



GETTING STARTED

This is a quick start photography guide for beginners.

For further advice please call our UK head office on +44 (0) 203 301 7216 or email us at hq@fourlabs.co.

What equipment do I need?

Gimbal

A gimbal is a handheld stabiliser that can help eliminate shaky footage in your videos. There are many different types of gimbals available – some gimbals have a built-in camera, some are paired with a phone, and some are paired with a DSLR camera.



We recommend using the DJI Osmo Mobile Gimbal, however there are many from different brands for different budgets.

Phone

If you choose to use a gimbal with a phone mount, it is preferable to use it with a smartphone that is no older than three years old.

Download the DJI Mimo app (or relevant app to your choice of gimbal) as this is how you will set the controls and settings for your video.

Settings

Before filming any content of your property, you will need to set up and calibrate the gimbal with your phone attached. Set the gimbal on a table or flat surface to begin the set up. Attach your phone using the phone mount provided and turn on the gimbal – this will wake up the device.

Calibrating the gimbal ensures the phone stays level when filming and will provide the smoothest content. If using the DJI Mimo app, the calibrate button can be found in the menu at the top of the phone screen when connected to the device.



We recommend setting your camera settings to film at 1080p, 60fps and white balance set to Auto.

There are different gimbal modes available which can provide you with a different way of shooting.

- Follow Mode – will keep the horizon level when recording.
- Tilt Locked – will keep the tilt angle fixed and the verticals straight.
- FPV – No angle locked so will follow the handle movements.

Follow Mode or Tilt Locked are recommended as they will provide you enough freedom to pan around the rooms while still having control over the movements.

2

PREPARATION & TECHNIQUE

Before you start videoing the property, it is helpful to have a walk through first to work out the best route to take and how to avoid doubling back on yourself. Have a practice using the gimbal prior to filming to get comfortable with it and play around with different movement techniques such as push shots, pans, tilt shots etc.



Make sure to watch out for any mirrors or reflective surfaces that you might catch your reflection in.

It is important to prep the property before filming any content. Make sure that the house is clean and tidy, beds made, curtains drawn, kitchen counters clear from clutter, lights on, lawn mowed etc. A cluttered house will be very distracting to the viewer and it will not look inviting.

There are two ways of filming a property:

1. One continuous walkthrough shot of the house.
2. Short individual clips highlighting the best features of the property.

Whichever way you choose to film the property, start with a front shot of the house - a simple pan down or across onto the property will work. Make sure you are stood far back enough to get the whole house in the frame.

Begin your video at the front door and work your way through the house. Make sure to walk slowly and carefully to avoid any sudden movements. Hold the gimbal firmly with both hands and try to keep it at chest height.

Don't forget to film the rear of the house and garden if it applies.

3

UPLOADING VIDEO CLIPS TO FOURLABS

When you are happy you have filmed everything in the property, you can upload it to your Fourlabs account, ready to be edited by our in-house team.

1. Go to the Photos tab.
2. Select New Job.
3. Upload your video clips to WeTransfer or Dropbox, copy and paste the link into the job notes field.
4. Choose your video preference based on the style you prefer.
5. Submit job.

Note: We are currently developing a video feature for our application that will make it easier to upload your clips.

4

BREAKDOWN OF OUR VIDEO PREFERENCES

Social Reel

A portrait orientation property highlight video specifically output for social media platforms.

[Example](#)

Videography

A landscape orientation highlight video ideal for social media posts or website use. [Example](#)

Video Walkthrough

A continuous video tour throughout a property. Portrait or landscape orientation. [Example](#)

CONTACT US

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