

TECH-TIPS

Tips to help you improve the technical aspect of your video

- Identify all functional controls on your camera (zoom, focus, audio); once familiar with these controls, try them out and get a feel for them until you are comfortable using your camera.
- Picture quality is the most important item you should be aware of when shooting. Some cameras have a feature on them that you can do a “white balance”. This tells the camera what type of lighting situation you are shooting in (sun, indoor light, fluorescent etc...) If your camera has this function you will be assured the best quality picture. Cameras that don’t have this feature might have an “auto adjust” for white balance or simply nothing at all.
- Audio is probably the second most important item to be considered, as we need to hear what you are saying when you deliver your message to the camera. Most cameras have a built in microphone (usually located on the top of the camera near the front) which picks up all ambient audio. The quality of the built in microphone is usually not the best as it picks up EVERYTHING and can distort your message if you are in a loud environment. IF your camera has the option of attaching a microphone in an accessory jack, use it. Otherwise, don’t worry too much about using the built in microphone...try and control the other noises around when you shoot.
- When you begin to shoot, a good rule of thumb is to mark out where your camera is going to be positioned. From that point you can zoom into your subject (the person you are shooting) and achieve the best focus possible so that your picture is clear and not blurry. If you choose to go “handheld”, be careful not to go in too close as your picture could very well end up getting blurry. IF you have one available, you may want to use a tripod. Your shots will be stable and for people who don’t have a steady hand, it will help you greatly!
- When you have decided what you are going to say on camera, the most important thing to do is **SPEAK CLEARLY**, especially for those who cannot use a microphone other than the one on the camera. If you mumble or speak quietly, your message might not be heard. We want everyone to hear what you have to say.

I hope these few tips will help you in your mission to create your personal Easter Spirit video. God Bless, and **HAPPY SHOOTING!**