



# Tips for a Great Recording

Recording your final words can feel daunting, but it doesn't have to be. These guidelines are designed to help you capture your legacy using your smartphone, ensuring your message is clear, comfortable, and authentically you.



## Not sure what to talk about?

If you have your camera set up but are struggling to find the right words, explore our guide on crafting a meaningful legacy message.

[Read Content Tips](#)

## 1. Setting the Scene



### Find Your Space

Choose a location where you feel completely comfortable and will not be disturbed. Keep the background clean and uncluttered so the focus remains entirely on you.



## Check Your Lighting

Natural daylight is excellent. Avoid sitting with a bright window directly behind you (backlighting). If using lamps, place two on either side of your camera at a 45-degree angle pointing toward your face.



## Minimize Noise

Turn off fans, AC units, and phone notifications. To prevent echoes, record in a smaller room with soft furnishings like carpets and couches. An external microphone is great, but a quiet room works perfectly.

## 2. Your Presence

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### Wardrobe & Framing

- **Stand Out:** Wear solid colors that contrast with your background so you don't blend in. Avoid busy patterns or stripes.
- **Minimize Distractions:** Avoid highly reflective fabrics, large hats, or noisy jewelry that might clink while you speak.
- **Center Yourself:** Position yourself in the middle of the frame, ensuring the top of your head isn't cut off when you move.

### Crafting Your Message

- **Speak from the Heart:** Use your authentic voice. Consider what you would have loved to hear from those you have lost.
- **To Script or Not?** This is entirely up to you. Whether you speak off-the-cuff or read a prepared letter, make sure the tone feels like *you*.

- **Quiet Notes:** If you read from paper or note cards, be careful not to shuffle them near the microphone.

## 3. The Execution



### Camera Settings

Record in **landscape mode** (horizontally). Use a tripod or prop your phone up securely at eye-level—avoid recording from below or above.

Set your camera to **1080p or 720p at 30fps**. Remember, your vault has a 15-minute time limit, and higher resolutions (like 4K) create massive files that can be difficult to upload.



### Rehearse & Review

Read your notes aloud in your chosen location to test the sound and lighting. Do a "dry run" recording with the intention of deleting it.

Watch it back to see what you like and what you don't. Adjust your setup, take a deep breath, and try again.

## There is no "wrong" recording.

Your video only has to be what you want to say, share, and preserve. You are entirely in control. You may upload a video today, delete it next year, and record a new one.

**Need a hand?** If managing the technical setup feels overwhelming, don't hesitate to ask a friend or family member for help holding the camera. You might even consider hiring a local videographer if you prefer a completely hands-off approach.

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