Tip 01 · Lighting

Light it right

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1. **Closer, not brighter.** A big light up close is softer than a small one far away.
2. **Key light at 45°,** a little above eye level. Instant depth.
3. **Face the window.** Free soft light. Never sit with it behind you.
4. **Kill the overheads.** Ceiling lights give you raccoon eyes.

Fix your light before you buy a new camera.

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Tip 02 · Cameras

Webcam vs mirrorless

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Webcam

+ Plug in and go live
+ Cheap, tiny, zero setup
− Small sensor, noisy in low light
− Fake-looking background blur

Best for starting out

Mirrorless

+ Real depth of field
+ Way better in low light
− Needs clean HDMI + capture card
− Dummy battery or it dies

Best for leveling up

A good light beats a new camera. Every time.

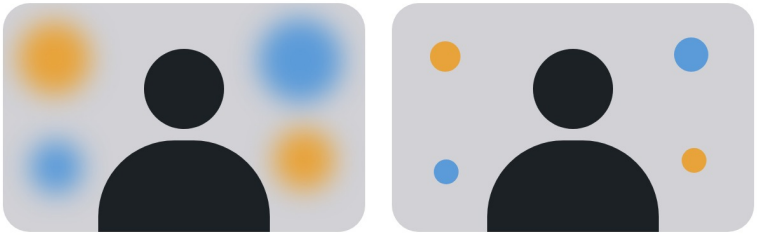
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Tip 03 · Exposure

Exposure, shown

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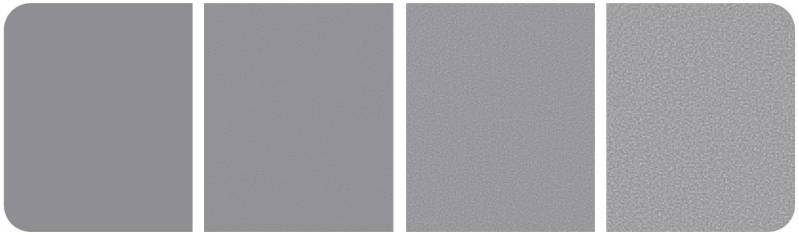
Aperture



f/2 f/11

Low number: blurry background, more light. High number: everything sharp.

ISO



100 1600 6400 12800

Higher ISO = brighter but noisier. Add light before you raise it.

Light first. ISO last.

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Tip 04 · Settings

Camera cheat sheet

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Frame rate	24 = cinematic. 30 = streams. 60 = fast motion.
Shutter	Double your frame rate. 30fps = 1/60.
Expose	For the face, not the room. Zebras help.
White balance	Lock it. Auto shifts color mid-stream.
Focus	Face/eye AF, continuous. Done.

Set it once. Stop thinking about it.

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Tip 05 · Light color

Don't mix your lights

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3200K · warm bulbs | 5600K · daylight | 6500K+ · shade

1. **Pick one.** All warm or all daylight.
2. **Window + lamp** = orange face, blue room.
3. **Can't match?** Turn one off. Then lock white balance.

Matching lights beats more lights.

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Tip 06 · Audio

Audio > video

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1. **Mic close.** A fist or two from your mouth, not across the desk.
2. **Peaks around −12 dB.** Never hit 0. Clipping can't be fixed.
3. **Soft stuff kills echo.** Rugs, curtains, couch. Free.
4. **Listen back on headphones.** Your viewers do.

People forgive bad video. Not bad audio.

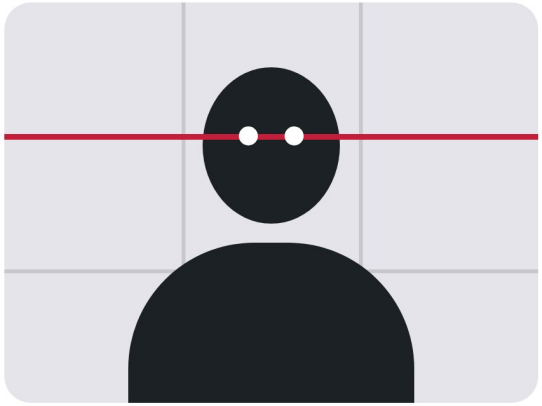
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Tip 07 · Framing

Frame it up

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1. **Camera at eye level.** No up-the-nose.
2. **Eyes on the top third** line.
3. **A little headroom,** not a ceiling.
4. **Pull off the wall** for depth.



Free upgrade. Just move the camera.

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Tip 08 · IRL streaming

IRL stream survival

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1. **Double your power.** Big power bank + spare cables. Always.
2. **Bond your signal.** Combine connections so one dead zone doesn't end you.
3. **Have a BRB scene** that kicks in when signal drops.
4. **Mic on you,** not the camera. Crowds are loud.

Plan for the signal to drop. It will.

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Tip 09 · Gear

Starter kit tiers

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~$100

Phone or webcam
USB or lav mic
A window

~$500

Solid 1080p webcam
Better mic + arm
Key light w/ diffusion

~$1,500

Mirrorless + fast lens
Capture card
Key + back light

Upgrade in this order: audio, light, camera.

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