



Presentation tips & tricks

We can learn from streamers

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backend guild

Introduction

With the new hybrid approach where a decent number of participants are located remote, let us dive into streaming peripherals and technologies.

With a demo/presentation you share your knowledge and craftsmanship, identical to streamers.

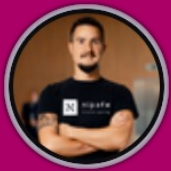
We'll cover

- Approaches for hybrid and online-only presentations
 - Or even recordings (for demo's and tutorials)
- Tips & tricks for your setup
- Software tooling to assist you

Interviewed streamers



MrLlamaSC (Twitch.tv/mrllamasc)
Full time streamer – Diablo II and Diablo IV



nipafx (Twitch.tv/nipafx & YouTube.com/@nipafx / YouTube.com/@Java)
Java developer advocate at Oracle – live coding, interviews and tutorials



Thonik_ (Twitch.tv/thonik_)
Dutch real-life and TCG streamer – also helps Dutch streamers with their setup

Audio

All streamers stated to them audio is the most important to improve.
Having really bad sound turns people away faster.

Many “viewers” approach it like a podcast or have it running on the side.

Thonik_: “If you’re a talking head, audio is even more important.”

Thonik_: “Modern peripherals are much more accesible, also targeting office workers”

nipafx: “Especially when live coding invest in a boom arm and properly aimed mic”

External microphone options

XLR



By Kreuzschnabel - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=17662393>

USB microphone



On ear / Bluetooth headset



By Alphathon - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=13533594>

Video

While video is less important than audio, bad image quality will also hurt you.

Think about:

- Very low resolution
- Jittery/stuttering video
- Bad lighting on the presenter

Meme source:
https://www.reddit.com/r/csgo/comments/gqmm3r/regrets_throwing_the_flashbang/

When you flashbang yourself



Engagement

Interacting with chat really adds to the engagement of the audience. Either practice this or look for moderation to collect and filter questions as this is different from presenting in person.

MrLlamaSC: “If I can answer questions faster than a smaller streamer, I would advice them to focus and practice on it”

An introduction video with a recognizable tune and a timer before you start also aid in engagement.

Consider simple games during breaks or the introduction: there are several twitch bots for this, but you can also start a kahoot quiz.

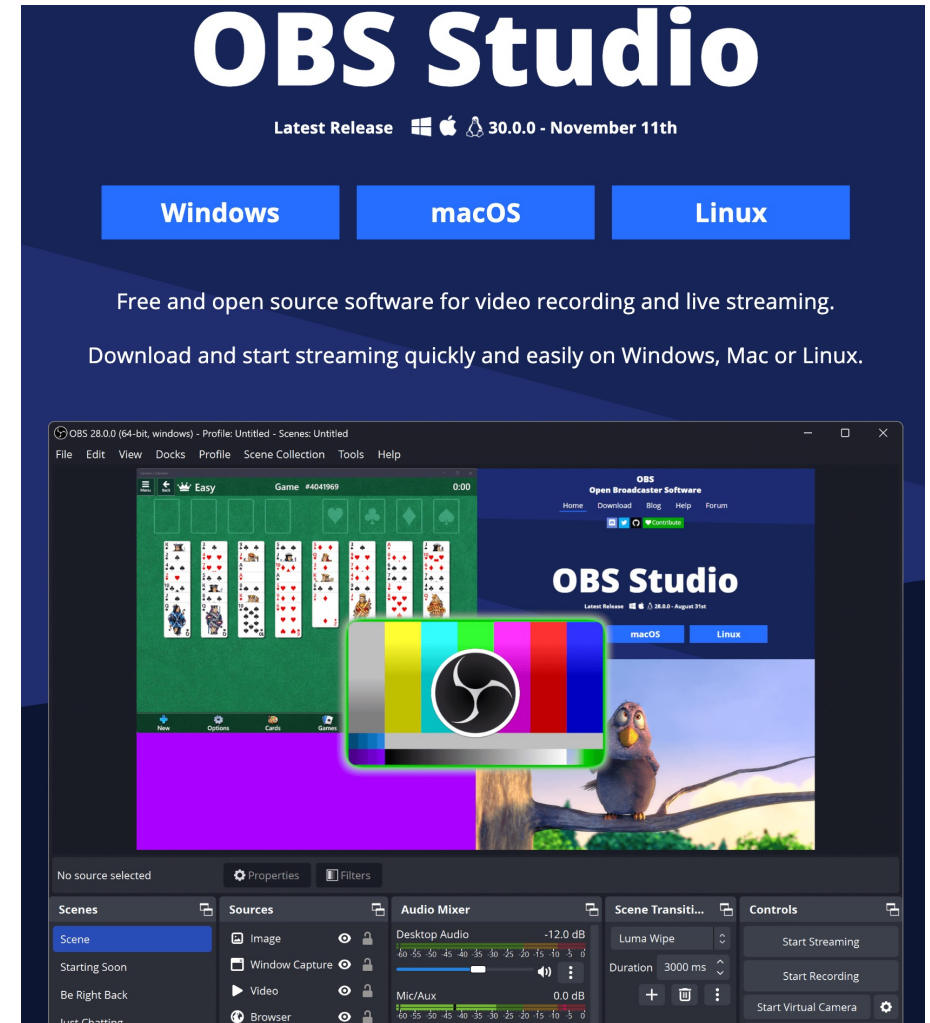
OBS Studio – Open Broadcast System

<https://obsproject.com>

Ignore clones like StreamLabs OBS.

Great as a streaming tool, but:

- Has virtual webcam for use in Teams
- Easy to record windows for a demo
- Also great for timing your talks



Preparation

The amount of preparation depends on the subject:

For ad hoc streams such as just playing a game or having an open discussion, only the routine is required.

Recordings like nipafx in the Inside Java podcast or a themed approach requires more preparation.

Streamers do take their time to set up everything before starting as a routine.

About 10 minutes before the stream ensure everything is in order: video, audio and the environment.

Tips & Tricks

In general: ask friends and colleagues to help you out experiencing a public

- nipafx/Thonik_: "Talk to the camera, not to your screen"
- MrLlamaSC: "Study how a good teacher teaches!" – carry the conversation
- All: "Whenever talking online, assume you're talking to a large audience"
- Thonik_: "Talk and behave like the recipients of your talk are there face to face"
- nipafx: "When working on an OS project on stream it can improve engagement"
- nipafx: "Planned streams also help you commit time"

Takeaways

- Focus on getting decent quality audio and if possible video
- Modern peripherals are more accesible and quite affordable
- Software has also matured a lot the past years
- Engagement/interaction is different 'at a distance'
- Prepare your stream setup well

Thanks to these streamers



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