

Why hybrid is not just for cars and
superhero movies anymore, part II:
Equipment to put it all together

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Wait...you mean I have to buy stuff??

- Well, sort of...you need the right equipment to bring it together.
- Check with your regional authority – diocese, etc. – to see if grants are available to help defray technology costs
- A useful tip: successful events are 90% audio, 10% video and everything else. As long as you can hear each other well, that's the most important thing.



The basics

- A microphone—we need to be able to hear each other
- A camera—we need to be able to see each other

A word about feedback

- Feedback happens when a microphone can hear the same thing twice
- For example: when you speak into a microphone and a speaker in the room broadcasts your voice loud enough so that the same microphone can hear it
- Do your best to avoid feedback at all costs

Solution 1: a modern laptop

- A simple one, they are designed for this type of interaction
- Chances are that you can borrow one/use your own
- Microphone and camera are built in (no additional equipment to be purchased)
- Works for a SMALL group of people seated around a table
- Cons: camera and mic area is limited to the immediate space around the device



Add-on 1: webcam and tripod

- Extends the range of your video
- Most include a built-in microphone
- A tripod lets you mount the camera in a stable position
- Recommendation: Logitech c920s webcam (pictured, right)



Add-On 2: omnidirectional microphone

- An omnidirectional microphone can help you pick up more sound and extend the range of how far people can sit from each other
- Helps enforce social distancing
- Con: need to be careful of feedback
- Recommendation: Blue Yeti microphone



Solution 2: Video conferencing system

- Designed for this purpose
- Usually an all-in-one device that connects to your computer
- Cons: expensive. Requires you to sit closer to the device
- Recommendation: Logitech BCC950



Solution 3: individual devices

- Invite your participants to use their own devices to connect to a shared web conference meeting
- Easier to enforce social distancing
- Cons: you will absolutely need everyone to have their own headphones and mic to avoid feedback and you'll still all be on a web conference



Product purchasing links

- If you use these exact links, your purchase will support The Saint James School, an Episcopal middle school that serves an under-resourced neighborhood in Philadelphia, providing free tuition to all students
- Webcam: https://smile.amazon.com/Logitech-C920x-Pro-HD-Webcam/dp/B085TFF7M1/ref=sr_1_12?dchild=1&keywords=logitech+c920s&qid=1619795074&sr=8-
- Basic tripod: https://smile.amazon.com/UBesize-Extendable-Bluetooth-Aluminum-Lightweight/dp/B07NWC3L95/ref=sr_1_5?dchild=1&keywords=cell+phone+tripod&qid=1619795368&sr=8-5
- Blue yeti Microphone: https://smile.amazon.com/Blue-Yeti-USB-Microphone-Blackout/dp/B00N1YPXW2/ref=sr_1_3?crid=2MNJY8G090455&dchild=1&keywords=blue+yeti+microphone&qid=1619795509&srefix=blue+yeti+%2Caps%2C828&sr=8-3
- Conference webcam: https://smile.amazon.com/Logitech-960-000867-Conference-Cam-BCC950/dp/B0080IA1J4/ref=sr_1_15?dchild=1&keywords=video+conferencing+equipment&qid=1619795872&sr=8-15