

Point-n-Shoot Photo Tip #1 by Dave Dawson

This is the first in [hopefully] a long series of short articles intended to help our readers take great photos while muskie fishing regardless of the type of camera used or the conditions when photos are taken.



Dave snapped 3 bad shots in the rain before this great one of Kurt taken with the flash on.

This first article's photo tip is a very simple one, but one few people seem to take advantage of. **Take lots of photos and don't stop taking them until the photo opportunity is over.** This tip is especially important when taking photos of bigger, trophy-size muskies. Don't miss the



Kurt framed this 39"er in a way that made Dave's muskie look much bigger than it was!

opportunity to capture those moments that happen so seldom for most of us! Remember that do-overs are not possible after the muskie has been released!

We no longer have those costly and restrictive film limits our old cameras had, so click away – it's free! Today's digital cameras allow hundreds and sometimes even thousands of photos to be taken without any additional cost. With that said, have your camera ready and start taking photos from the time the muskie is secured in the net. Continue snapping photos of your partner reaching into the net to unhook the fish, the lift-up, the pose, even the measurement, and don't stop clicking until after the muskie is back in the water and swimming away. Try some shots with the camera's flash turned on and some without the flash.

Don't be bashful about shooting lots of photos and be creative with the shots you take. Until you get proficient, practice this extreme photo taking even for small fish. Try to hold the camera steady while taking more than 10 pics during the short photo shoot. Be sure to spend time getting a few shots of the pose, but avoid letting the picture taking delay the release. When it's all over, be prepared to find only a handful of



Here's an interesting perspective shot showing how to properly grip a muskie's jaw for the photo shoot.

good photos out of the whole collection. Don't worry about the bad ones, though. It's better to have to delete a bunch of bad pics than to have only taken one or two shots that are blurry, out of focus, or miss-framed.

The best photos might turn out to be those that would have otherwise not been taken. Great shots are often discovered once tons of photos are taken during each event and the experience gained during those times will help during future photo opportunities. Just be sure to start the day with a fully charged camera battery. Consider having a spare battery handy, too.

Good luck on the water in 2014. And don't forget to take lots of photos. The prize will be better shots and may even include a great one of something you've never captured before.



Here's a unique release shot showing Kurt and his muskie through the landing net.