

SUMMING UP

WEEK 4:
MOBILE DEVICES
AND VIDEO



MAKING SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PICTURES A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO PRESENTING YOUR WORK

A Mobile Device Is a Good Choice for...

- Quick portraits and videos of places, processes, equipment, documentation, use in grant submissions or correspondence
- Serving as a placeholder until you can set up a high-resolution shot
- Spontaneous situations when no other camera is available

A Mobile Device Is Not a Good Choice for...

- Shots with fine detail or plans to enlarge (but it is fun to consider ways to magnify using the built-in lens)
- Large images with large file sizes, quality print, and journal submissions

Course Guidelines Still Apply to Photographs and Videos Made with Mobile Devices

- Background, lighting, and composition are still key choices
- A less-than-perfect quick shot can be improved with post-processing (straightening, cropping, brightness adjustment)
- Science informs the best composition — for example, a container edge or adjacent objects may highlight key points

Special Aspects of Videos Include

- Editing the time course of reactions and processes via software tools (speed up or slow down the event)
- Sustaining visual interest over time by changing composition or perspective
- Using the standards of a single frame image to create a video clip

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Resource: Making Science and Engineering Pictures: A Practical Guide to Presenting Your Work
Felice Frankel

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