

# What is NDI?

**NDI (Network Device Interface)** is a technology developed by NewTek that allows video, audio, and data to be shared across a local network in real-time. It's commonly used in live production environments but has endless possibilities for creative applications, especially in theater, performance art, and interactive installations.

Simply said; Imagine you have a projector, a computer, and a camera, and you want them all to "talk" to each other without using a bunch of messy cables. NDI lets these devices send and receive high-quality video and audio over your Wi-Fi or Ethernet network as if they were physically connected. It's like sending video files across your network instantly—without needing to export or transfer anything.

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## What Can You Do with NDI?

### 1. Stream Video Between Devices:

- Send live video from one computer to another (e.g., send a TouchDesigner, Isadora or Resolume output to a projection laptop).
- Use your phone or tablet as a wireless camera for your performance or installation.

### 2. Mix Media in Real-Time:

- Combine multiple video feeds in software like OBS Studio or VJ tools like Resolume for live shows.
- Add live effects or layers to your video feeds.

### 3. Integrate with Performance Tools:

- Share a live camera feed on stage with a projection in real-time.
- Sync visuals with music or sound effects in live performances.

### 4. Collaborative Artwork:

- Share content between artists' devices in a multi-user environment, such as during a workshop or live performance.
  - Use it for interactive installations where different pieces of hardware (cameras, projectors, or phones) are part of the experience.
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## Why should I use NDI?

- **Flexibility:** No need to move everything into one computer. Let every device do what it does best while connecting them via a network.

- **Cost-Effective:** Avoid buying expensive video switchers or capture cards; NDI works with your existing network.
  - **Collaboration:** Great for team projects where multiple artists contribute video, sound, or interaction in real-time.
  - **Live Creativity:** Perform and tweak visuals or sounds on the fly, ideal for improvisational art or performances.
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## What Do You Need?

1. A device that supports NDI (most computers and some cameras do, check out apps like [ZIGCAM \(mac\)](#) or [NDI CAMERA \(android\)](#)).
2. Software like **OBS Studio**, **TouchDesigner**, **Isadora** or **Resolume**, which can send or receive NDI streams.
3. A local network (Ethernet is better for speed; Wi-Fi works but might have delays, especially with more than 1 stream).

want to know more:

[what-is-ndi-everything-you-need-to-know](#)

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Revision #1

Created 2025-01-28 22:17:00 UTC by Astrid

Updated 2025-01-28 22:27:52 UTC by Astrid