

Using Reflectors and Diffusers for Macro Photography

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One of the most popular forms of nature photography is macro photography – the photographing of small subjects. Macro photography does not require a lot of very expensive gear to enjoy, nor does it require travel to far away places to find interesting subjects. In fact, macro photography can be enjoyed in our own yards.

Because the subjects we are photographing are small and the “stage” is small, light modification becomes much easier. With a few simple and inexpensive accessories, we can produce macro images worthy of publication.

For the following series of photos, a Canon 10D Digital SLR with a Canon 100/2.8 macro lens, and a Bogen 3221 tripod with a Kirk ball head were used. All images were taken with the lens manually focused, and with mirror lock-up engaged in combination with the 2-second timer.

In addition to the basic camera/lens/support equipment, the following accessories were also used;

- Two Wimberley Plamps
- One Photoflex 12-inch Litedisc white-translucent diffuser
- One Photoflex 12-inch silver-gold reflector

As you will see in the following series of narrated photos, these simple accessories can make a huge difference in your macro photography. Unless otherwise noted, all images are full frame (uncropped) and received identical post-shutter adjustment in Photoshop CS.



The 12-inch LiteDisc folds to just over 1/3 its open size and weighs only 1.8 ounces, making it easy to carry into the field.

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