

User Services

May 2000

Using the Document Camera with Streaming Video

When streaming video, the video camera and the computer are the main conduits in which visual messages are shown to viewers. One video camera that is available in the interactive video classrooms is the Document Camera (or the Elmo Visual Presenter).

The document camera is a valuable tool for the presenter as it becomes the presenter's blackboard and much more. Information written on paper or generated from a computer print-out can be displayed underneath the document camera. The document camera also allows for 3 dimensional objects to be shown (such as calculators, food items, plants, etc.).

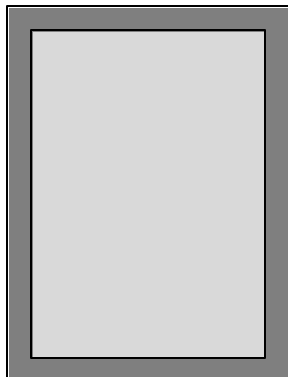


Page Format

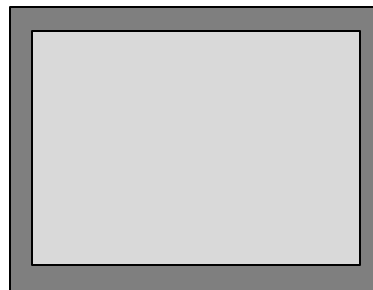
Television is a horizontal 3:4 format. Therefore, a horizontal page orientation should be used when placing paper under the document camera. Paper is used for two main functions with the document camera:

- Paper to write on like a blackboard.
- Paper printed from a computer application such as Microsoft Word or PowerPoint.

Portrait/Vertical
Do **NOT** Use



Landscape/Horizontal
Use This Format



Tips for Writing on Paper

One of the most common uses of the document camera is a blackboard. When writing information on the paper under the document camera, keep the following in mind:

- Keep a small margin around the page (.5 to 1 inch).
- Print large. Smaller print can be used in combination with the zoom feature of the document camera. However, it is easier for the presenter and the viewer to print large.
- Use thick pens or markers. A regular ball-point pen is **not readable** by the viewer.



Using the Document Camera with Streaming Video

User Services

Paper Color

Paper color effects the clarity in which viewers can read the material displayed on the document camera. Therefore, using a paper color that is pleasing to the eye and easy to look at is very important.

The most effective colors for the document camera are:

- Green - A kelly green color displays a very nice background.
- Blue - Use one shade darker than a pastel blue color. A pastel blue appears white when transmitted and therefore, should not be used. One blue color that works well is made by Georgia Pacific and the official color is “Blue” (this paper is available at the MSU Office Supply).

Computer Generated Print-Outs

When using computer generated print-outs such as Microsoft Word documents or PowerPoint slides, consider the following:

Font Type

Use a san serif type font rather than a serif type font. Reading a serif type font is more difficult. Serifs are small cross strokes that are added to the end of the letter’s main strokes.

Sans-serif Serif

Font Size

40 point size is the **smallest** that should be used when displaying the entire screen. The zoom feature of the document camera may be used. However, it is recommended to use 40 point size and display the entire piece of paper.

Font Style

The text should be “bold”.

Overhead Transparencies

Overhead transparencies can be used with the document camera. However, keep in mind the font elements that make up an effective computer print out for the document camera. For black and white transparencies, the presenter may want to place a colored paper underneath the transparency for ease of reading by the viewer.

**ITS can review your presentations.
Contact the Help Desk for More Information.**

Help Desk Contact Information:

Voice: 325-0631

Email: helpdesk@msstate.edu

Web site: www.its.msstate.edu