

Shooting at a Concert

1.) You're breaking the regulation you agreed to when you bought the ticket. It probably says something about restricting the things you can do while at the concert. If this doesn't faze you, this is how it's done.

2) You must smuggle the camera in. Thus it must be broken down into the smallest possible parts. Lens in one pocket, camera in a second, film elsewhere so that no area bulges. Choose clothes that are baggy and have big or hidden pockets inside, if possible. You might wish to have the person you're seeing the show with carry part of your equipment.

3) Enter at the busiest entrance you can find because they have less opportunity to search you.

4) Buy the fastest ASA film available.

5) Be cool as you enter. If you "let them see you sweat" they will catch you.

6) If they catch you they may try to take your film and your equipment. DON'T let them take the equipment. Give up the film willingly, but have your partner carry in an additional roll. If they decide to throw you out that is something you must deal with at the moment. If it means you get your camera stuff back without them having it even for a few minutes, I'd take that option. It has happened that "Security" held it for people who found their cameras mysteriously broken when they went to retrieve them after the concert.

7) Have your partner/date watching for Security while you shoot and shoot only a few seconds at a time. Be sure you are pre-focused at infinity and have the shutter speeds and apertures pre-set as well. Don't spend time working with anything when you can be seen. This isn't the time to be selective for "that perfect moment". Many photographers will never even hold the camera to their eye. They simply aim it toward the stage at the appropriate angle and watch the action. When they see what they like they fire the shutter. This will also keep your nearby seat neighbors from growing as frustrated with you.

8) If someone asks to buy pics from you while you are there, ask for their phone number and tell them you will call them. Don't give your address and/or phone number. They can easily hand this to the Security if you have frustrated them in any way. Additionally they have seen the cameras you own and you could be setting yourself up for a burglary.