

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH BIRD FEEDERS



PHOTZY.COM

Placing a bird feeder on your property is one of the easiest ways to get started in bird photography. This card will go over some tips on where to place your bird feeder and camera gear for the maximum photo opportunity.

Perfect to print A5 size
14cm x 21cm
5.83" x 8.27"

GEAR UP

CAMERA



DSLR or mirrorless with Full Frame sensor



DSLR or mirrorless with APS-C sensor



OK

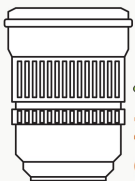
Smartphone camera

DEPENDING UPON DISTANCE

Camera considerations:

- Interchangeable lenses
- Low noise

LENS



Zoom lens considerations:

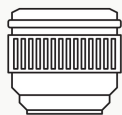
- Focal length range

150 – 600mm **OK**
DEPENDING UPON THE SETUP

100 – 400mm **OK**
DEPENDING UPON THE SETUP

70 – 200mm
MAX. APERTURE F/2.8 BEST (f/4 IS OK)

- Maximum aperture f/6.3 +
- Tripod collar



OK

Prime lens considerations:

- Focal length range

170-300mm DEPENDING UPON DISTANCE

- Maximum aperture f/5.6 +



SET IT UP

File format



OK

ISO setting



WITH A MAXIMUM SET TO 3200

Metering Mode

Center-weighted

Matrix/Evaluative **OK**

Spot **X**

Drive Mode



OUTDOORS



IF SHOOTING THROUGH A WINDOW



IF SHOOTING CLOSE FROM A BLIND

Shooting Mode

S/Tv

AVOIDS MOTION BLUR

M **OK**

A/Av

DEPTH-OF-FIELD FOCUSED

Focus Mode

Single Shot

Focus Points



SMALL CENTRAL CLUSTER

Shutter Speed: Set at 1/180th

Image Stabilization: On UNLESS ON A TRIPOD

White Balance: Auto

Focus Tracking: On

Aperture: f/2.8 – f/8 BIRD IN FOCUS AND BACKGROUND OUT OF FOCUS

Back Button Focus: Recommended

Highlight Indicator: On



SHOOT IT

PRO TECHNIQUE 1:

Create your background

Go to a fabric store and purchase fabric that complements your scene with natural colors such as brown or dark green. Hang it on a frame a few feet behind the feeder, as visible from your camera point of view.

PRO TECHNIQUE 2:

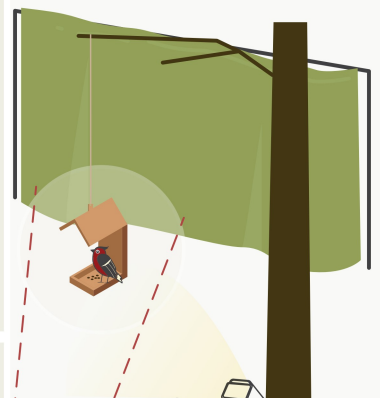
Use light reflectors

Secure light reflectors near the feeder but out of the camera's field of view to reflect light onto the birds.

PRO TECHNIQUE 3:

Remote Flash

A remotely fired electronic flash can fill in color and details and put a catchlight in the dark eye of a bird.



Recommended

OK Acceptable

X Not Recommended

! Not unless experienced

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