

HINTS AND TIPS

FOR SHOOTING THE BEST VIDEO



STARTERS

First, charge your phone, check you have enough storage space, make sure you have any props you might need, and switch your camera to the highest res you can. Make sure you have permission from anyone who features. Accidentally getting a celebrity in the background might make your piece go viral but could land you with a bill for fees!



SCRIPT

Once you've got everything ready, stop. Go back to the beginning and make sure your script is perfect. A good tip for newbies is to not share the script with your actors until the last minute. You'll get a less rehearsed performance, possibly some more believable ad-libbing and maybe (if you're lucky) some hilarious mistakes. Oh yes, we'd love to see the mistakes too.



SOUND

You can record sounds and any speaking through your built-in mic; but try to make sure there's no wind noise or annoying sounds going on around you. If you can borrow a microphone, it'll make your piece feel so much more professional. Avoid using someone else's music, unless you have their permission.



SHHH

Before you shout 'action' it's a good idea to start recording. People behave differently when they don't think they're being watched so you might get some natural reactions, real laughter or whatever you're looking for. Same goes for the end, say 'cut' but keep filming for a few seconds. It's an old trick but even the best actors can be better when they're not acting.



STABILITY

You might think you have a steady hand but a shaky picture is really distracting. Hold your phone as steadily as you can, or use a mini tripod – even a cushion or beanbag. Smooth and steady will make your video look a million dollars. Jiggling around in your hand will look more like 10 euros.

