Interview setup

If you can’t hear it, and you can’t see their eyes, it is not an interview yet.

Set it

1. Mic: lav on the placket, a hand’s width below the chin. Boom just out of frame, aimed at the chest.

2. Eyeline: they look at the interviewer, just off camera. Not into the lens unless you asked.

3. Two-shot: one frame that shows both, then singles.

4. Questions: short and open. “What happened?” beats “Was it fun?”

5. Room tone: 30 seconds of quiet in the same spot. Don’t talk. Don’t shuffle.

Audio bag

- Lav, boom, and a recorder or the camera input. Headphones on the whole time.
- Meters bounce, they don’t pin red.
- Dead battery or a muted pack is the most common silent interview.