

5 Key Strategies to Manage a Difficult Guest

CHEAT SHEET

The Talker

Some people are born with the gift of gab. Which is great for an interview — until they run over time.

Solution: Switch from a full screen view of your guest to a split screen view of both you and your guest. They should take the hint to wrap it up.

The No-Show

The most difficult interviewee of all just might be the one that doesn't show up.

Solution: Always have a backup show. Outline a topic you can discuss for 20 minutes or use your pre-show research to start a conversation with viewers.

The Silent Treatment

Guests who only give one-word answers and sparse details make for dull interviews.

Solution: Send your guest a list of questions in advance so they can prepare their answers. And the phrase "Tell me more about that" works well too!

The Tech-Challenged

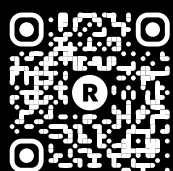
Not everyone is used to being on a live show. They might have slow internet, connection issues, or low-tech gear.

Solution: Do a pre-interview test run with your guest 15 minutes before the live show starts to troubleshoot tech problems.

The Short Fuse

Sometimes, interviewees get worked up and things get heated. It can make you and your viewers uncomfortable.

Solution: Prepare breakaways in advance. A clip, sponsor message, or switching to another guest can reset the conversation and calm tensions.



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