arrangements
 - ✓ Try a variety of flowers
- 6. Work with lighting
 - ✓ May shoot flowers in a shady spot outdoors or in full sun
 - ✓ May light a spot (with spotlights or lamps) in the corner of a room or
 - ✓ use natural light from a window
 - ✓ Side light is most effective for bringing out texture, dimension and depth
 - ✓ Avoid flash
- 7. Choose shooting angles
 - ✓ Try a variety of viewpoints (above, below, side, front, etc.)
- 8. Off center or use rule of thirds
 - ✓ Be sure to lock the focus
- 9. Fill the frame (little or no foreground)
 - ✓ Get up close and fill the frame with your subject

Samples on the next page:



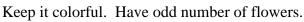
Short depth of field produces blurred background.

Green grass makes a great backdrop.



The iris is slightly off-center with the leaves creating leading lines to the subject.







Spritz with water for added sparkle in sunlight.



Shadows can add interest. (They often detract from the subject.)