
Tips for Recording Good Quality Video



Use an external microphone

Mobile devices are not designed for the best possible audio recording quality. It is best practice to use an external microphone when recording video on your smartphone or tablet. For more information on the benefits of using an external microphone, check out this [video](#). For recommended microphones, please see our [Video Capture Equipment Recommendations document](#).



Keep your camera stable

Make sure you are keeping your camera steady when recording. It is best practice to use a tripod or stand to hold your mobile device when recording. Do not try to hold your device with your hand when recording. For tripod recommendations, please see our [Video Capture Equipment Recommendations document](#).



Always film in landscape

Make sure when you record video that you are recording in the landscape orientation (i.e. wide screen). Also, whenever you're recording a video, you will want to make sure that the screen rotation lock is turned off. This will allow you to orient your device in the landscape mode and record your video successfully. For more details on video orientation, check out our FAQ article, [Why are my videos uploading in the incorrect orientation?](#)



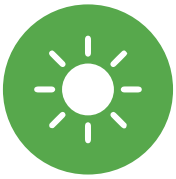
Put your phone in airplane mode

Whenever you are using your phone to record a video, it is best practice to place your phone in airplane mode. This will disable calls on your phone and ensure that an incoming call does not cut off your recording.



Use external lenses to create more complete views of the classroom

External lenses, such as a wide angle lens, can allow you to capture a larger view of a room. Some lens can expand the viewing angle up to four times. These lenses can be detached from the device, so you can take it off when you are not using it.



Good lighting is important

Lighting is important to consider when filming. If the lighting is too direct or if there is not enough light, you will lose detail in the video. For a better image, avoid placing the subject in front of windows or other direct sources of light and make sure the room is well-lit.



Don't use digital zoom

Digital zoom can significantly decrease the quality of the video. Instead of using digital zoom, move the device closer to what you are trying to capture.



Keep your videos short

Videos should focus on one topic or concentration area. This helps your coaches and fellow educators provide constructive feedback. Try not to record the whole lesson, but to keep videos between 15-20 minutes. If need to record the entire lesson, you can then clip smaller portions for self-reflection, coaching and feedback purposes.