

Interview Recording Guide

The basics

1. We will use *OBS Ninja* to record remote discussions and interviews
2. You will not have to do any editing. You will just record the sources (video/audio) of you and your guest and send them to Robs. He will edit those into the final video.

Requirements: your side

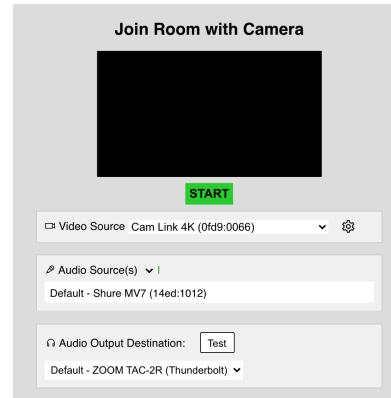
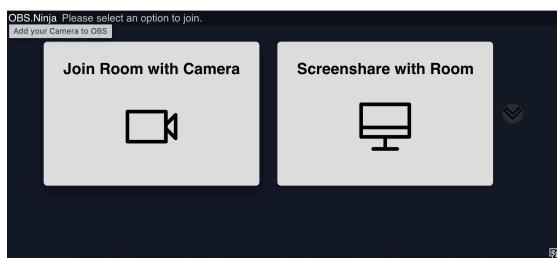
1. Use Google Chrome browser
2. Be on Ethernet, not on Wifi
3. Use headphones 🎵
4. Use a decent microphone 🎤

Requirements: guest side

1. Headphones or earphones
2. Chromium-based browser (Chrome, Edge, Brave) or Firefox
3. If possible: ethernet is preferred over Wifi
4. If available: decent microphone with wind protection ('Popschutz')
5. If necessary, the guest can use a mobile device. In that case, please refer to point MOBILE DEVICES below

1. Create an invitation link and send it to the guest

1. Template: <https://obs.ninja/?r=c3nrec&aec=0&pw=PWD>
2. **Replace PWD** with a short password of your choice, a-z, 0-9 are allowed. Doesn't have to be secure, it will only help make the room unique
3. **Send the link to your guest** and ask them to
 1. Join Room with Camera
 2. Select Video Source (their webcam)
 3. Select Audio Source (their microphone)
 4. Select Audio Output (their headphones)



2. Join the room

Join the room by using the exact same link that you sent to your guest. Choose your camera, microphone and headphones.

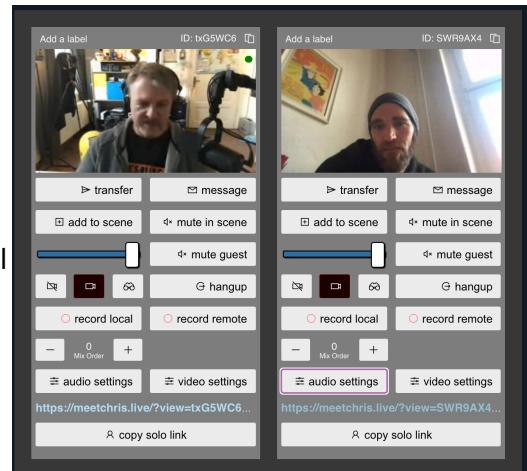
You should now both see and hear each other.



3. Open the control center in a second Chrome tab

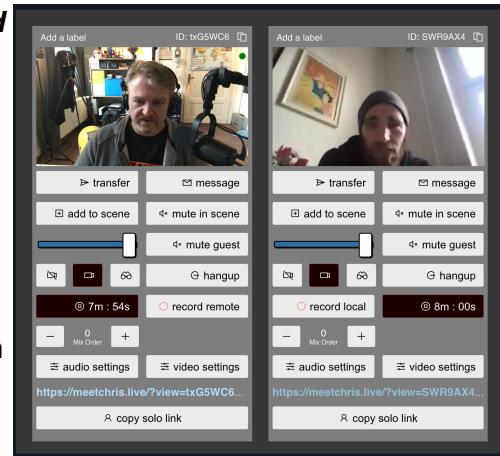
You will start/stop the recording in the control center

1. Go to
<https://obs.ninja/?director=c3nrec&pw=PWD>
2. Replace PWD with the above password
3. You will see small live video of you and your guest
4. Resist the temptation to play with all the buttons
5. Click on *Add a label* at the left top of the guest and give them a name. Also give yourself a name. This will be later used for the recording file name.

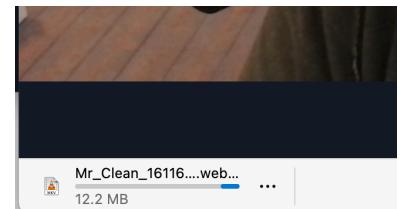


4. Record the session

1. To begin recording your own video, click **record local** under your video tile
2. To record your guest, click **record remote** under their video tile. Depending on the browser used by the guest, they might be prompted to allow saving the file. If that's the case, instruct them to allow and save the file.
3. In the dialog "What bitrate would you like to record at?" enter 2000
4. After the recording has started, to help synchronize the videos, please do a countdown and both clap on zero ("5 4 3 2 1 CLAP")
5. After the session is done, click the black recording buttons again to stop the recording
6. Ask the guest to upload their recorded file to <TBD>



During recording, your guest might see an ongoing save dialog in their browser. This is normal.



5. Test if the recording was successful

The recorded file will have the extension .webm. This format can be played in VLC or directly by dragging it onto an empty Chrome browser tab.

If recording was successful, the video should be smooth (high enough frame rate) and the sound shouldn't sound strange (buzzy, robot-like) but normal. Low sound volume can typically be fixed later and shouldn't be an issue.

MOBILE DEVICES

While a laptop on ethernet is preferred, a guest might have to use a mobile device. In that case, a few things will change:

1. The video from the mobile device will be at very low frame rate in the room. This can be as low as 1fps or lower. This is nothing to worry about, it's by design to save resources on the device.
2. **You cannot record remote** on mobile devices, instead choose **record local**. The file will then be recorded and saved on **your** system instead of theirs.

Also: no vertical video. Please have the guest rotate their device to the side.

Make it look nice: Light

When recording, watch out for the direction of the light. Also bigger light sources make for softer and nicer-looking shadows.

X side-lit

face too dark on one side,
too bright on the other



X back-lit

not enough light on the face



✓ front-lit

✓ bigger light source
entire face is lit,
no hard shadows



X point light source
creates hard shadows



X point light source
& odd light direction
nope



X errr.. nope



Check the eyes for **catchlights**. Ideally both eyes should have some bright light reflexes in them

X no catchlights in the eyes
looks dead



✓ catchlights
looks alive



Make it look nice: Background

Try to avoid distractions in the background. <TBD>

