

11 Helpful Tips on How to Shoot a Video with your Smartphone

1. **Make sure there is room** - Before you begin recording, check how much memory is available on your device. Video files are large and can quickly max out the memory space on your smartphone.
2. **Clean your camera** - The camera lens on your smartphone may be dusty or greasy. Wipe it with a soft cloth like material to remove any unnecessary debris.
3. **Good lighting** - Shoot your video in brightly lit areas such as outdoors, near large windows, or in a room that is well lit. Lighting should be stable and steady. This will help avoid unnecessary shadows and grainy areas in your video.
4. **Shoot horizontally** - ALWAYS turn your smartphone sideways and shoot in landscape mode. When the video is played back on other screens, such as computer or TVs, your video will look fine and not have the large black columns on both sides.
5. **Avoid using the built in zoom** - Do not use the built in zoom feature on your smartphone as it distorts the videos quality.
6. **Get close to your subject** - Staying physically closer to your subject ensures better video quality, reduces surrounding noise, and better focus in your videos. If the subject looks far away on your smartphone screen, move your feet closer until you find the perfect shot.
7. **Framing** - Make sure your subject is not awkward positions on your smartphone and allow for head room (space at the top of one's head).
8. **Focus** - Many smartphones have an automatic focusing lens and offer "touch focusing" which enables you to tap the screen on the subject to ensure its focused.
9. **Audio Matters** - Record your video in a quite place. Minimize any unnecessary or surrounding noise and make sure your fingers or a smartphone case is not covering your smartphone's microphone.
10. **Stay steady** - Hold your smartphone with both hands and keep your elbows as close to your body as possible. This provides the necessary support your arms need to minimize shakiness.
11. **Have fun!** - Make the most out of the opportunity to record your own video.

