

Wotamalo Wind Up 2020

Hey Scouts! Produce a 1 to 3-minute Video About YOUR Scouting Life!

- Tell us about your unit! What are you up to?
- What projects or badges are you working on?
- What do you like best about Scouting?
- What do you do when you get outdoors?
- Where's your favorite campsite?
- *Be original, funny, serious, high energy – whatever you like!*
 - o Up to 3 videos posted per week on the Wotamalo FB page and the Wotamalo District YouTube Channel... Maybe more if we get a lot!
 - o We want to hear from Cub Scout, Scouts BSA and Venturing units
 - o Videos can come from Dens, Packs, Troops, Patrols, Crews – or even just 1-2 Scouts with a creative itch!
 - o A great activity for Den Chiefs, Troop Historians, Webmasters, Guides and Scribes, patrol leaders... or anyone working on the Moviemaking merit badge!

Wotamalo Video Victory Awards

- o Recognizing originality, message, energy and viewer response.
- o Certificates & digital badges awarded monthly
- o Annual awards at the District Dinner with unit prizes
- o Selected by the Wotamalo District Communication Team

Submit Your Videos

- Submissions are now OPEN!
- Multiple videos per unit are WELCOME!
- Videos must be submitted by the unit leaders or a registered BSA volunteer with your unit.
- Submit via link on the Wotamalo District web page*
- Include title and description, plus unit number and contact info.
- Verify that we have permission to post pictures and videos showing the youth involved, and that we have permission to use the video.

* <http://dk.wotamalo.wdboyce.org/>

Questions?

Send an email to wotamalo.web@gmail.com



How do we make a Wotamalo Wind Up video?

First, this should be a fun thing to do. What's something that your unit, patrol or den is doing that you want to tell the world – or at least fellow Scouts, parents and family - about?



Once you have some thoughts about the idea you are want to deliver, determine your method for sharing that message. You are not limited to any format, but some ideas include a commercial, an interview, a newscast, a song, a skit, or a short documentary. It could even be a slide show with captions, or an old-time “silent movie”!

Any good writer, director or producer thinks about his or her audience. Do you want this appeal to kids or adults? Is it funny or serious? Put your own style into it so that your audience can relate to it. The only thing you are limited by is the three-minute time restriction.

Next, figure out how many team members you will need to make your idea come alive. Is it your whole troop, pack or crew? Or just a few fellow Scouts? What about your leaders? (They might secretly yearn to be video stars, too!)

Be sure your video has the three most important elements: visual, audio and message! Even if you decide to make a funny video, be sure it has a message. Your goal is to inform and engage your audience!

Most importantly, be sure the message is true, clear and factual.

When you're done and everyone's satisfied with the video, give it a title and write a short description, then give it to your unit leader to submit for you.

Can we include music?

Sure! Just do not use music that is copyrighted. If you have questions about this, do some research. One website that has royalty free music at no charge is <http://www.seabreezecomputers.com/tips/freemusic.htm>. Read their instructions, as some of the songs just need to be credited, but are completely legal to use.

Bonus tips

You don't have to use these, but they can help you deliver a really great video:

- Try shooting it a few ways and in different lighting so that the audience can really see you!
- There are free video editing apps out there for mobile phones, Macs and PCs. With your parents' permission and help, explore using one of them to really polish up your video!
- If possible, use a microphone that isn't just your phone/camera microphone so that you can be heard. Microphones help to eliminate background noise.
- If you are using music, be sure it is appropriate for your message. Also, don't let it drown out your speaking part if it is intended to just be background music.
- Have some trusted friends or family watch your video. Ask them to analyze it honestly. Did they get your message? Was it clear to them what you were trying to achieve? Could they hear it? Could they see you?



If you're in a Scout troop, has someone earned the Moviemaking (formerly Cinematography) merit badge? They could be a great resource... or maybe this will encourage YOU to earn the badge!

EXTRA! Free tools and music to help you create great videos!!

There are lots of video tools out there, many that cost money to use... and you don't have to use any of them. But if you want to try your hand at video editing, starting with some free options is a great way to get started! *Remember: A Scout is THRIFTY!*

Photos – Windows OS

Despite the name, you can make **movies** with the Photos app that comes with Windows 10! The latest version of the Photos app includes the ability to create and edit videos with music, text, motion, filters, and 3D effects.

iMovie – Mac OS

If you have a Mac, you can download iMovie from the Apple App Store if you don't already have it on your machine. This is a tried-and-true editing platform well known for its ease of use and high-quality output.

Avidemux

Avidemux is a video editor designed for simple cutting, filtering and encoding tasks. It's available for free download from <http://avidemux.sourceforge.net/>, and has versions for both Macs and Windows PCs. More advanced editing options are also available as you become a more advanced filmmaker.

Video Editing Apps for Tablets and Smartphones

If you prefer working on a smartphone or tablet, you're also in luck!

For Apple iOS devices such as the iPad and iPhone, the **iMovie** app is a popular choice that works well.

For devices running on Android, **VidTrim** (or **VidTrim Pro** for just \$2.99) includes multiple features like trimming, merging, frame grabbing, video effects, and transcoding (compress and convert to MP4).

Music

Music often makes a video or movie more exciting, dramatic or fun to watch. But most of the music we listen to is copyrighted – that means it belongs to someone else, and we usually can't use it in our videos without getting permission and paying a fee (called a "royalty.") Luckily, there are sources for royalty-free music that is perfectly okay for you to use.

One website that has royalty free music is <http://www.seabreezecomputers.com/tips/freemusic.htm> Read their instructions, as some of the songs just need to be credited, but are completely legal to use.

Another source is <https://www.bensound.com/royalty-free-music> - just read their licensing instructions as well, because you also need give them credit for using their music.