

# Improving video production with your smartphone

Quick reference guide

## Overview

Recording video content for students can feel intimidating, but it may be easier to achieve than you first think. Most cell phones today have video recording capabilities. Here are some tips for improving the quality of your video productions when recording with a smartphone.

### 1. Stabilize the camera to prevent shaky video recordings

- Invest in a tripod or smartphone camera mount, or make a camera mount out of household items.
- Use a selfie stick w/built-in tripod and Bluetooth remote. This method is terrific for self-recording in the field.
- Use a combination [hand grip/small tripod/tripod adapter](#). This method can be used as a hand grip for filming on-the-go or as a desktop tripod. The phone mount can be removed from the hand grip/tripod legs section, allowing you to mount your phone on most standard tripods.
- You can also try some creative ways to use household items to mount and stabilize your smart phone, such as by notching a paper cup or sturdy business card to use as a stand, or using large paper clips to prop your phone in the desired position.



## 2. Check your camera settings

If you have a good internet connection for uploads, consider recording 1080p at 30fps.



## 3. Improve your audio quality

- Use an external microphone whenever possible.
- A [lavalier microphone](#) can help to improve audio quality, especially if you are not able to stand near the phone while recording, or if your background is noisy.
- A [double lavalier microphone](#) can be used if you need to have two people on camera. The advantage of this microphone type is that both cables feed into the same phone, removing the need to synchronize two audio sources.
- An [audio cable extension](#) can be helpful for when you need to stand farther away from the camera.

Stabilizing the camera, optimizing the recording settings and taking steps to assure audio quality can help to significantly improve your video recordings and bring educational video content to students.



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