

# MULTI-FLASH Set-ups ~ Details:

- Where do you place your flashes?
  - Your main flashes should be 18" to 22" from the target zone.
    - **TARGET ZONE** = 4" to 6" out from the feeder
  - If you are doing a 3 flash set-up (*including your background flash*) the other 2 flashes should be placed about a foot (12") to the left and right of the target zone and 18" to 22" inches back towards you.
  - Disable the sleep mode if you can do so.
  - If you have more than three flashes:
    - Position one low and aimed up at the target zone.
      - This flash should be 6" to 8" farther from the zone than your other flashes. It is just to fill in shadows.
    - You can also position one or more flashes behind and above the zone—sort of like "hair lights" in portrait photography.
- Okay, flashes are in position. Now what?
  - Set the flashes to manual mode and 1/16 to 1/32 power.
  - Start out with camera settings of ISO 800, shutter speed of 1/200, and aperture of f/20.
  - Plug all but 1-3 feeder holes in the feeder. This forces the birds into a certain area so you can determine the target zone.
  - Take a test shot that includes the feeder.
    - You should have some flashing highlights on the feeder.
    - Use your aperture or ISO to adjust exposure.
- **NOTE:**
  - This setup is to enable hummingbird flight shots. One benefit of determining a target zone is that it can help you get shots of the birds without the feeder; however, that won't always be possible so I would crop or clone out the feeder.
  - Sometimes I find simple birds-in-flight shots a bit sterile so I often replace the feeder with a suitable flower and include that in the shot.
    - You will need to put sugar water in the flower and add more every time a hummingbird feeds.
    - You can purchase "pics" at your local florist so you can put the flower in water. You can then twist-tie the pic to something that'll be at the edge of the image.