

Screencasting: An introduction

Quick reference guide

Overview

One tool that many online educators find helpful is software that helps you capture video of whatever is on your computer screen with your voice-over narration. This is called screencasting. Anything you might show from your computer on a projector screen in your classroom can be shared using this kind of software.

Screencasting examples

Screencasting software can be used to present information, give a demonstration, give feedback on student work and for the following kinds of instructional materials and learning activities:

- Website or software demonstrations
- Narration with PowerPoint slides or any on-screen images
- Narration with assignment directions displayed on screen
- Narration with a graph or equation on screen
- Asynchronous writing conferences with the student's submitted draft on screen
- Reading e-books aloud to young children
- Students can even create accounts and conduct asynchronous peer reviews or give recorded oral presentations

Show anything on your screen, add your voice, publish your video and share the link – with your whole class or one-on-one with individual students. You will need to create a free account and to use a computer equipped with a microphone. This software also works with smartphones and Chromebooks.

Screencast-O-Matic

At Oregon State University, many faculty and instructional designers use the free web-based software Screencast-O-Matic. The [Screencast-O-Matic welcome video](#) provides an overview of the features available. In addition to working on a computer or laptop, Screencast-O-Matic also offers free apps for various smartphones. You can record voice-over-screen recordings in just a few easy steps:

1. Create your free account at Screencast-O-Matic.
2. Download the recorder.
3. Capture the portion of your screen you want to share.
4. Click record, and go! Navigate on your screen and talk to your students.
5. End the recording and publish.
6. Share the link.

Expert tip: You can create videos and reuse the links with different students or even with your colleagues.



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