How to Create Your Own STORYCORPS Studio

Here are some ways to thoughtfully choose and prepare a room to improve the sound quality of your recording.

**Use** rooms that have:
- Carpeted floors
- Drop ceilings
- Closed windows and drapes
- Irregular shapes
- Full bookcases

**Avoid** using rooms that are large and have:
- Uncovered or tiled floors
- High ceilings
- Square shapes
- Bare walls
- Big windows without curtains
- Noisy appliances or audible background noise

**While using the StoryCorps App:**
For best quality, make sure your device’s microphone is always pointed toward the person speaking and 6–10 inches from their mouth.

Adding an external microphone is an easy and relatively inexpensive way to improve the sound quality of your interview. Made for both Android and Apple devices, microphones can be found at most electronics stores and online.

**Remember!** Your microphone is located at the bottom of your device, where you talk into your phone.

**How to “sound-treat” a space:**
- Put down a thick rug
- Cover 1/2 of the walls with heavy blankets
- Shut all the windows and close all drapes
- Find comfortable chairs that lock in a fixed position