



# CREATING CONTENT WITH YOUR DEVICES

USING IPHONE, IPAD AND ANDROIDS AS A MEANS FOR CREATIVE DELIVERY

# PREPARE CONTENT TO FILM

- Draft some bullet points (or complete script, whatever works for you) summarizing the key items to cover in your video.

Mock Sides: Original Scripts for Workshop Actors

## SLEEPY MOUTH

Written by

David Dalton & Chad Schnackel

Pages: 3+

### Characters:

Marlene, 30's  
Winnie, 20's

### Synopsis:

Marlene wonders why all her employees are snickering at her after the annual office party. Her Assistant, Winnie, has to break the news to her; she slobbers when she kisses.

### PERMISSION FOR USE

Educational Use: YOU HAVE PERMISSION to use this script for acting classes & workshops, general auditions, audition workshops, school entry auditions, school scholarship auditions, personal practice, and school related competitions where no monetary awards or prizes are given.

Film or Video Productions: YOU HAVE PERMISSION to film or videotape a performance of this script for the purpose of demonstration (demo reel or show reel) as long as the writer's names appear in the film/video credits in the finished production.

Expansion/Development/Film Festivals: YOU MUST OBTAIN expressed written permission from the MockSides administrators (writers David Dalton & Chad Schnackel) to expand or develop this script into a short film, feature, or any sort of episodic series for commercial use or for entries into film festivals and competitions where a monetary award or prize is offered, in which case, monetary compensation may be required by the writers.

NOTE: Most film festival organizations and their sponsors may not even allow a produced video/film of this script to be entered, since there may already be produced versions of this script by others, making it an "unoriginal film". We recommend you commission the writers of this script to create original content for your use only.

Copyright © 2012 [www.mocksides.com](http://www.mocksides.com)

## SELECT A SUITABLE LOCATION

- Choose a backdrop you like, remembering to AVOID:
  - Too much background noise (some time unavoidable at school functions)
  - Bright lights or the sun facing the camera
  - An overly dark scene without sufficient ambient light
  - Overly active or “busy” shots, which may distract the viewers



# PREPARE THE PHONE (DEVICE) MOUNT

- Deciding on where you will be posting your phone and setup the tripod (or mount) in position for filming.
- The camera lens should be just below eye level when you're in position to film.
  - i.e. You should be looking slightly downwards at the lens.

**No Tripod? No worries!** You can stack books, use a stool, or prop the phone against other items you have handy to set the appropriate height and position the phone.



# WE ARE HUMAN TRIPODS

## The WRONG Way!



- Phone is Vertical
- Elbows are out
- Phone is crooked and minimal support

This allows uncertainty with your shot and will be extremely difficult to work with in post production.

## The RIGHT Way!



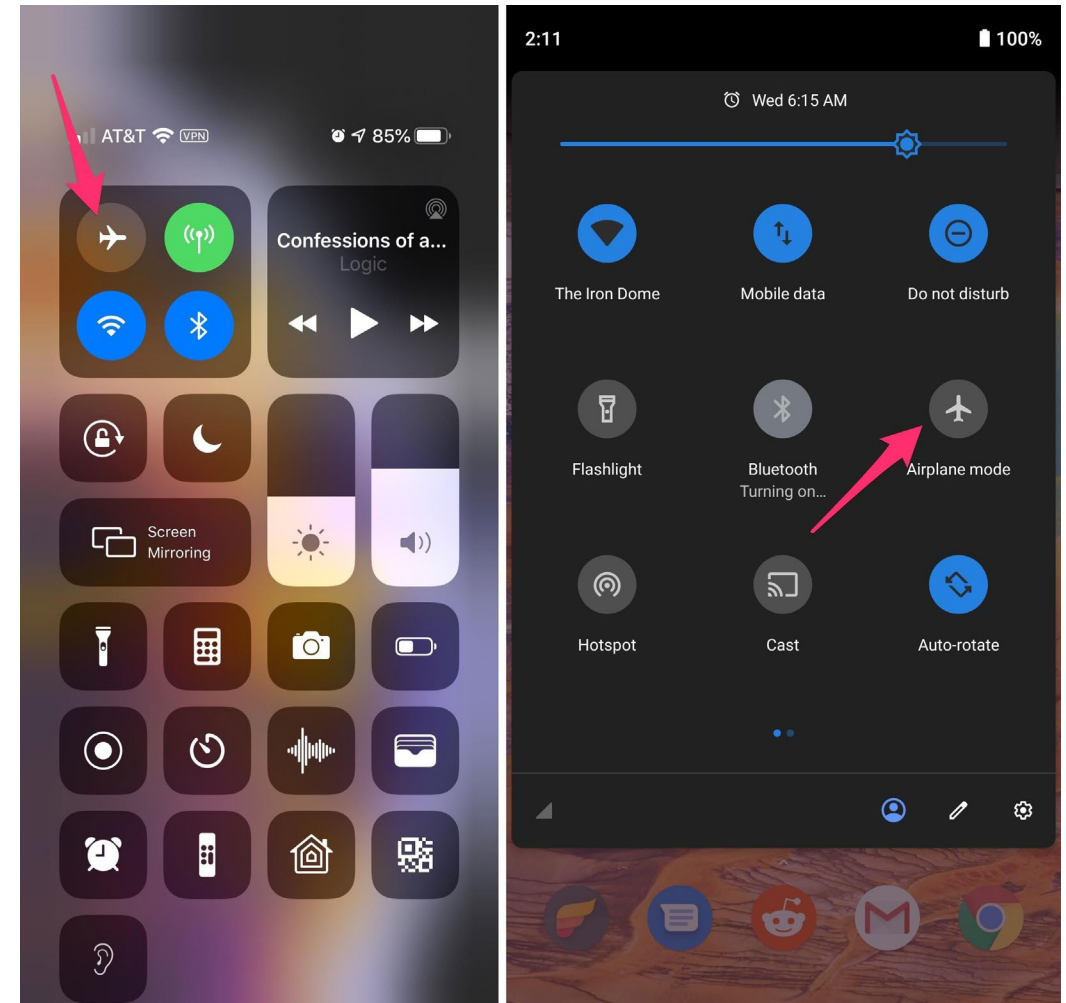
- Phone is Horizontal
- Elbows are tucked into body and stable
- Phone is straight and supported

There will be little error when filming with these techniques. Much easier to work with in post production.



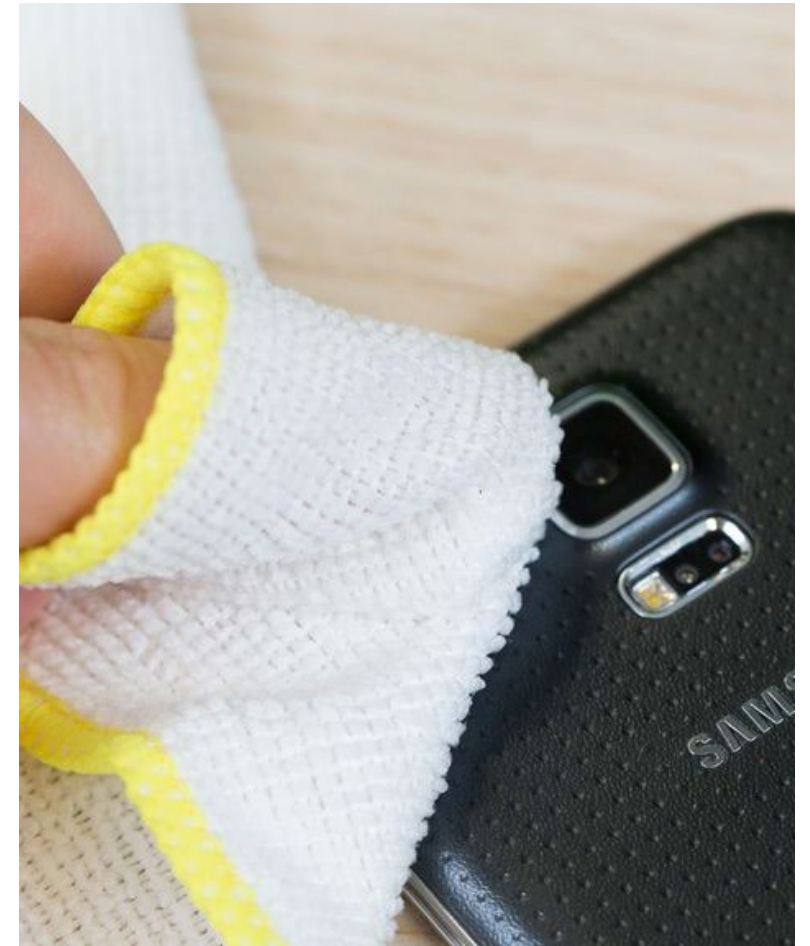
# SWITCH TO AIRPLANE MODE

- Switch on Airplane mode to prevent any calls or interruptions while filming.
- Other tips to save your battery
  - Make sure your phone is charged before
  - Take an external battery pack with you



# CLEAN THE CAMERA LENS

- Secure your phone (device) **horizontally** either in the smartphone holder attached to the tripod (if you have one) or on your makeshift camera mount.
- **If you are filming yourself for an anchor piece, make sure the screen is facing towards you. You'll be using the front facing camera.**
  - As per Step 3, the camera lens should be just below eye level when you're in position to film.



## WIRE YOUR MICROPHONE (OPTIONAL)

- **Optional – for those with a Lavalier Microphone**
- Wire up your microphone by plugging it into your device and either:
  - Clipping it to your clothing, just above your chest

**Don't have a microphone?** Don't let that stop you! The built in microphone will still work fine as long as you're in a quiet environment without much background noise.





# CONFIGURE YOUR DEVICE FOR RECORDING

## Apple Devices

- To prepare your phone, you'll need to:
  - **Make sure there is enough free storage space.** The amount of storage space required will vary but you should try to allow for 1.3BG per 10 min of footage. You can check the available space under:
  - **Settings > General > About > Check 'Available'**
  - If you don't have sufficient space, backup photos/videos/files to your laptop, iCloud or another device and remove them from your phone.
  - **Open the Camera App and change to video mode.**
  - **Check Video Quality Settings.**
    - Some devices support higher than 1080p resolutions. It's not necessary to go this high for most videos (you'll just burn through your phone storage!), but it's up to you to decide!

## Android Devices

- To prepare your phone, you'll need to:
  - **Make sure there is enough free storage space.** The amount of storage space required will vary but you should try to allow for 1.3BG per 10 min of footage. You can check the available space under:
  - **Settings > Navigate to 'Storage'**
  - If you don't have sufficient space, backup photos/videos/files to your laptop, iCloud or another device and remove them from your phone.
  - **Check Video Quality Settings.**
    - Make sure the video size is set to 1920x1080p if available, otherwise as close as possible.

# FRAME THE SHOT AND SET LIGHTING

- **Make sure your phone is horizontal and the shot is level.** Use a horizontal line or the horizon within your shot or pick a vertical line as a point of reference, and make sure it's as close to parallel with the frame as possible.
- **Position yourself in the shot, slightly off center (if anchor piece.)** You should be looking across the phone and straight into the front camera lens (above the screen when the phone is in portrait mode.)
- **Setup the lighting.** If the lighting is unbalanced and you're noticing harsh shadows in the shot, position a desk lamp or other light source so it brightens up the darker areas to create a more even light.



# SET EXPOSURE TO MANUAL

## Apple Devices

- By default, the iPhone or iPad will auto-adjust exposure settings while filming whenever light changes or there is movement within a shot. This is great for outdoor environments or where the camera is being moved around, but for controlled environments this means any slight movement you make could trigger the phone to alter the brightness of your shot.
- To keep the lighting consistent, you can turn this off by switching on '**Auto-Exposure Lock**' (i.e. '**Manual Exposure**.')
- To do this, **tap and hold** on the screen the spot you would like the device to use as a reference to auto-configure the exposure (generally this will be your face) ... Keep holding until '**AE/AF-Lock**' appears after a few seconds, indicating Auto-Exposure is enabled.

## Android (and other) Devices

- Most phone camera's will auto-adjust exposure settings while filming whenever light changes or there is movement within a shot. This is great for outdoor environments or where the camera is being moved around, but for controlled environments this means any slight movement you make could trigger the phone to alter the brightness of your shot.
- To keep the lighting consistent, you can turn this off by switching on '**Auto-Exposure Lock**' (i.e. '**Manual Exposure**.')
- The location (and name) of the Manual Exposure settings differs for most devices – and some don't even have it in their default camera app at all... You'll generally find it under your Camera settings, or in the on-screen camera options.
- **Note – if your device doesn't have the settings, check out the free Open Camera App from the Google Play Store.**

## RECORD A TEST VIDEO

- Hit the record button and complete a quick test video. Play it back to make sure you're happy with the shot and the audio is working fine.
- **HINT** – if you have a microphone plugged in, you will have to remove it to hear playback.

And now comes the fun part!



# RECORD YOUR VIDEO!

- FINALLY, time to start filming! Just remember the following tips and you'll do just fine.
  - **Re-confirm that 'Auto-Exposure Lock' is still on.** Yup, it sometimes switches itself back off again after completing a video.
  - **Be aware of any light changes in between shots.** Changes in light due to clouds, lights switching on/off, etc. can impact your results during editing later as you start cutting between shots.
  - **Look directly at the camera lens, not at yourself on screen.** It's important to maintain eye contact with your viewers – and this is how you do it!
  - **Monitor background noise and activity.** If there is too much happening in the background (loud car driving past, someone walking through your shot, etc.) just leave the camera recording, wait until it's clear and start the shot again.
  - **When Starting, hit record, get into position and wait at least 3 seconds before you start speaking.** This way your viewers won't have to watch you settle into position while you're starting to speak.
  - **When Finishing, make sure to wait at least 3 seconds after you finish speaking before hitting the stop button.** Don't let the last thing your viewers see be you reaching for the stop button!