

1. Wear the uniform of your ensemble – black to the floor. Cellos & basses, be sure to wear long pants or dresses so it's black ALL THE WAY to the floor.
2. Shoot in landscape mode (horizontally). Some phones muffle the mic when you stand them up on end. Cellos and basses CAN shoot vertically, but be careful how you position your phone – chopsticks placed under the sealed part of the case should do it.
3. Pick a room that has the least ambiance as possible – clap your hands in the room and listen to how long the echo lasts. You want it to be dry, so your instrument doesn't sound hollow or 'ringy.' If you can hang up coats or blankets to either side of you (and out of the camera shot) that will help.
4. Position your playback device and camera as close together as possible. If you can position it directly above or below the conducting video, that will give the best results.
5. Position your recording device at arm's length, at (or slightly below) eye level.
6. Use only one earbud so that you can hear yourself naturally. If you are using headphones, tip one side slightly off your ear.
7. Choose a well-lit room with several light sources. Avoid direct sunlight or bright lights behind you, this can throw off the camera exposure. Diffused or diffracted light is best.
8. Be aware of what is behind you and avoid background clutter and moving objects.
9. Start recording before hitting "play" on the reference video, and keep recording for at least 5 seconds after the cutoff.
10. To submit your file, you can upload it to Google Drive and share it with me, or (if you have an Apple device) email it to me using MailDrop. Please rename your file to include the title, your first and last name, and your voice part (i.e. Concerto David Gaunt cello).