

Holiday Zoom Call Cheat Sheet

Tips to Add Cheer and Joy to Your Zoom Calls

TIP ONE: DESIGNATE A ZOOM BOSS

A boss creates and sends out the agenda (the agenda includes topics to talk about, activities to do) and they are the key to keeping the conversation on track, keeping the rambunctious and overly verbose under control, and encouraging the quiet ones to participate. I **recommend choosing yourself** for this position. Also, the mute button is a powerful tool, don't forget to use it. Nothing is worse than too many people trying to speak at once!

TIP TWO: PICK A COUPLE IDEAS FROM THIS LIST TO INFUSE SPIRIT, MEANING, & JOCULARITY INTO YOUR ZOOM MEETING

- ☐ Kick the party off with a couple group songs! Provide lyrics to maximize participation. Add a tambourine, a harmonica, beat a kitchen pan with a wooden spoon,...make it crazy and wild!
- ☐ Read (with inflection/passion/humor) excerpts from favorite holiday books.
- ☐ Take turns sharing a photo or video of your decorated home or kids. Add snarky commentary.
- ☐ Family Cook-off. Version 1: Participants make the same item, show it off, then eat it together. Version 2: Participants make a unique dish and eat it together.
- ☐ Dress up in hilarious costumes and wigs. Pick a theme.
- ☐ Play a visual game like Charades or Pictionary.
- ☐ Share a sweet and a funny holiday 60 second memory. (Moderator, you're the timekeeper. I like to use an obnoxious buzzer app).
- ☐ Send each other a white elephant gift and open them together.
- ☐ Demonstrate a funny skill you've developed. (Me: epic sparkling water burps).
- ☐ Share a new skill or project you are working on.
- ☐ Describe your favorite winter ritual. (fireplaces and hot cocoa, warming up your flannel sheets, chopping wood in your long underwear....)
- ☐ Tell a joke or show a funny clip.
- ☐ Share a moving memory of your grandparents. (script it to make it good!)
- ☐ Dance Party! Play a fun song and direct everyone to stand-up and shake their booty.
- ☐ Talent show! (And I don't mean just the performing art talents!)
- ☐ Start planning the next family get-together. Assign a leader. I **recommend choosing yourself**. Make a list, delegate the tasks, set deadlines.
- ☐ Plan a family donation project. Yep, someone does need to be in charge. **Why not you?**
- ☐ Karaoke competition! Air guitar?
- ☐ End with a group prayer/meditation/cheer/laugh!

TIP THREE: GET HELP FROM EXPERTS TO MAKE THE CALL GO SMOOTHLY

Two great resources from experts! [25 Ways to Make Your Zoom Meetings Awesome!](#) [Zoom Video Tutorials](#)

Screen share is the tool to use for showing slides and video clips. There are tons of how-to videos on YouTube so do your research. And, always test out technology prior to the event. Lastly, remember that **Zoom Basic (free plan)** has a 40 minute time limit. If a family member has **Zoom Pro (paid plan)** then you can talk and stare at each other all day long.

