

## **ROSE PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS**

**September 5, 2019**

**By Juanita Ortega**

1. Read the Rose Show Schedule, Photography Division requirements, and classes.
2. Prepare photo equipment in advance. Charge batteries, clean lenses, pack lens cleaning cloth.
3. When photographing roses, carry a small notebook to record the date and names of all roses.
4. The best time to photograph roses is shortly before or after sunrise. Late afternoon and early evening are also good times for rose photography.
5. Use a tripod to eliminate camera movement.
6. Check and adjust the focus manually, even if using programmed modes.
7. Try composing your photo with the rose off-center and different angles. The entire rose bloom must be in the photo, except in Creative Impression Classes.
8. Avoid background distractions by physically removing them or by changing angles.
9. Select fresh blooms with undamaged petals (see #12 below) and fresh stamens.
10. Wait until any wind movement of bloom stops. Use stiff cardboard to block the wind.
11. Download photos to the computer and review them as soon as possible. Add names of roses from your field notebook to the appropriate photos currently.
12. Use photo editing computer programs (such as Photoshop) to edit and prepare your best photos for printing. You may remove small blemishes at this time.
13. Photos may be ordered and printed at businesses such as pharmacies or big box stores. Rose shows require that photos be a certain size (usually 8" x 10"), be mounted (secured on a display board), and matted (topped with a mat board to "frame" the photo). These are available at craft stores (such as Hobby Lobby or Michael's). Select and prepare your best photo entries with plenty of time (7-10 days).
14. You are encouraged to ask rose society members familiar with exhibiting photos any questions you may have regarding editing, printing, and entering your photos for exhibition at the rose show.

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