



GOOD VIEWS
SEASON 2, EP 2
"GETTING RID OF BLACK BARS"

<BART> That's right, it's me...Black Bart. They say you've been tryin to get rid of me. Well, I don't know what you figger to do, coz I'm the orneriest weasel in these parts

<RON> What? ahhh, no. Today, I'm going to show you how to get rid of black BARS.

<BART> What in tarnation is a black bar?

<RON> It's the unused part of the screen that shows up on either side , see if your video is in an older TV style aspect ratio, the YouTube player being widescreen will render it with leftover space on the sides, hence: black bars

<BART> Pardner, I did not understand a word of that.

<RON> What can I tell you? Look on either side

<BART> What tha...

<RON> And widescreen is preferred. And not only is it preferred, it's also...

<GOOD VIEWS THEME>

This black bars issue is something that really only affects older videos, so if you have a YouTube account from before 2008, you might want to check your first few epic productions. TV screens, and most computer screens nowadays have a 16:9 aspect ratio, In contrast to the old 4:3 standard before HD was popular. So when your 4:3 aspect ratio video shows up in the 16:9 YouTube player, it doesn't fit.

But what if you could streeeach your video to fit? That's basically what we're going to do. And it's all done in the YouTube TAG field. Here's how that works.

Here's one of the first videos I did for my original Videos On Your Website.com homepage. Notice the black bars. BUT, if I click on INFO and Settings, and scroll down to the TAG field, I can add this little piece of code. (yt stretch 16:9) It goes right there. Click Save, and when you look at the video again, voile, the bars are gone, and I have a nice 16:9 video. You can also use the tag yt crop 16:9, but that may just zoom in on your video, so you could lose part of the image. But if you try it, you can always undo it.

There are more cool code tricks that we'll cover in a future show

Black bars are ugly. (BART: Why I Oughta...) And your website is beautiful, so Let's rid the world of black bars. (*elbow him out*) Let me know if you have questions, or leave a comment, and you can also download the transcript for this show. For now --- that's a wrap.