For our purposes we are going to include under “widefields” everything from pictures of friends and family reacting to the eclipse to carefully framed landscapes with the eclipse above. Widefield imaging also lends itself well to sequence shots, a series of photos compiled to show the entire eclipse over a scene or landscape of your choosing.

**Easy Shootin’**

Phones/Tables/Point & Shoots are a great way to document the happenings around you.

- **Selfies in your Scopedawg Schwag**
- **Friends & Family waiting on the Big Show**
- **Shoot pics, video & audio**

**Tips & Techniques**

- Table-top tripods, big +
- Auto-exposure should work thru the eclipse sequence
- Auto-focus may become a problem in low light conditions
- Sun very small; filters not required
- Sun will over-expose but improve as the scene darkens
- Point & Shoots best option - better zoom & focus, manual settings

See chapters four and five of Alan Dyer’s e-book for details on this cool widefield with a handheld viewer, and other easy shots.

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**Composing & Framing Widefields**

**Widefield Lenses**
- 10mm - 24mm: Faster (f/2.8) lenses allow for faster exposures, lower ISO
- Kit lenses that come with camera not optimal, slower (f/5.6), tougher to focus, but will work
- Fast, fixed focal length lenses better

**The Foreground**
- People watching the eclipse, your backyard, mountains, lakes, signs... take your pick
- After setting the frame, you can snap some foreground pics during late partial, unfiltered, vary exposures in sequence (bracketed)
- During total, follow exposure settings or shoot Auto on Aperture Priority for foreground/sky in one image

**Composing Your Widefield**
- Must be wide enough & oriented correctly to get foreground & eclipse in frame
- Ball head & pan/scan tripod heads are sturdy & easy to adjust
- Move setup to frame various options
- Once framed, DO NOT MOVE

**Framing**

Project where the sun will be at totality
- West: Sun rising in AM
  - 1/2 way up to overhead
  - Moving diagonally
- East: Afternoon Sun
  - 2/3 way up to overhead
  - Moving horizontally

- Select foreground
- Orient camera
- Ensure foreground & eclipse are captured
- Set manual focus
- Set to AV Auto Expose OR set manual
- DO NOT MOVE SETUP

**View from eastern US, midafternoon, looking southwest**

- Regulus
- Venus 34 degrees from sun
- Sun will be 60 to 65 degrees above the horizon (40-45 in West)

**Exposing**

Target manual settings at totality - no solar filter
- f/stop f/2.8 f/4 f/5.6
- ISO 100 200 400
- The shutter speed at these settings will be 1/4 to 1 sec
- Judge settings on site with these as a guide, light conditions may alter settings

- Aperture Priority on Auto will work just fine as well
- Set INTERVALOMETER to 1 second intervals
- f/2.8 or f/4
- *ISO 100 or 200
- 1/3 stop compensation Camera will vary shutter speed for you
- Always use Live View to focus & preview images
- Use mirror lock (or Live View) to tamp down the vibration between shots

- Bracket photos (take a series with varying shutter speeds) to ensure you get a good exposure, or to use HDR on foreground
- Longer exposures will capture more stars / planets in sky; composite in Photoshop with shorter exposures of foreground / eclipse
- Keep under 1 second for time lapse; use low ISO to keep noise down

**Sky Widefields**

With a DSLR & tripod, sky only images can be snapped from widefield (10-24mm) to medium telephoto (50, 135, 200mm) framing

Sun, moon and planets travel the sky near the ecliptic. To capture the sky in landscape from Jupiter to Venus would require:
- 20mm lens with full frame sensor
- 14mm lens with APS size sensor

A 24mm lens with APS sensor can capture Venus if sun is on the far left of the image

See additional framing options below, for APS sensors

Image blur due to vibration and sun's motion increases with focal length

At 200mm and above increase ISO to keep exposures less than 1 second or image will blur due to sun's motion

Slow motion controls became very helpful

Diagrams below with APS size sensor

- Eastern US - Afternoon
- Sun’s altitude is 60-65 deg
- In the west, Jupiter will be much lower and winter stars much higher