

Video Tips

Picking a Location:

Think about what your audience will see before you start. Tidy up the on-camera space — so that distracting items are not visible in the background. Also, avoid propping your phone up on the table under your face. Get a stand for your smartphone or tablet — some even connect to mic stands for lots of flexibility with angles.

Landscape Mode:

To avoid having those two black vertical bars on either side of your video, make sure to use landscape orientation and not portrait orientation while recording to produce video in the 16:9 format. Try to keep your camera at eye level, whenever possible.

Framing:

Completely fill the frame with the subject. You can also position yourself slightly off-center to create a more visually interesting scene. If possible, film using the front-facing camera (back of phone), which uses a higher resolution than the selfie camera.

Backlighting:

Avoid backlit-settings whenever possible. Make sure that people can see your face — that's how they connect with you! You may be able to see people and their faces when they're backlit, but your smartphone camera usually can't and will output footage with a bright light haloing a dark figure. Face a large light source – ideally a window. If your window provides enough natural light, it is recommend to turn off all other lights in the room. Especially avoid bright lights in the background or overhead.

Audio Tips

Here are some tips that are easy to implement that will help make your live stream sound its best.

- Use an external mic, if you have one. Many USB mics will plug directly into your cell phone (with an adapter), so you can produce studio-quality sound even just using your phone.
- If internet is not required, put your phone in airplane mode to avoid hearing chimes or alerts.
- Use headphones, so you can hear what the mic is hearing. Wired headphones will work best and eliminate and latency. Be aware that if your headphones have a built-in microphone, your phone will automatically use that microphone to record. Use headphones without a mic, when possible.
- Do a few test-runs to ensure that the audio is at an acceptable level and that there is no distortion or clipping.
- Silence everything in the room that you don't want your microphone to record

Other Tips

- Please dress neatly and professionally, not necessary to wear concert dress
- When labeling/saving videos: Last name_project name_1 (number them in order if sending multiple videos); ex: Overton_masterclass_1, Overton_masterclass_2)
- Smile! Be clear and friendly, be yourself!