

SMARTPHONE FILMING GUIDE

BEFORE YOU START:

- Charge up the battery on your phone and ensure you have enough storage! ! 1 minute of HD footage on a smartphone = approximately 150mb of data.
- Switch your phone to flight mode to avoid calls, messages and alerts mid-filming.
- Consider whether you need to hold your phone horizontally (landscape) or vertical (portrait). If in doubt, film horizontally
- Don't use the digital zoom! For most phones, this will result in pixelated footage. If you want a closer shot, you'll have to do it old-school and actually just physically get closer to whatever you're filming.
- Consider lighting! Smartphones work well with natural daylight. If you're filming inside, consider filming in a part of the room where light falls ON the face of whoever you are filming (rather than filming against it). Otherwise, use a second smartphone as a soft torch to light up a face!

TOP TIPS

- WIPE YOUR LENS!
- Try to use a microphone, or your headphones, to capture better sound
- Tap on different parts of the screen to adjust focus, white balance and exposure.
- Small, slow and steady movements are best when working on smartphones!
- Film cutaways/b-roll clips for (at least) 5-10 seconds. Longer if you'd like to share with media.
- Try out some slo-mo shots (50 or 60 Frames Per Second is great, 120+ is usually too slow!).
- DO NOT SHARE CLIPS VIA SMS/EMAIL. They will be compressed and low-quality. Consider using SendAnywhere (app), Google Drive, Dropbox, WeTransfer, Airdrop or Bluetooth, or use Smart Video Compressor app



GEAR LIST

- Your phone - charged up and with enough free storage (around 150mb per minute of HD footage)
- Grips or tripod - here are some options under \$50
 - You be the grip! (Just hold your phone)
 - [JOBY Gorilla Grips](#) from \$25
 - SMISEA [Selfie sticks with tripod](#) \$22
- Feiyutech Vimble - for steadicam & tripod \$100
- An external microphone
 - Your headphone mic! Cheapest option.
 - [RODE Smartlav](#) \$75 - consider getting extension cable \$25
 - [Audio-Technica Microphone for smartphones](#) \$45 - remember to turn off/on and make sure batteries are full
- [Portable power-bank](#) if you're considering doing a lot of filming

EDITING APPS

- [Kinemaster](#): GREAT editing app, available for iOS and Android, free with small watermark, supports landscape, portrait and square editing, user-friendly, multi-track editing.
- [Quik](#): available for iOS and Android, free, great for visual edits (e.g. pictures, footage with no speaking) and adding music, single-track editing
- [Adobe Premiere Rush](#): simple to use editing app, available for iOS and Android, free (but requires sign-in), single-track editing.
- [Splice](#): simple to use editing app, available for iOS only, free, single-track editing only

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BONUS VIDEO!

[MAKE Your Story: Basics of Smartphone Filmmaking](#), with Tash from Stories For Impact