

Point-n-Shoot Photo Tip #2 by Dave Dawson

This is the second in [hopefully] a long series of short article 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.

This month's photo tip seems pretty straight forward but for some of us it's something that requires focus and a conscious decision to make it happen. **Be sure to frame the entire subject in your camera's display while taking photos.**

When you are about to shoot some photos of your fishing partner proudly posing with a muskie s/he just caught, frame the scene with the camera at the same level or slightly lower than the photo's subject for eye-popping photos. Ensure the photos you take include ALL of the muskie as well as your fishing partner's smiling face. If the entire scene isn't visible, consider turning the camera sideways but be aware that the width of the shot will be drastically reduced. Another suggestion would be to

have your fishing partner move farther away from the camera, or back the camera away from the subject. Wide margins around the photo's subject, although not ideal, are actually preferred over missing key elements of the shot since a photo like that can very easily be cropped later to produce the perfect shot. The best shots occur when the person with the camera moves closer or farther away so the subject fills the frame with everything important. Be sure to hold the camera as steady as possible to ensure the clearest shots especially if cropping the shot will be necessary.

Think how disappointing it would be if the only photos you capture include a decent shot of the muskie, but chop off the angler's head entirely. Equally frustrating would be photos showing your partner's great smile, but the head or tail of the biggest muskie s/he ever caught not making it inside the frame of the photos. The following statement might find a permanent place in every one of these photo tip articles. It is important to remember that do-overs are not possible after the muskie has been released so pay attention to what is being captured as the photos are being taken!

Good luck on the water in 2014. Remember to take lots of photos and frame those shots so they include all the important

components of whatever you are shooting. You and your fishing partner will enjoy reliving those moments that are even more meaningful when permanently recorded in great photos!



The photo above is a very good shot of Andy with a really nice muskie. The shot includes the entire muskie and all of Andy's face. The photo below shows a more impressive shot of the same scene that really highlights the moment. That photo could have been captured that way by turning the camera for a portrait oriented shot. This pic was actually a cropped version of the shot above to demonstrate that good photos with wide margins can become great shots by doing a simple photo edit.



Left (top) we see a decent shot of the author's face, but the muskie's head and tail are chopped off as is the top of Dave's head. Immediately left is a better shot of the same scene taken with the camera moved a bit farther away to ensure everything is included in the shot.