

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

Nikon | LEARN &
EXPLORE

INTERMEDIATE

How to Live Stream Using a Nikon Camera

It is so easy to live stream content to a community of like-minded people. Today, more than ever, streaming has proven to be more than just connecting a community for education, an impromptu Q&A session, gaming or entertainment—it's a vital way that we're keeping connected with each other.

Using a compatible Nikon camera—Z series mirrorless or DSLR—gives you the ability to stream high quality video on a global scale. More than just the quality of the optics available in NIKKOR lenses, the features and functionality of Nikon mirrorless and DSLR cameras gives you a range of creative options to utilize in recording a live stream.

Use a fast aperture lens, such as a 50mm f/1.8 lens for its shallow depth-of-field to separate yourself or your “talent” from the background. It also lets you declutter a busy background by blurring it at such a wide aperture or use a wider lens to capture more of the ambiance of your location.

Getting Started Live Streaming with your Nikon Camera

First, you need to decide if you want a quick and easy connection via USB or if you're looking for a more high quality connection via HDMI. Your choice will depend upon what you're using the streaming for and how elaborate you want to get with your set-up.

In addition to your camera and lens, you'll need a few items.

A fully charged battery or Nikon AC Adapter. The AC Adapter will allow you to run the stream without interruption, for longer than just the battery could. Remember, if you opt to go with the AC Adapter, you will need both the Power Supply

Connector and the AC Adapter. Your camera's user's manual will note which ones are compatible with your model.

To connect using USB, you'll need plug and play streaming software for your computer's operating system along with the provided USB cable.

To connect using HDMI, you'll need a third party signal capture device and video conferencing software, along with an HDMI cable.

Whichever route you choose, you may also want a tripod to steady the camera and keep it at eye level and a constant light source for nice, even illumination of your set. If you go with the HDMI route, an optional lavalier mic will provide clean audio, especially if you plan on moving around once you've started streaming

Once you've got everything connected, based on the instructions provided with the gear, you can then go live via Facebook Live, Twitch, Zoom, YouTube or WebEx.

See [this page](#) for more details. And check out this [article](#) to see one Nikon photographer's live streaming set-up.