

## Phone Video Recording Tips

### 1. Preparation & Planning

Before you film anything think about your story.

What are the key messages?

Who needs to tell the story?

What images do you need to make the message stand out?

Write a check list before filming to make sure you include all the key contributors and elements you want to include

Example below could be used to plan 3 people talking about a community growing project

| Who is speaking? | What are their messages?                   | Location - where to film            | Duration - How long is this bit? |
|------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Person 1         | Explaining how the organisation was set up | In front of the produce grown       | 30 seconds                       |
| Person 2         | Aims of the organisation                   | In a quiet part of the storage area | 20 seconds                       |
| Person 3         | Conclusion                                 | Background shows boxes of produce   | 20 seconds                       |

### 2. Location - the best place to film

Consider what you want to **hear** as well as **show** in pictures

Does your chosen location help tell the story or illustrate a point you want to make

#### Consider

Is it too noisy?

Does the background add or distract from the story?

Is it light enough?



### **3. Front camera or back camera i.e. flipping the image**

Back camera is better quality

If you use back camera check the eye-line works for you

### **4. Clean the Lens**

Wipe with a clean fluff free cloth

### **5. Charge your battery**

### **6. Stabilise the camera or handheld**

What works best for your recording - static or with movement?

Use a tripod or rest on something for steady images

For handheld use 2 hands

### **7. Camera settings**

Look in the menu settings and set to best quality or auto setting

### **8. Eye-line**

Usually looking slightly up at the eyes for interviews but also consider how big the subject is in the frame. If it's important to concentrate on the speaker they should be large in the frame but if the background is also important make sure you can see what helps tell the story.

### **9. Auto or manual modes - you decide according to your experience**

Apps can be useful but not necessary

### **10. Sound - External microphones**

Who has an external microphone?

If you don't have an external microphone have the camera near the speaker, check for background noise, make a test recording and adjust as necessary.

Listen out for distracting sounds for instance:

Wind rustle

Traffic

Other people talking

### **11. Storage - clear space on your phone**

You may need to check available storage on your phone  
on an iphone look in - General - settings-iphone storage

### **12. Recording**

Remember where do you want eye-line and focal point

Framing - what size do you want?

How will you hold or support the camera?

Watch out for:

Distractions - noise and or visual distractions

Put your phone in 'do not disturb' mode so that recordings are not interrupted with alert and ringing sounds

Remember for **this** recording we want to film in **landscape** mode - like below



### **12. Make Test Recording**

Replay and check sound and vision

Adjust as necessary

### **13. Filming**

Only keep the takes that work

Give me written notes if things aren't recorded in the order you want them edited and make each section is clear so I can follow your guide.

Duration - we don't want loads of unnecessary footage and final film should be 1 minute long

### **Finally**

### **14. Email to: [jade@realfarming.org](mailto:jade@realfarming.org)**

Directly from your phone if files aren't too large or send via a file transfer service like We Transfer

### **Additional Guides available on YouTube**

**Tips and techniques to help make your footage stand out**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0nG7pAXRgvE>**

### **Advanced Pro Tips**

Very detailed but interesting if you want to learn more

**[https:// www.youtube.com/watch?v=eINSy5Aguzo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eINSy5Aguzo)**

### **Iphone tips, tricks and techniques**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VE5QM3WJAvY>**