

Feature

Backups

Getting footage off your phone and backing up files is vital, as is deleting files from editing apps when you're done. I usually AirDrop files to my MacBook laptop and then back up that to a regular external drive. When I'm out and about, I use a physically small, 500GB SanDisk SSD (sandisk.com), which is hooked up to the phone via an Apple camera dongle. The phone needs to be powered by either a powerbank or mains electric to run the SSD. I prefer this setup, but cloud backups are an option if you have enough cloud storage and a good internet connection.

Learn as you go

Phones and action cameras can seem overwhelmingly technical when you start recording video for the first time. The trick, as with many things, is to learn by doing. Pick up your phone or action camera and start experimenting. The more you do it, the more you'll learn about settings, workarounds, lighting and so on. While



Steve's minimalist kit: iPhone 12 Mini, power bank, SanDisk SSD, camera dongle, cables and a USB-C drive

your first attempts will not be perfect, you'll soon find out that you can easily make satisfying short cycling films on the fly – with only the tools you already have at hand.

Once you get comfortable with the basic process, there are some great resources for learning more online –

mostly in the form of YouTube channels. I recommend the following:

- Primal Video: youtube.com/@PrimalVideo/videos
- Content Creators: bit.ly/youtube-cc-mobile-filming
- iPhoneographers: bit.ly/iphoneographers-videos

Video chat

Joshua Gill Bikepacker and Cycling UK Media Relations Manager

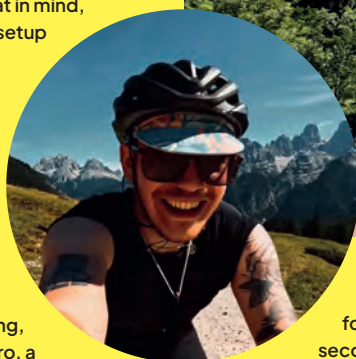
- GoPro Hero 12 (previously used a Hero 8)
- Google Pixel 6a
- Occasionally, I use a mirrorless camera (Sony Alpha ZV-E10) depending on the weather, route and length of the trip. Often, I use it to show the process of getting ready for an adventure at home
- GoPro chest mount
- Fidlock PINCLIP action-cam mount
- Mini Gorillapod tripod
- Filmora editing software

Videographers and YouTubers often buy gear to meet a specific style. Whether it's a video blog, POV film or more of a documentary, they are ultimately aiming to make filming easier and

more intuitive for their visual look.

The main reason I record my bikepacking trips is to immortalise the experience. To capture forever what it felt like to slowly climb a mountain, ride a technical trail or manoeuvre through torrential rain and mud. With that in mind, I aimed to build a setup that limited the amount of time I thought about shots or scenes so that I could enjoy the adventure and be more in the present. I landed on a point-of-view style of filming, using a small GoPro, a chest mount and the Fidlock system to quickly remove the camera should I need to.

At this point, it's almost second nature to press record when I see a dramatic view or a challenge



coming up. Each time I aim for a 15–30 second clip to make editing more manageable, and I've been fortunate to capture some great stuff on film.

While it's been a bit of learning curve, I couldn't be

more grateful to have a visual catalogue of some of my best memories. To be able to look back and recognise how far you've come is something very special. I love being able to see the sum of my passion for cycling whenever I want, and to be able to share that with others.

youtube.com/@GilJoshua