**Technical Specifications for ArchivesSpace User Screencast Series**

*Workstation*

ArchivesSpace is cross-platform and so is our screencast series! Any workstation that can access ArchivesSpace is acceptable for screencast purposes.

*Browser*

ArchivesSpace lists its level of support for various browsers at <https://github.com/archivesspace/archivesspace/wiki/Supported-browsers>. Choose a browser with Gold or Silver support for best results. Confirm that the functionality you’re demonstrating works in the browser you’ve chosen.

*Screen Resolution and Aspect Ratio*

For best results, screencasts should be at ether 4:3 or 16:9 aspect ratio. Optimal screen resolution will be 1024x768 for 4:3 or 1280x720 for 16:9. If your screen is not already set for the desired resolution, you should be able to change this setting in the control panel (or equivalent) on your workstation. Use the default font size for the resolution you select.

*Other Applications*

Close out of applications not needed for your screencast, or at least turn off notifications from applications like email, Skype, GChat, and Twitter to avoid having popups interrupt your screencast.

*Clock*

For easier editing, turn off or hide the clock display. (Disable notifications that appear in this area as well.)

*Sound*

Your screencast should be the only noticeable sound in the room on your recording. Turn off background music, keep office/living mates and pets out of recording range, and minimize background noise as much as possible.

There’s no need for an expensive microphone for this purpose, but do test the quality of your computer’s built-in mic. Consider getting an external microphone if the quality is poor. If you use a headset-style microphone, you may want to position it above your nose to cut down on breathing noise.

Some people like to record in one unbroken take while others like to splice the best parts of different takes together. Choose the option that works best for you, but you’ll want to ensure that the narration appears to be seamless either way.

*Other*

Unless you want people paying more attention to your choice of wallpaper or deciphering the icons on your desktop than to what you’re saying, depersonalize your workstation as much as possible for this purpose. Use default or neutral color schemes, fonts, and wallpapers for anything that will appear on screen. Close any windows and browser tabs not needed for what you’re demonstrating. Hide any customized toolbars in your browser that don’t have anything to do with the task at hand. Stow away the icons on your desktop if it will be shown.