

Eliminate Camera Shake



Figure 1: Tripod Mounted with Remote Shutter Release

Even with a great camera that has a large sensor and excellent lenses your photos may turn out blurred or out of focus. When shooting in the automatic mode you might think, "How can this happen? Doesn't the camera take care of all the settings, including focus?"

The culprit may be "camera shake." If the camera is hand held and you are manually pressing the shutter release button, there is bound to be some camera movement. This movement is exaggerated at slower shutter speeds and when using longer lenses. One of the best solutions is to mount the camera on a tripod and use a remote shutter release. Figure 1 above shows the setup I often use for close-up shots. This little tripod can bend every which way, and works great on uneven ground.

Figure 2 below shows the resulting image. I had the camera in the close-up (macro) mode, so really it was still in the automatic mode as far as shutter speed goes. It was taken with a 55 mm lens at F/5.7, 1/125 sec, and ISO-400. As a macro shot I wanted the background out of focus, but the mushroom is clear and crisp.



Figure 2: Brown Mushroom