

Zoom Meeting without Your Face Displayed

Does anyone know how to be in a zoom meeting and NOT have your face and background displayed? Is there a specific button that I should push? Is there a way to do this when some other party is running the meeting (the administrator who sets up the meeting and coordinates everything)? Should I just cover or black out my Logitech camera that sits on the top of my computer display? Will that ruin my ability to verbally participate in the meeting?

Thanks for any replies.

When you join the meeting, don't join with video and select computer audio

Erin M. Schmidt, Ohio

You can upload a "profile picture" and have that displayed when you are in a Zoom meeting instead of live video of you. I just used a professional looking picture of me (the same one on my website) before I got my whole webcam situation sorted out.

Jason T. Komninos, New Jersey

When you join the meeting click "join without video."

If you've already joined, click "stop video" (top right on an iPad, bottom left on laptop). You might need to click in the middle of the screen to get the menu to appear.

Andrew Mays

Thanks to all of you! I need to attend a Zoom meeting late this afternoon and I will use one (or another) of your suggestions at that time. The problem is that we work at our PC and we don't want to let people in a video stream see anything related to our work-in-progress (i.e. work product) and so having a beautiful background shot does not apply. I have not had the time or interest to set up a profile picture (which I will do later). For the sake of avoiding malpractice claims, we are supposed to ensure that third parties do not see our work-in-progress. This is an overbroad, sweeping duty that we owe. So, the only way on a practical basis is to keep materials out of the video feed. (That means we are not doing work right up to the time of the zoom meeting. That is very hard to do.) Stay safe.

Roberta Fay, California

Turn your camera off . . . 😎

Walter D. James III, Texas

I set up laptops in the conference room for all Zoom hearings or meetings. The laptops there cannot access my servers and the conference room has no other paperwork present. There are keyboard shortcuts to turn video on and off. You can also adjust software settings so that video starts in an off position.

Darrell G. Stewart, Texas

Thanks for sharing all these ideas. What applies to Zoom should also apply to other platforms, or be able to modify with control settings on the alternative software package, I guess.

Roberta Fay

You can also pick your own background so that people see you but don't see your office. I don't have anything behind me that would compromise attorney/client

privilege, but my back wall is a bit sparse, so I generally use a picture of a winery I took on vacation:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10162671485010702&set=gm.1056794004677722&type=3&theater>

Kevin Grierson, Virginia

Minor addition: if you end up accidentally joining Zoom with video, hover with your mouse on the bottom of the screen. You will see a camera and microphone icons pop up on the lower left hand side. If you click on those you can block out either or both camera and sound. This really comes in handy if you are trying to do some work while on the call. You do not want the others to be distracted by the sound of your rustling papers or ringing phones. You should click on both camera and microphone and block them. This way you will still see and hear everything but the others will not hear or see you. But you should know where these buttons are in case you are required to chime in. You can then click on both, go live, say hello, and click the buttons again for the "off" position.

Vlad Portnoy, New York

You can also go to zoom and practice in your own meeting to see how everything works.

<https://zoom.us/test>

Nicholas I. Fuerst, Arizona

FYI, If you are muted in Zoom, you can simply press and hold space bar to speak. A court reporter taught me that trick. It comes in handy when making objections during depositions and other matters.

I do not believe there is a shortcut to show video other than just clicking "start video."

Jennifer D. Norris, Indiana