



These tips should work for anyone using a computer or smartphone:

Note: *these tips are optional*, but their effect is additive, meaning that whatever tips you follow will make your video better.

1. Practice ahead of time. Several times.
2. Film in a well-lit location, preferably with a north-facing window that can shine on your face at roughly a 45° angle
3. That window should definitely *not* allow the sun to shine on you or behind you onto the wall
4. It will help if the wall behind you is slightly darker than you and your outfit
5. Position the camera at eye level or slightly above (I stack mine on a bunch of thick art books when I do this)
  - If recording with a smartphone, ask the person to hold it *sideways*, and as upright/flat as possible (perpendicular to the floor)
  - If recording on a laptop, place it on several books so that the camera is eye-level. Try not to angle the screen.
6. When you speak, look at the camera, rather than the screen
7. Use a strong, clear voice, since these computer mics need all the help they can get
8. Silence your cell phone and the notifications on your laptop, and send your office phone to voicemail
9. Ask pets and children and spouses to turn down the TV, the boombox, and the trampoline
10. Your head and shoulders should take up roughly 1/3 of the screen real estate