



## ESC Online 2021

Many entries for ESC Online will be submitted in the form of a recording of the entry. While judges will not penalise students for the quality of the recording, a clear recording will make it easier for the judges and also make it more likely for a student to be considered for a Command Performance.

Command Performances are a selection of ESC entries that the judges have found to be outstanding. We show these entries to everyone during the ESC rallies.

Below are some Guidelines to follow when preparing for, making and uploading your recording.

### Video Recording Guidelines

1. You can use your phone if you do not have DSLR camera; the quality is fine but there are few things to keep in mind:
  - a. Use the camera on the back of your phone. The front camera's quality is not as good on most phones.
  - b. If your phone has a feature that allows you to overlay a grid on your screen, use it. This will help you keep your phone level and avoid tilted footage.
2. Record in landscape (horizontally).
3. Record in a well-lit background and quiet area for clear audio.
4. Make sure the camera is stable (set in a tripod/phone holder/on a table) to avoid shaky footage.
5. Max of 10 minutes (depending on the entry/event). A few events require slightly more time, but as long as videos are kept under 20MB, you should be able to upload them.
6. Upload the best quality video and audio format that you can while keeping the size below 20MB.

### Video Formatting Guidelines

The following guidelines describe the formatting specifications that generate the highest quality for playing videos. We encourage you to upload videos that are as close to the original, high quality source format as possible to increase the possibility that your video will play in higher quality.

#### File format:

- 1080p is preferred, but 720p would also be acceptable.
- MP4 is the preferred file type, but we should also be able to view MOV and AVI files.

**Aspect ratio:**

Videos should be in 16:9 aspect ratio, and uploaded videos should never include letterboxing or pillarboxing bars. This is to ensure that videos are displayed correctly, without cropping or stretching, regardless of the size of the video or player.

Aspect ratio based on resolution:

- 1080p: 1920x1080
- 720p: 1280x720

**Frame rate:**

Videos should ideally be in their original frame rates without resampling. Ideally, your frame rate should be set at 30 frames per second, although 24fps would also be acceptable.

Please do not use resampling techniques since they can cause images to shudder and often result in lower quality video. Examples of undesirable techniques include upsampling and transfer processes such as Telecine pulldown.

**Audio File Guidelines**

Audio files are required for some events, such as Music Composition and Music Arranging. We recommend that you upload the highest quality audio possible.

**Supported file formats:**

- MP3 audio in MP3/WAV container
- WAV

**Submitting Your Recordings**

All recordings will be uploaded through the ESC booking website. See the *What You Need to Know* and the event website for details.