

8 Ways to Wreck Video Calls

MGIC

Video calls are ideal for communicating when you can't meet in person. But if you ignore proper video etiquette, your call can go from great to annoying or downright embarrassing. To prepare for a video call, make sure you avoid these missteps.



Audio:

Use earphones from an old iPod.

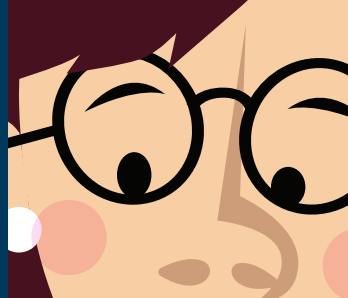
Excuse me? What? Could you repeat that? For the best audio, use high-quality earbuds or AirPods with a mic.



Lighting:

Appear in darkness.

The point is to see you so direct soft light onto your face or sit facing a window with diffused light.



Angles:

Point the camera up your nose.

Have the camera at eye level to make sure you're giving others the view you intended. Pa-leez!



Attire:

Wear something inappropriate.

If you wouldn't wear it in person, don't wear it on video. Dress for the occasion and know your audience.



Behavior:

Let your kids whine or your dog bark.

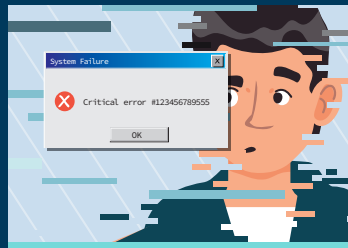
In this case, silence is golden. Be considerate; mute yourself when not speaking to minimize background noise.



Backgrounds:

Hide amid clutter.

Help people see you and pay attention to you by making sure your background isn't distracting or inappropriate.



Technology:

Accept spotty technology.

Maximize WiFi strength by closing unused programs and turning off unused devices. Join video calls from the app, not a web browser.



Perfection:

Your cat may walk into the frame - don't stress!

Not everyone can have a dedicated office; try your best and remember that you can't control it all.

This infographic has been brought to you by your friends at MGIC!

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