

## Video reporting on missions using mobile phones and *entry-level* cameras

### **Your *micro studio* on the mission's site**

At one point, you may need a *micro studio* on the premises at the mission site.

Why?

- To record standup *intros and extros (outros)*, for a story
- To record standup *bridges*, to link 2 different subjects in a story
- To record training sessions
- To record interviews

If the speaker presents a colleague reporting (outside the studio), the latter should *signoff* his clip by saying his name and his specific location (where he is).

Note that the aim is not to replace the more elaborate studio facilities at your home base (mission's HQ or church).

#### **A reporter microphone**



A wired microphone from Comica

For standups, a reporter's microphone is often used.

#### **Wireless microphone pair**



A wireless microphone pair from Comica

Two wireless microphones feed the same on-camera (or mobile phone) receiver.

#### **The ring light**



A ring light by Neewer

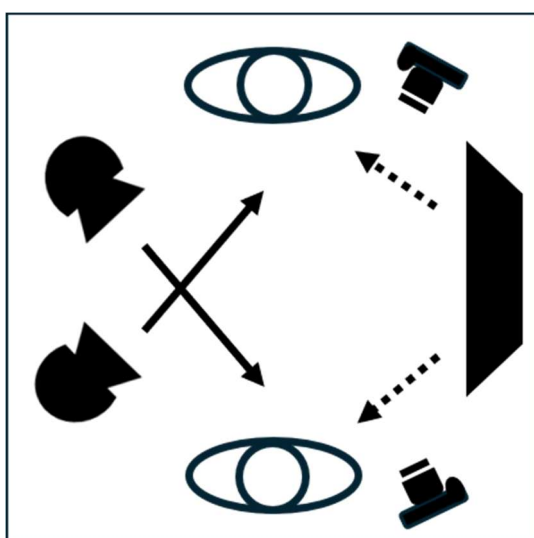
Popular among content creators to record "talking heads," those ring lights make acceptable results.

Personally, I prefer the following setups.

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**For setup for standup, training session recordings, and interviews side by side,** see 1,2,3 light setup in the paper **Photo and video image technology** or 1,2,3,4 light setup in the paper **A digital cinematography rig for learning and practice**.

**Setup for interview setup, when the 2 persons are facing each other.**



Two key lights and a fill light



Two key lights by VIDPro and a fill light by Godox

When two cameras or two mobile phones are available, they should be on the same side.

As in the picture, they are on the fill light side, close to the interviewer and the interviewee.

The same focal length and the same camera shot (see the **Your video script** paper) should be used.

If two mobile phones are used, they would have to be closer to their respective subjects because their lenses are wide angle.

The two microphones feed only one camera (or one mobile phone).

For the majority (almost everyone), only one camera (or one mobile phone) is available, then:

1. Record the topic introduction, the welcome and the first question of the interviewer
2. Record all the answers of the interviewee
3. Record the thank you and closing of the interviewer
4. Record the interviewer looking in the direction of the interviewee (for inserts in the editing session)

### The pre-interview

As you are not a professional in that field and the guest is probably not familiar with the process, a pre-interview is almost mandatory to ensure a good result.

The idea here is to go over the list of questions (including potential answers) with the interviewee before the interview.

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### **And what about acoustics?**



Acoustic foam tiles from Auralex

It is necessary to have a quiet place (free of any noise) for the interviews.

The acoustics of a small studio involve technology that goes way beyond the scope of this paper. That said, you can't just ignore it.

There are plenty of books on the matter, but I suggest seeking guidance from someone who is knowledgeable on the subject at your “home base”.

All too often overlooked, a good acoustic of a *micro studio* (like a home studio – for content creators) makes all the difference between poor audio and professional-like audio.

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In the service of our Lord,

*Pierre*

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“... how can they believe in the one  
of whom they have not heard...”

Romans 10:14