

Camtasia Quick Tips

Follow a Transcript & Storyboard. This prevents you from stumbling on words, creating long pauses in between sentences, and/or creating redundancies. Following a transcript will also make captioning your video easier. If you do not want to follow a transcript, make sure to at least outline or storyboard what you plan to record.

Tell a Story. Stories are compelling and memorable. Think about how to introduce your subject, how to build suspense or curiosity, and what the "moral" of your story is. You can also add additional media (videos, images, diagrams etc.) in Camtasia to help illustrate your points.

Use an External USB Mic and Test Your Audio. Make sure your microphone is recording at a clear and moderate volume. An external mic will deliver MUCH better sound. Click on the *Tools tab* up top in Camtasia and select *Voice Narration*. Then test your audio by clicking on the *Audio Setup Wizard* button.

Eliminate Background Noise. An external USB mic will help, but do isolate yourself from miscellaneous noises when recording.

Record and Edit in Small Segments. Break your lectures into smaller individual topics lectures. Working in segments will make your recording and editing experience much more manageable. Recording a whole lecture with the goal of finishing in one attempt will increase your editing time and looking for errors.

Don't Talk with Your Mouse. If you plan to create a screen capture video, keep your cursor steady and avoid moving it around too much while recording. If viewing the cursor is necessary, you can highlight it in Camtasia.

Record, Edit and Produce in Same Size and High Definition Settings. Have you ever tried watching a video where the text looked really blurry? This happens because of their recording, editing and production settings were not all the same. Keep your video in large, high quality, widescreen dimensions.

Add Callouts, Pan and Zoom, and Transitions. Consistent and judicious use of these elements highlight important information, draw attention to a specific area of your screen, and can make your videos look more professional.

Caption your Videos. Accessibility is not only a best practice but it is the law. Captioning not only helps users with a disability, but also helps those with English as their second language. Upload your video to Canvas Studio to easily generate, edit and publish your captions.

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