

CHECK YOURSELF before you press **[REC]** YOURSELF

double check these things to avoid big mistakes on your shoot!

FOR BEGINNERS

- **camera level** - center the bubble on the HEAD of the tripod
- **white balance** - reset as needed after lighting or setting changes.
- **camera mode** - make sure the camera is set to AUTO.
- **audio** - always use headsets AND meters to monitor your audio. snap fingers in front of each microphone to make sure the audio you hear is coming from the right mic. Avoid banging on the mic.
- **room noise** - Listen for “room tone” when conducting an interview or recording valuable audio. If there is a hum or buzz from electronics or air conditioning, find the source and turn it off!
- **focus** - zoom tight into subjects eyes, focus, then zoom out. If you are using AUTO FOCUS, use the “Focus Assist” button to make sure the area in focus is what you want in focus!
- **record** - seems obvious, but it’s happened before: make sure you’re actually recording when you think you are. Look for the red “tally” light as well as the counter moving on your display.

FOR ADVANCED USERS:

- **camera level** - center the bubble on the HEAD of the tripod
- **white balance** - reset as needed after lighting or setting changes.
- **camera mode** - make sure you’re set to the auto or manual setting you desire.
- **ND filters** - ensure the neutral density setting is correct (0 for indoors, 1-3 for various sun brightness conditions).
- **Iris** - adjust to brighten or darken the image. If the picture still looks too bright or dark and won’t adjust any further, you may need to change your ND filter.
- **audio** - always use headsets AND meters to monitor your audio. snap fingers in front of each microphone to make sure the audio you hear is coming from the right mic. Avoid banging on the mic.
- **room noise** - Listen for “room tone” when conducting an interview or recording valuable audio. If there is a hum or buzz from electronics or air conditioning, find the source and turn it off!
- **focus** - zoom tight into subjects eyes, focus, then zoom out. If the subject appears to lose focus when you zoom out, you might be in AUTO FOCUS mode.
- **record** - seems obvious, but it’s happened before: make sure you’re actually recording when you think you are. Look for the red “tally” light as well as the counter moving on your display.

