

How to Record Your Video

Guide Track

We have provided an audio guide track for you to sing/play along to whilst you make your video recording.

For our sign-singers, please use the full song video guide recorded by Rebecca. Rebecca has already synchronised her performance to the audio guide track.

The audio guide track is the same as the piano score.

There are 4 initial beats at the start of the audio track which are used to:

- a.) Set the tempo
- b.) Synchronise the recordings.

The 4 beats are then followed by three silent beats and the song starts on the next (fourth) beat.

To synchronise our video clips, can you clap your hands or click your finger towards your recording equipment on the last beat of those initial audible clicks. The finger click does not need to be loud, but the movement is quite defined, so we can synchronise the videos from that movement.

You will need to play the guide track on a different device to that being used to record the video, with audio playback through headphones.

Do spend time getting used to performing with the guide track before attempting to record yourself!

The Recording

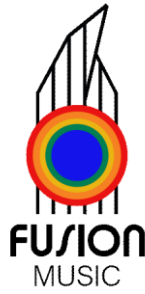
You will need a device that can record video – smartphone, laptop etc. (If you are camera-shy and would prefer just to record your audio, then feel free to do so).

Your device should record video with at least these settings:

- Dimensions: 720p (1280x720pixels). Larger 1080p, 4k recordings are great.
- Frame rate: 24 fps (frames per second) – most devices will record at a higher quality 30 or 60 fps.

Record your video in **landscape** (horizontal orientation). This will make editing the videos together much easier.

Make sure you have good lighting – light from a window or a lamp is fine. Make sure there are no shadows or a lot of light behind you.



Are you close enough to the camera?

- Vocals and BSL - we need to see your face and signs. Position yourself at the required distance from the camera to get a good headshot (waist and up).
- Instruments and percussion - we need to see you and your instrument. Positioning for each instrument will vary.

You may want to use a tripod (or some sort of support) to hold your recording device (or an assistant)

For good contrast/visibility, wear a plain top and have a plain background (different colour top to background).

Note - Smartphones cannot record the video in the camera app while simultaneously playing the guide track.

Don't forget, you can practice. Do multiple takes and decide which one is best to submit!

Recording Apps

Computer or laptop:

This is the exception - You can use a computer to both record yourself and play the guide track. Phones cannot run two separate things at once.

1. Windows Users:

- The basic Camera app included with Windows can be used to video yourself.
- Cyberlink YouCam provides better quality recordings (free version):
<https://www.cyberlink.com/products/youcam/>

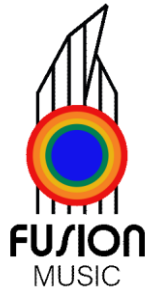
Please note that laptop cameras and speakers are often not high-quality and may take time to adjust to get the best result.

2. Mac Users:

- Use Quicktime (included on your computer). Helpful instructions here:
<https://osxdaily.com/2016/12/04/record-video-mac/>

3. Chromebooks and anyone using the Chrome Browser:

- ScreenCastify (free) - 5 minute limit (our song is just under 3 minutes ☺) - Just install the browser extension.



Smartphones

All smartphones come with a built-in video recording app

If you can, record yourself using the back camera which usually has the higher resolution/better quality.

When you have recorded your video (or audio), use We Transfer (<https://wettransfer.com>) to send the file to us, using email address workshops@kakou.org.uk

If you find that your video file is larger than the 2GB We Transfer upload limit, email Kakou and we'll provide a different method for you to send your file.

The deadline for video submission is the 15th October 2020.