



STAFF PHOTOS/STEVE SOMERVILLE

You can take great fireworks photos

BY STEVE SOMERVILLE
ssomerville@yrmg.com

When photographing fireworks, your camera **needs to be set up on a sturdy tripod** and your wide-angle lens aimed at a section of the sky where you anticipate the fireworks will explode.

You may want to **include a foreground** – kids watching, trees, etc.

You will **need to use a cable release or wireless remote** to prevent any camera shake caused by touching the camera during the long exposure. The vibration reduction setting does not apply here.

Set your ISO at 400 or 800 and your **aperture** in the 4 to 4.5 range.

Use a long exposure of between two and 10 seconds (ideally, use the bulb setting to choose whatever shutter speed duration you require for each explosion).

The first fireworks explosion is good for testing your settings.

Check your viewfinder to be sure you are getting good exposures and adjust those settings as required.

You should **count the exposure time** in seconds as you shoot. Try to **click the shutter button just prior to the explosion**, then release it when the fireworks trail is extinguished. This may be two seconds, four seconds, seven seconds or longer.

Anticipation of when and where they will explode is crucial. **Take several photos** exactly when the fireworks are exploding. Since fireworks are so unpredictable, you need to take a lot of photos.

Do not get discouraged if you miss shots. Anticipate and keep shooting.



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