

Do-It-Yourself



We encourage everyone to conduct Do-It-Yourself interviews in your home, workplace, or community. Choose a friend, colleague, or loved one to interview, and find some recording equipment.

There's no wrong way to do it. Just listen closely, and ask the questions you've always wanted to ask.

PICK YOUR PARTNER

Start by selecting the person you wish to interview. Remember that the focus is about memories of Carroll County (People, places, events, etc.)

FIND, BORROW OR PURCHASE EQUIPMENT

Your recording equipment can be as simple as a cell phone, a video camera, or a computer. Whatever equipment you choose, we strongly suggest that you practice with it before your interview.

CHOOSE A LOCATION

Pick the quietest place possible. A carpeted room is best. Avoid kitchens, which have reflective surfaces and noisy appliances. Avoid windows behind your subject. Be sure to turn the volume off on any TV, radio, or stereo. Close the door and listen for anything else making noise.

SET UP AND TEST YOUR EQUIPMENT

Set up your equipment before the interview and make sure you know how to use it. Turn on camera and frame your shot, check to be sure you can hear the audio clearly.

BEGIN THE CONVERSATION

Please start your interview with the following:

“Good morning (or afternoon), this is YOUR NAME, interviewing PARTNER’S NAME, today is (DATE, MONTH, YEAR) and we are at (LOCATION).”

WRAP IT UP

Try to make sure your interview runs no longer than 5-10 minutes.

Congratulations! Now you are ready to share your video history!