



## Tips for Having a Great Zoom Virtual Training Session

### Connection/Tech

*Download the Zoom App in advance.* We will be streaming live so it will be better with a good internet connection. If you are able to be close to a router, even better! If you are using a phone or tablet that is not connected to Wi-Fi, keep in mind it will be using data. If you do not have a free data plan on your phone, you may want to reconsider using a personal phone. We will also schedule a test run in advance.

### Lighting

Try to train in a space with enough lighting so you and the animal(s) can be seen. Outdoors is a great option. *Note: If outside your device may get hot!* This can cause it to shut down. You may want to have it in the shade, and/or have a way to cool it down ready.

### Camera(s)

Since we will be using Zoom, you can use more than one device to log in. We can make as many people as needed “panelists.” We will just need their email address and name so they can log in. Remember to download the Zoom App on each device. This will allow us to have many different camera angles. You can use phones, tablets, computers, even several devices at a time. You may also want to purchase an inexpensive [gorilla tripod](#) to attach your phone to unstable surfaces as needed.

You can also use a camera that plugs into your computer from a USB cord for better control and often higher resolution. Just search “HD webcam” and you will see many options.

### Sound/Communication

Here is where it gets tricky if you are using many devices in the same space. You may want to mute all but one to avoid echoes. You can also use a Bluetooth speaker for the one device so everyone can hear. Another option is to have each person on their own device with earbuds and microphone so that the host or event moderator can hear each person communicate easily. Whomever is interpreting the session at the zoo needs to have quick and easy communication with event host. Ideally that person should have a hands-free connection to a device with earbuds and microphone if possible.

### Who Should be on Camera?

Be sure to include both the animal(s) and the trainer(s) using your various devices.

### Prep Training Space in Advance

If having cameras or lights might be a distraction, you may want to give animals a few days to habituate to the equipment set up in preparation for the virtual consultation.