



VIDEOTAPING CHECK LIST

1. **Calm the frick down!** This particular tape will neither make or break your comedy career (probably.) Just having fun and forgetting about the camera when you are on stage will get you the best result.
2. **Put the camera on a tripod.** This is the most important thing you can do to have a successful tape. Using your camera phone? Check out this link for DIY camera phone tripods <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTtJovKtujo>
3. **Don't use the camera's microphone.** Use an external shotgun mic or wireless lavalier if possible. At the very least bring a (borrowed if you're using yours as the camera) smartphone up on stage with you and use it to record audio. (Place it on a stool, not in your pocket.) It will be infinitely better than the camera's built in mic.
4. **Get close, but not too close.** You'll want to get your camera as close to the stage as possible with a wide enough shot that covers you from head to toe, but close enough to see the whites of your eyes. If the bottom of the shot has the heads of the audience in it all the better, as long as they are not blocking you.
5. **Check your gear.** Make sure your batteries are charged and your memory card has plenty of space. Try to carry spare batteries and cards if possible.
6. **Give yourself plenty of time.** Hit the record button when the act before you starts or at least 10 minutes before your set begins. Triple check that everything is on and recording before you go up. (Be sure to let the comic before you know you are taping and respect their wish if they ask you to erase their performance.)
7. **Shut it down.** When your set is over stop recording and shut everything off. (This sounds obvious, but you'd be surprised how often you'll forget.)
8. **Do it again.** You should tape every set, especially if you are new to stand-up or working on new material.

*Need professional media services? Go to <http://GatewayComedy.com/media-services/> for video recording, **video editing**, and other professional digital services tailored specifically for the needs of stand up comedians.*