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 recording on the StoryCorps App or StoryCorps Connect:**

**If you are recording on a phone or a tablet,** for best quality, make sure your device’s microphone is always pointed toward the person speaking and 6-10 inches from their mouth. Hold the device in a way that is comfortable and that you won’t have to adjust too many times.

**If you are recording on a laptop,** position yourself as close to the laptop as is comfortable for you. Your partner will be better able to see you, and your voice will be clear.

**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