

## Recording your pre-screen or audition video

Tips and instructions on recording your orchestra video  
from recording engineer and classical musician  
Alexey Alexandrov, Rec.Today Music Video Production.

The process of making a music video is complex and requires specific skills and practice to get it right. When doing it by yourself, there are some important things to consider to get the best result.

### 1. Space

When choosing a space for recording your video, you need to consider such factors as **lighting** and **background noise**:

#### - **Make sure that you are getting enough light**

The video shouldn't be **too dark** or **too bright**. It should be easy to see **you playing**. Make sure to check what picture you are **getting in the camera before** you start recording;

#### - **Eliminate the background noise**

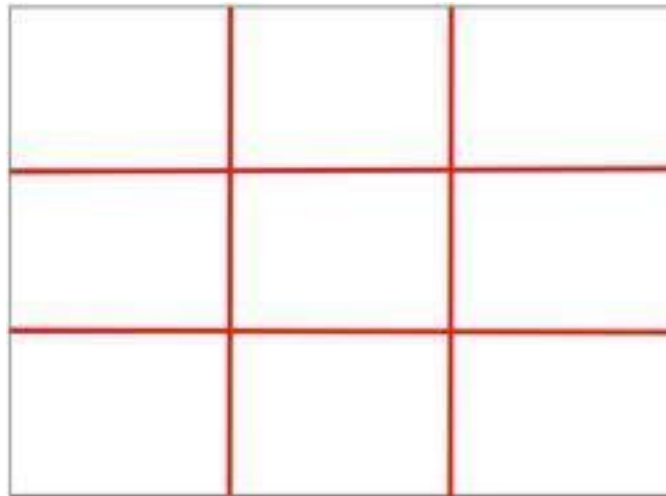
Nowadays, we have a lot of noise around us all the time like **heating, air conditioning, refrigerator**, etc. We are used to ignoring it. However, if you are using even a simple microphone or recording device, any noise will be much more noticeable. That is why it is always better **to turn off** the source of the noise if possible.

### 2. Video

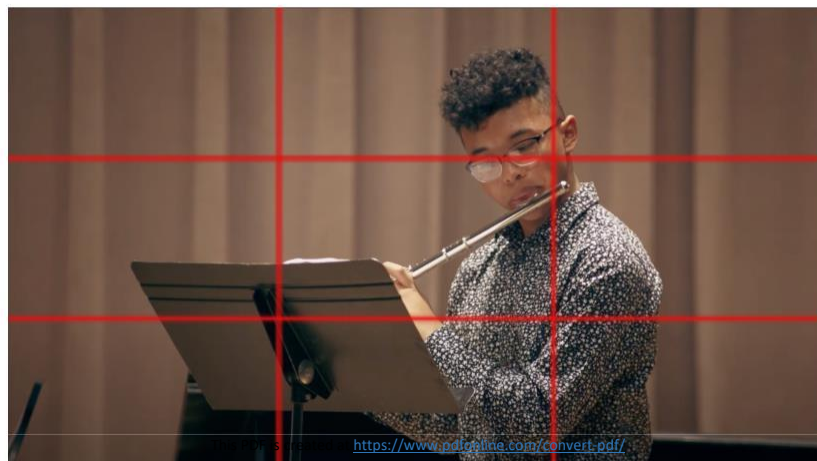
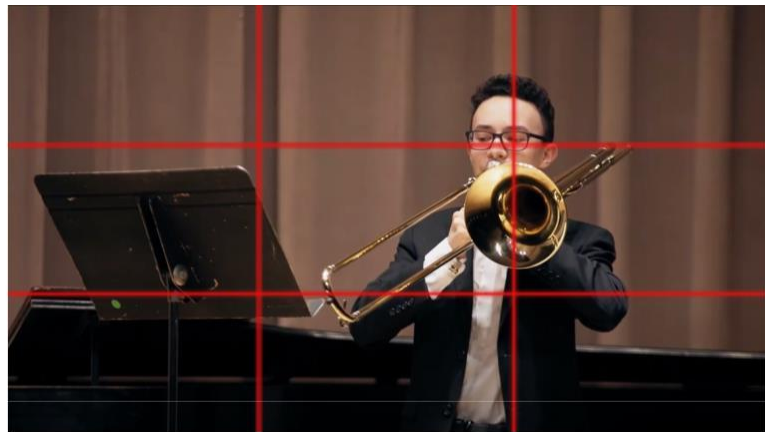
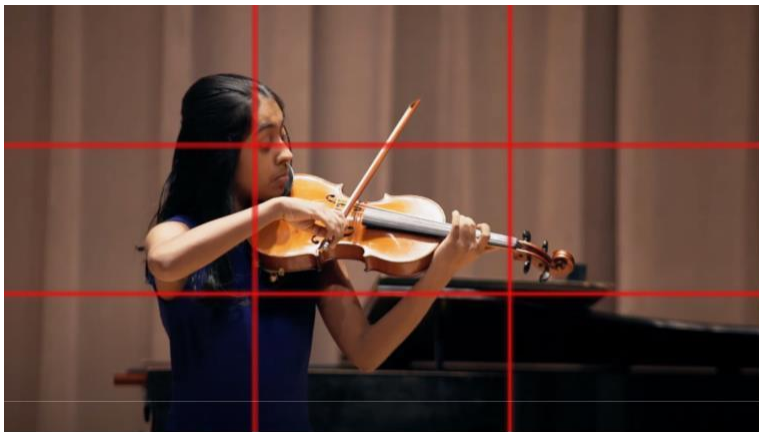
You can use **any camera** you have, even a **built-in camera** of your iPhone. Make sure that it is positioned properly to get a nice shot where you are **not too big or too small**, you don't have anything **blocking the view** in front of the camera, and **your hands are clearly visible**.

Use the rule of thirds:

The basic principle behind the “Rule of Thirds” is to imagine breaking an image down into thirds (both horizontally and vertically) so that you have nine parts. As follows:



The theory is that if you place points of interest/main objects in the intersections or along the lines, your video becomes more balanced and will enable a viewer to interact with it more naturally.



Studies have shown that when viewing images, people’s eyes are naturally drawn to the intersection points rather than the center of the shot. Using the “Rule of Thirds” works with this natural way of viewing an image/video, rather than working against it.

Make sure that nothing is blocking your hands in the shot. It happens especially often with music stands.



The music stand is in good position



The music stand is blocking the hands

Also, it is better to **use a tripod to get a still shot with no shaking**. If you don’t have a tripod, find a fixed position for your camera **to avoid unnecessary shaking**.

If you are using a built-in camera of your smartphone, position it **horizontally** not vertically. Use **the rear camera** instead of the front one because it has a much better quality.

### 3. Sound

At the end, the most important thing is your performance. **Practice recording a few times** to get used to playing in front of the camera. Listen to how it sounds and make the adjustments if needed. Ask your friend, parent, or teacher for their opinion. And don't forget to enjoy the music. Good luck!