

# Underwater cave diving Macro photography

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# Macro Photography



Yes we can !

For macro photo with large magnifications (here enclosed concretion full size: 30x20mm), it is preferable to prepare his equipment only to the macro and do not try to take pictures of environment at the same time.

The method for large magnifications is explained in the next page

If you just make small magnifications, like picture of fish here enclosed, you can use a wide-angle (20mm for example) with a single flash for pictures like you do in the “normal” atmospheric and dry environment.

# Macro Photography

## method for large magnifications



Lighting: The simplest is to light with a powerful light (like LED video light or HiD) and do not use flash.

Camera and lens: a DSLR with macro lens (or additional macro lens on the lens) is ideal. Focal lengths from 50mm to 100mm are great and allow you to have distance between the front of the lens and the subject. Otherwise, the macro mode of a compact works well.

Settings: if using a light and not a flash you can use the autofocus and it is even recommended.

If there is no autofocus (or if a flash is used) you must use a gauge or a frame to set the camera at a correct distance from the subject (as what existed with the Nikonos system.)

To make the picture we put the subject in the plane of the frame and is normally good.



# Macro Photography lighting methods for large magnifications



Lighting method with a powerful light:

you can hold the light with the left hand and the camera with the right hand or fix the lighting on an arm flash ready enough to bring what you want to photograph.

LED lighting with 10% red LEDs (like [Hartenberger](#)) give very good results.

With adequate lighting, we are in the same conditions as the “open air land.”macro

# Macro Photography

## method for large magnifications



### Shooting Modes:

You can of course use the manual mode (M), but the modes aperture priority (A) or shutter priority (S) works very well.

In general I use shutter priority with a speed of 1/125th which avoids moving.

If photography "deep" subjects you can use the method A.

These two methods can also be used with a flash ttl.



Note: With a flash in manual mode should preferably close much the diaphragm (11-16) and adjust the speed to get a good photo.

# Macro Photography method for large magnifications



Auto focus mode: (only with continuous lighting methods)

In order to be sure of taken the picture each time I press the shutter release button I prefer the Continuous servo AF (mode C for Nikon and AI for Canon) . In the C mode the camera focuses continuously as soon as the shutter release button is pressed halfway. There is always a chance to take a sharp picture, better than in the S mode (One shot AF for Canon) where the picture is taken only when a sharp focus is confirmed. With difficult subjects you could be blocked without the possibility of taking the picture. There is no advantage of that with digital cameras.

