

Webcams & Video Chat

Video is one of the newest features to come to computers. Early computers did not even have video as an option, and now we have High-Definition video editing and streaming over the internet, which was unthinkable just a decade ago. This class will attempt to teach you all the things you can do with video on a computer.

Types of Webcams

If you bought a laptop, it may have come with a webcam **built-in**. Look above the laptop screen for a small lens-shaped circle. Alternately, you can look for webcam software on the **Programs** list in the **Start Menu**.

If your computer did NOT come with a webcam, you can pick one up wherever computers are sold. There are different levels of webcam, and the quality of the webcam and options and software you get will mostly depend on how much you want to spend on one. Generally, a webcam costs between \$40-120. More expensive ones come with more options and better software. If you just need a basic one with no frills, you can just buy the cheapest one they have.

Some extras include:

- Built-in microphone
- Higher resolution
- Zoom function
- Video Editors
- Additional pre-capture settings (brightness, color, etc.)
- Custom backgrounds
- Clamp to mount on your monitor/laptop

Take A Picture

Usually your webcam will come with software that lets you make a video or take a picture. Look for a program that starts with the name of your webcam's manufacturer. For example, most Logitech Webcams come with Logitech capture software. Other ways of taking a picture are using 3rd Party Software, such as Picasa, or PowerPoint. Look for a "Capture" button or option. Your webcam can even be used as a quick mirror!

Capture A Video

Again, the webcam will likely come with software that can do this, but there are other options available:

Free:

CamStudio <http://camstudio.org>

VirtualDub <http://virtualdub.org>

VLC Media Player <http://videolan.org>

Paid:

Camtasia <https://www.techsmith.com>

Share Videos

<http://YouTube.com>
<http://Vimeo.com>
<http://vevo.com>

<http://DailyMotion.com>
<http://Flickr.com>

Video Chat

<http://skype.com>

Video Editing

Free:

- VirtualDub
- Avidemux
- YAMB
- Lightworks Video Editor
- Windows Live Movie Maker

Paid:

- TMPGEnc Xpress
- Sony Vegas

Interactive Gaming

http://mika.tanninen.net/Ohjelmat_Webcam_en.shtml
<http://www.newgrounds.com>

- 3D Target Shooting
- Night of the Ninja
- Bunny Zap
- Dress Up Yourself

<http://www.camspace.com>

Create Animated Images (GIFs)

<http://www.psykogif.com>
<http://toolson.net/WebcamAvatar/Create>

<http://picasion.com>
<http://www.gifpal.com>

Control Software

<https://flutterapp.com>

Facial Recognition

<https://www.keylemon.com>

Home Security/Video Baby Monitor

<http://ispy.developerinbox.com>
<http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/webcam-home-surveillance-tools/>
<http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/build-baby-monitor/>
<http://www.softpedia.com/get/Internet/WebCam/Yawcam.shtml>