

Sorry, this is longer than usual.

I know some of you won't have much of a view of the eclipse, but from what I've seen from NASA's website, the entire country will be able to see at least part of the moon passing in front of the sun. The next couple of days I'm going to look at how to take good videos and pictures of the sky and the eclipse. Today's story is with a professional astrophotographer who's showing the equipment (pretty affordable stuff) he uses to shoot the sun, moon, galaxies and comets. You'll want to check the anchor intro and tag to make it accurate for your market.

TRT 151
STD OUT

SUPER

13-17 Rick Murray/Pro Astrophotographer
141-148 Jamey Tucker/whatthetech.tv

ON-CAMERA TEASE

If you plan to take photos of the eclipse or night sky you'll want to do it like a pro. I'm Jamey Tucker coming up we'll talk with a pro about

ANCHOR INTRO

ON APRIL 8TH, A SOLAR ECLIPSE WILL OCCUR OVER THE UNITED STATES WHEN THE MOON PASSES BETWEEN EARTH AND THE SUN.

THE LAST SOLAR ECLIPSE IN THE U.S. WAS 7 YEARS AGO AND THE TECHNOLOGY TO CAPTURE IMAGES OF THE SUN HAS CHANGED DRAMATICALLY. OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER TAKES A LOOK AT NEW TELESCOPES AND CAMERAS THAT THE PROS USE TO CAPTURE THE SKY.

PACKAGE SCRIPT

7 years ago, Rick Murray found himself in the path of totality. Using a telescope connected to a DSLR camera, he captured one of the best images you'll ever see of a solar eclipse. Look closely. Those bursts that look like flames?

"they're huge explosions on the surface of the sun".

The band of light around the moon?

That's Bailey's Beads. That's basically where the sunlight is coming over the mountains of the moon. It's beautiful.

He'll do the same this time around. But with better, and easier-to-use telescopes with cameras built-in. I asked him to show us two options best for amateur astrophotographers that won't break the bank.

First, a \$500 telescope and camera system called the Dwarf 2.

"All you do is open him up, point him toward the sky and say 'sun, go find it. That's it.

The Dwarf 2 locks onto the sun and follows by rotating on a tripod sending hundreds of photos to Rick's smartphone. Combining only the best images to create the best shot.

"So far there are 339 images and it's stacked 92. 93 of them".

The results are breathtaking.

Murray's other recommendation is the \$500 Seestar S50 telescope camera. It captures celestial images with more detail and colors. Like the Orion Nebula from a few weeks ago.

" Within 10 frames I'm seeing stars after stars, you can't even imagine.

sometimes he edits the photos himself, but these are straight from the cameras to his iPhone and shared to his Facebook page

This one from the other night, captured a jetliner passing the moon.

In 2017, Murray says he was too busy making sure everything was running like they were supposed to do and couldn't enjoy much of the eclipse. The new telescopes with cameras, will make it easier for him to see the eclipse like the rest of us.

"I'm going to leave them on automatic let them do their thing, and I'm just going to look at it."

Lots of people are wondering if you can get good shots of the eclipse with their smartphone. You can, if you do it the right way. We'll talk about that next time. That's What the Tech? I'm Jamey Tucker

ANCHOR TAG

I suggest a tag showing how much of the eclipse will be visible where you are.

(you can search for your location at

<https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/> to see how much of the eclipse will be visible in your area.

WEB STORY

The solar eclipse is just a week away and Rick Murray is busy practicing. Seven years ago he found himself in the path of totality, the best place to be during an eclipse. Using a telescope connected to a DSLR camera, he captured one of the best images you'll ever see of a solar eclipse.

His photos, shared to his Facebook page, showed in detail what appeared to be flames from the sun peaking out from the moon. "They're huge explosions on the surface of the sun", Murray explained.

He also captured stunning images of Bailey's Beads. "That's basically where the sunlight is coming over the mountains of the moon. It's beautiful," said Murray.

He'll try to do the same this time around. But with better, and easier-to-use telescopes with cameras built-in. The telescope he used in 2017 required a separate camera and a large solar

filter to protect the camera's sensors. It also required a computer and software so the telescope could find the sun and keep it in the frame.

New technology will make it easier for Murray and others hoping to capture a once-in-a-lifetime photo. I asked Rick for two options that are best for amateur astrophotographers that won't break the bank.

First, a \$500 telescope and camera system called the Dwarf 2 from the company Dwarf Labs. It's a small camera with two lenses. "All you do is open him up, point him toward the sky and say 'sun, go find it. That's it,'" he said with a smile.

The Dwarf 2 locks onto the sun and follows by rotating on a tripod sending hundreds of photos to Rick's smartphone. Combining only the best images to create the best shot using a method called "stacking".

In about 25 minutes of being locked onto the sun, Rick looked at the data displayed on his smartphone. "It's taking image after image. So far there are 339 images and it's stacked 92. 93 of them".

The results are breathtaking. Murray often posts photos taken with the Dwarf 2 camera to his Facebook page.

Murray's other recommendation is the \$500 Seestar S50 telescope camera. It captures celestial images with more detail and colors, such as the Orion Nebula from a few weeks ago.

"By the second frame, I'm seeing colors in the nebula," Murray said. "Within 10 frames I'm seeing stars after stars, you can't even imagine."

Sometimes he edits the photos himself, but most are straight from the cameras to his iPhone and shared on his Facebook page. The night I watched Rick shooting the sun with the cameras he captured stunning clips of the moon just as a jetliner passed. Captured from the Seestar camera.

"This guy on a tripod on my front porch looking up at the nearly full moon. It took me five minutes"

In 2017, Murray says he was too busy ensuring everything was running like they were supposed to and couldn't enjoy much of the eclipse. The new telescopes with cameras taking photos automatically will make it easier for him to see the eclipse like the rest of us.

"I'm going to leave them on automatic and let them do their thing, and I'm just going to look at it."

You can see some of Rick's astrophotography on his [Facebook page](#).

