



Virtual Choir Instructions

As you can imagine, putting together a virtual choir is a complicated process! These instructions are here to guide you through the process of recording and submitting your virtual performance in a way that will produce the best overall results. Please contact Lucas Mesa (lucasmh@saddleback.com) if you have any questions about these instructions.

Required Equipment

Please make sure you have access to the following equipment for capturing your virtual performance:



MP3 Player / Tablet / Smartphone

You need a device capable of playing MP3 audio files so you can sing along with the accompaniment track.



Headphones

- Headphones are REQUIRED during recording - we want to record your voice, NOT the accompaniment track
- In-ear headphones (i.e. earbuds) are preferable but use whatever you have.



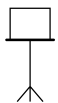
Video Recording Device

- Use any device capable of recording video into a digital format.
- Consider dedicated video camera, smartphone, tablet. (Laptop webcam NOT preferred.)
- Note: playback of accompaniment and recording must use two separate devices.



Tripod (or other stabilizing device)

- Tripod adapters are available for smartphones/tablets.
- Consider camera placement alternatives such as shelves, tables, boxes, etc.
- Handheld recordings will not be usable in the final recording.



Music Stand (or alternative)

- Memorization is the best option for making a visually engaging performance.
- Make sure you have something to put your sheet music or tablet device on (visible to you but off camera). Consider creative alternatives to music stands - whatever works!

Preparation/ Practice

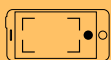
- Choose your vocal part.
- Download your song chart and isolations for practice (links below)
 - [Vocal Chart](#)
 - Isolation Files—choose your voice part: [Soprano](#) // [Alto](#) // [Tenor](#) // [Baritone](#)
- Use your ISO audio or the ALL Vocals - Audio as a reference. (link below)
 - [All Vocals - Audio](#)
 - Tutorial guides and videos are available (through Google search) to help you transfer MP3 files to your playback device if need be.
- Practice Tips
 - Practice singing/playing while listening to the accompaniment track.
 - Practice singing/playing with one or both headphones in - experiment to get your best performance.

RECORDING



1 Set up your recording space.

- Find a QUIET space with minimal ambient noise and echoes.
- Silence/remove intermittent noise sources (air conditioning, phones, fans, desktop computers, pets, etc.).
- Ensure bright lighting (e.g. natural, ceiling/floor lamps, desk lamps).
- Avoid backlighting (lights/windows behind you while shooting)
- Place your sheet music so you don't have to look too far down while recording.



2 Set up your camera.

- Set up your camera to record in landscape (wide) orientation.
- Frame your video so we can see you from the navel up. Make sure your head is near the top edge of the video. Use a PLAIN WALL as a background.
- Change your video recording mode to Standard Definition (SD) if possible, or 720p at 30fps. Tutorial: [iPhones](#) [Android](#)
- Test adjustable audio settings - make sure you aren't too loud or too quiet (use built-in level/peak meters and listen on headphones if possible).



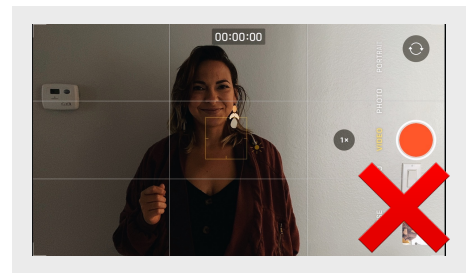
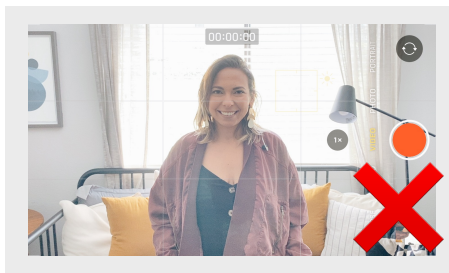
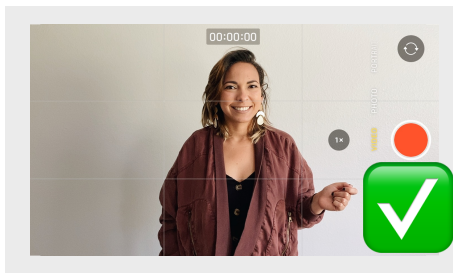
3 Dress for your performance.

- Make sure your clothing is dark so it contrasts with the background.



4 Record your performance.

1. Put on your headphones. If using only one earbud, tuck the other into *back* of shirt
2. Press 'Record' on your video camera.
3. Press 'Play' on your MP3 player/device
4. Sing/play your part. If you make a mistake, stop your camera and MP3 player. Start again at recording step 2.



FILMING CHECKLIST

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet Space | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone in Landscape/Horizontally | <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Wall Background |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Clothes - NO TEXT | <input type="checkbox"/> Bright lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> Play Audio Reference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Headphones/ earbuds/ in ears | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Setting 720p at 30fps | <input type="checkbox"/> Clap! |




REVIEWING AND SUBMITTING

Review your video recording using headphones.

- o Listen for audible noises you may not have noticed during recording.
- o Listen for background hiss from the room or your device
- o Listen for sound level - too loud (distorting) or soft (hard to hear over background noise).
- o Look for proper visual framing and adequate lighting.
- o Adjust camera settings and position and re-record if necessary.
- o Try a different device if you are unable to achieve good results.

Submit your video file using the Dropbox Link

- o Smartphone/tablet/webcam videos: upload directly from your device.
- o Video cameras: transfer the video file to a computer by USB cable/SD Card, etc. and upload from your browser.
- o Follow the steps below...
 1. Go to [Dropbox LINK](#)
 2. Click on the + icon to add your video. 
 3. Add YOUR NAME and YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS in the section below.
 4. Click UPLOAD.

Your name



Your email address

Upload

[UPLOAD YOUR VIDEO HERE](#)