

# Tips for Photographing Flower Show Exhibits

Photograph against a neutral background to focus on the subject.  
(These are not neutral backgrounds)



Remove any distracting objects around the exhibit. Ensure a plain background.

Photograph in natural light if possible. Avoid using a flash as this can create shadows.

Make sure the light source is in front of the exhibit, rather than behind it.

dark



Light source behind the exhibit

light



Light source in front of the exhibit

(If you're photographing houseplants, remember to remove any name tags, accessories, and drip trays for the photo and ensure the foliage is clean without bugs, water drops or Plant Shine.)



When photographing designs, ensure you get the whole design in the photo. The same applies to houseplants.



Part of this houseplant has been cut off.



Small  
under  
10"

Mini  
under 5"

Small and Miniature designs should include a loonie/toonie to give it perspective. (Photo by Holly Wells)

Take photos of most exhibits at eye level. That's where they are judged from. The exception to this are exhibits meant to be seen from above such as Pave Designs, African Violets, etc.

## Pave Design

(Photo by Brenda Dekker)



## African Violet

(Photo Bing)



## Hosta Leaves



Ensure there are no water spots or dirt on your specimens



Photo from above, better view

When photographing Hort specimens ensure you get as close up to the flower and leaves as possible, while leaving some of the container visible.



Exhibit could be closer to the camera to give more detail. Good neutral background and lighting.

When photographing fruits or vegetables, place them on a white plate, on a plain, light background and photograph from above.

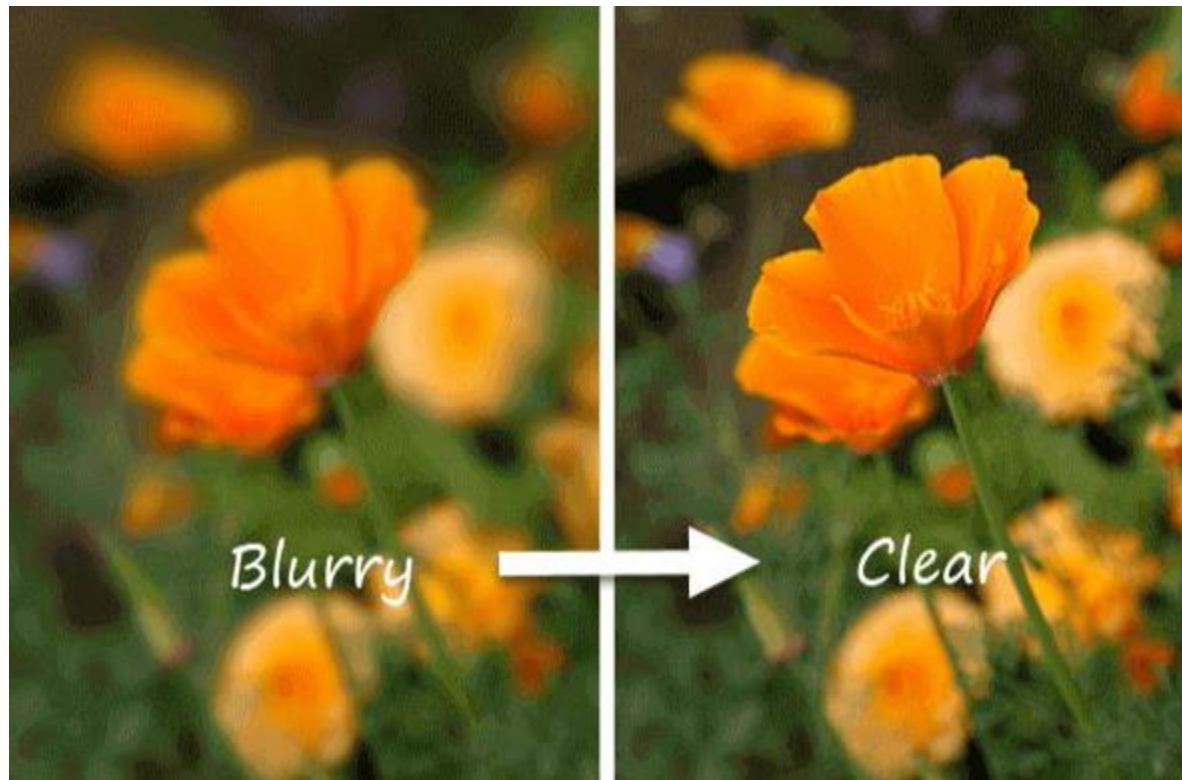


Ensure there is no dirt or debris lying on the table.

(Photo by Jenni Murrell)



MOST IMPORTANTLY: Ensure your photo is in FOCUS!



Use a tripod or rest your arm on the back of a chair or something similar to ensure a steady hand.



To ensure you are following the standards for exhibiting floral designs and horticulture, consult the “Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards”

Available from the OHA.

The same standards are used by judges and exhibitors.

