

How to watch YouTube Videos



Best practices for watching YouTube videos for effective learning

Watch Video





Best Practice	Details
Removing Ads	Best way to remove ads is to subscribe to YouTube Premium. At least in India, it is a very cost-effective and has many other benefits – View Offline, Premium Controls, YouTube Music, Background Play, and more.
Look at Chapters	Look at Chapters first. Use Chapters to quickly find the relevant topic. Ctrl (Command) Right or Left arrow.
Search Transcript	Scroll down in Description. Click Transcript. New Pane opens. Use Search to find specific answers quickly.
Detailed Learning	Pause video first. Look at the overview and then decide how to watch the video (see below).
Playback speed	Change Playback Speed to suit your comprehension. Change speed for every video because each person speaks at a different speed. Shift (period) to increase speed, Shift (comma) to decrease speed.
Skip 10 to 90%	Quickly jump across video in 10% increments and get a quick overview. Type Zero to go to beginning, 1 to go 10%, 2 to go to halfway mark, 9 for 90%.
Skip Chapters	Ctrl Right and Ctrl left to skip chapters. View chapters in the order you want. Go to last chapter for quick summary.
Skip Promos	Ctrl Right will skip promo instantly. This is because most video have the promo itself as a chapter.
View Frame by Frame	For precise, precise viewing of details – go frame by frame. (period) is next frame and (comma) is previous frame.
Precise Seek (Find)	Drag the play bar. See a filmstrip of video frames, drag horizontally to find the desired location. Press Spacebar to play from that point. Extremely useful for finding specific points in the video in a visual manner.
Mute and Volume	M is mute or unmute. Up or down arrow to change volume.



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See Shortcuts	See all shortcuts – press shift and (question mark). Try interesting shortcuts. Remember important ones.
Use Captions	Check if captions are available in the language you prefer. Increase or decrease caption font size with (plus) and (minus) keys. Change opacity of the font (character O) and opacity of the background (character W). Press repeatedly to cycle.
Future use	Use some note taking software. I use and recommend OneNote. Copy paste links to important videos for future use. Save to playlists for topic based playlists. Take screenshot, annotate and paste to notes.
Link with timestamp	Use Timed Links for going to specific locations.
Create Clip	Use Clips to remember dynamic content. Up to 60 sec in duration. Select range. Save. Copy link and paste it in your notes.
Simple screenshot	Use Screenshots (and annotation) for remembering static images. Try Edge browser built-in screenshot feature.
Download and watch offline	Premium feature. Download videos. Watch without internet connection.
View on Mobile	Most controls are same. Volume is controlled at mobile level. Use headphones to avoid disturbing others.
Landscape view	Swipe up on the video to change to landscape view.
Zoom and Pan	While watching videos (running or paused), use Pinch Zoom to enlarge screen and view details. Pan the content by dragging. Remember to use this when you want to understand smaller details which are not clearly visible on mobile phone.
Mobile precise find	Swipe up on the Play Bar and drag horizontally to find area of interest. Touch Play button to play from that point.
Summary	Try it and give me feedback. Post queries and comments on the video.