

This activity contributes to the following badges:



Scout Media Relations and Marketing Activity Badge



Scout Photographer Activity Badge



Scout Creative Challenge Award



Scout Teamwork Challenge Award



Explorer Media Relations and Marketing Activity Badge

Scouts | Explorers

Scouts on film

Scouts can make a 'how to' video to help other young people

Time: 90 minutes or more

Equipment

- A video camera or smartphone with at least an 8-megapixel camera
- Materials for whichever activity they choose to film, e.g. scarves for tying friendship knots

Instructions

To challenge your young people, ask them to create a 'how to' video on a topic of their choosing – something other Scouts and sections will find useful, such as 'how to tie a friendship knot'. The topic should be chosen as a group. There are lots of things to consider, and they should decide democratically who will be the producer, presenter, script-writer, director, set designer, editing team, etc.

Make sure parental consent is gained for any young people who appear in the film. If the content is going to be online, or on social media, follow the guidelines and give the young people the Stay Safe leaflets (scouts.org.uk/staysafe).

The video should be as engaging as possible. Use these top tips as a guide:

- **Location:** choose somewhere with good lighting – outside, a room with lots of windows, or a room with good lights. Avoid rooms that are dark or



have only one light source. Find quiet areas, away from traffic or building noise.

- **Angles:** the camera should be placed at or above shoulder height, ideally on a tripod. If filming by hand, stand with your legs slightly apart to create stability. For a stationary video, the presenter's shoulders should be near the middle and their waist or knees at the bottom. Do a test, to make sure the sound is recording and the presenter is in position.
- **Loud and clear:** make sure the presenter knows what they're going to say. The script should be brief so they can remember it. Bullet points can help. They should practise saying it confidently and clearly and get used to being in front of the camera.
- **Personality:** the presenter should pretend they are

talking to someone to keep it friendly and relaxed. They should try not to sound like they are reading a script. Keep it natural by using small hand gestures and facial expressions and making jokes, if appropriate.

- **Post-production:** editing can be done in YouTube using its built-in software, or on a computer. Most have free software. Make short clips and choose the best takes, instead of trying to film it in one go. Effects and filters can be used to change brightness, add music (inexpensive tracks are available from music libraries), titles and more.

Take it further

To add another dimension of challenge, the young people could first pitch their video ideas to the section in a Dragon's Den-style process.

This would be a great activity for Explorer Scout Young Leaders to run.