

## **TIPS & TRICKS for PERFECTING YOUR RECRUITING HIGHLIGHTS**

The football season is now well underway and you've likely already put together an eye-catching highlight video.

But we want to make sure your video really pops. We've learned a few things over the years, the stuff that attracts college coaches' attention and potential mistakes to avoid. A quick run-through of this list should ensure that your highlight is fully maxed-out.

### **Put Your Best Plays First**

We can't stress this enough. Recruiters don't have time to watch a 10-minute video – you typically have about a minute to grab their attention. So don't build up to a climax or put them in chronological order. Find your top five or six plays to kick things off.

[Najee Harris](#) does this perfectly. Any coach in the country would be interested after the first three clips.

### **Show Some Variety**

Sure, a compilation of 60-yard touchdown catches on fly routes looks great, but that only showcases one part of your game. You've proven you can sprint past defensive backs, but how is your route running? Can you make a tough catch over the middle and take a hit? Are you a threat in the red zone?

It's critical for all positions to show different skills in a highlight. Defensive ends should include clips of speed moves and bull rushes. Tight ends should show off their receiving and blocking. You get the point.

### **Utilize the Spot Shadow**

Coaches don't want to hunt to find you on each play, so make it easy for them. Give yourself a spot shadow at the beginning of every clip so you're quickly and easily identified. Don't pause to circle yourself mid-play – it messes with the flow and makes it more difficult to judge speed and quickness.

### **Include Non-Traditional Plays**

Take our first tip into account here: You still want to lead off with your absolute best plays, the ones that are most likely to wow the viewer. But after several of those, sprinkle in some different plays, even ones where you don't touch the ball.

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Have a clip of yourself devastating a would-be tackler with a bone-rocking block? Throw it in there. Maybe your sticky coverage at cornerback contributed to a coverage sack. Include that too. Big plays and touchdowns are important, but these less flashy clips show off different skills that coaches want to see.

### **Don't Make Your Teammates Look Bad**

This can be a major turnoff for recruiters who are looking for character as well as ability. For instance, a quarterback shouldn't include a perfect throw that was dropped by a receiver. Doing so throws his teammate under the bus - that's not a trait colleges are looking for.

### **Watch the Music**

You're likely tempted to hype your video with your favorite track, but be careful. Using a song with explicit lyrics or mature themes can cause a recruiter to severely question your judgement. You don't want that. Just keep it clean and don't risk turning anyone off.

We have no doubt your highlight is already top-shelf as it is, but keeping an eye on these tips could take it to the next level and get you the recruiting attention you deserve. Just be sure to tweet your video to [@Hudlhighlights](https://twitter.com/Hudlhighlights).