

Senior Space Science Researcher Badge

Use these tips to successfully capture celestial images.

Astrophotography Guidelines

- Find a dark location—city lights wash out images!
- Pick a safe place and bring an adult, appropriate clothes, snacks, and a flashlight.
- Cover your flashlight with red plastic or cellophane so that your eyes will adapt to the dark.
- Get the right app for your smartphone—look for “low light photography” apps.
- Learn how to take timed photos from one second up to one hour.
- Keep your camera still throughout the exposure. To avoid blurry images, use a tripod, beanbag, or bag of rice to hold your camera or smartphone steady. If you are taking photographs through a telescope, consider using a smartphone or camera mount.
- Turn off the flash.
- As you get more comfortable, start exploring how shutter speed, ISO, focal length, and aperture affect your images.
- Practice makes perfect—you may need to take several images to get one you like!



Credit: weasner.com



Credit: Reddit User carrerascott