

We've gathered information from across the internet to bring you our Mirror Photo Booth Build Research Guide. This infographic will help guide you through the beginning stages of your build. Below you will find a list of helpful links should read to create your own mirror photo booth. This is a great DIY project to avoid spending thousands while creating a custom piece of high-tech decor perfect for capturing any event or occasion.



# DIY MIRROR PHOTO BOOTH

- ✓ What do I need?
- ✓ How do I build it?
- ✓ What to expect?

## COMPLETE RESEARCH GUIDE 2018

### USEFUL GUIDES

<https://www.instructables.com/id/The-Magic-Mirror/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3904VtBcoEc>

<https://forum.magicmirror.builders/topic/4207/home-made-60-touch-magic-mirror>

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/diy-smart-mirror-glass-comparison/>

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/framing-smart-mirror-with-touch-overlay.pdf>

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/create-custom-led-smart-mirror-television/>

<http://digitalphotographyhobbyist.com/start-photo-booth-business/>

Not every photo booth is created equal. That is why we love this DIY project! Add your own custom flair. Choose the framing, lights, camera quality, how it all mounts. Take time to design the perfect picture taking machine. You won't regret it. This guide will help prepare you for what to expect when you are building your own mirror photo booth. We don't have all the details and answers but, we will try to help you out as much as possible to point you in the right direction of other makers that might!

### HELPFUL TIP

Join this Facebook Community for insider information from makers and creators of DIY Mirror Booths!

FB GROUP: THE REAL DIY MIRROR BOOTH



### HELPFUL LINKS

<https://forum.magicmirror.builders/search?term=photobooth&in=titlesposts>

[https://www.reddit.com/r/raspberrypi/comments/3prgsb/magic\\_mirror\\_what\\_monitors\\_do\\_people\\_use/](https://www.reddit.com/r/raspberrypi/comments/3prgsb/magic_mirror_what_monitors_do_people_use/)

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/diy-smart-mirror-glass-comparison/>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10156393445783060&set=pcb.1819621048096524&type=3&theater&fg=1>



### HELPFUL LINKS

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/smart-mirror/>

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/diy-smart-mirror-glass-comparison/>



### HELPFUL LINKS

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/buy-smart-mirror-frame/>

<https://forum.magicmirror.builders/topic/4207/home-made-60-touch-magic-mirror>

<https://www.twowaymirrors.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/framing-smart-mirror-with-touch-overlay.pdf>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10156393445783060&set=pcb.1819621048096524&type=3&theater&fg=1>



### HELPFUL LINKS

<http://proddisplay.com/products/interactive-touch-foil/>

<https://www.magicmirrorcentral.com/magic-mirror-touch-screen/>

<https://forum.magicmirror.builders/topic/671/touch-screen-over-two-way-mirror>

<https://www.aliexpress.com/item/Free-Shipping-65-inch-multi-IR-touch-screen-overlay-6-panel-Infrared-touch-panel-driver/32807722917.html>

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B06Y149R5F/>

<https://www.pqlabs.com/>

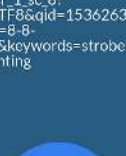


### HELPFUL LINKS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvaM8dKO304&feature=youtu.be>

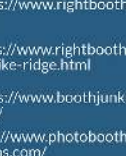
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3904VtBcoEc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=meFev6PQQMY>



### HELPFUL LINKS

[https://www.amazon.com/Neewer-Studio-Strobe-Photography-Lighting/dp/B0788MF2H4/ref=sr\\_1\\_sc\\_8?ie=UTF8&qid=1536263011&sr=8-8-spell&keywords=strobe+flashlighting](https://www.amazon.com/Neewer-Studio-Strobe-Photography-Lighting/dp/B0788MF2H4/ref=sr_1_sc_8?ie=UTF8&qid=1536263011&sr=8-8-spell&keywords=strobe+flashlighting)



### HELPFUL LINKS

<https://www.rightbooth.com/>

<https://www.rightbooth.com/mike-ridge.html>

<https://www.boothjunkie.co.uk/>

<http://www.photoboothsolutions.com/>

<https://fotomasterltd.net/products/mirror-me-booth/>



### HELPFUL LINKS

<http://digitalphotographyhobbyist.com/start-photo-booth-business/>

<https://www.reliablehardware.com/photobooth.aspx>

<http://www.photoboothowners.com/photobooth-owners-toolbox/>

## DISPLAY

Usually this is the easiest piece of your photo booth to find. An old computer monitor will work great but we highly recommend a television since it is the most versatile. It will have all the right inputs ready to go.

Just because you've purchased a touch monitor, does not mean it will work through the mirror substrate. You will need to add a IR Touch Frame Technology to the framing of the television or a touch foil underlay to the glass. Check the compatibility of your future display with all the tech you plan on implementing in your build!

Size is very important. When choosing the display size keep in mind how portable your finished booth will be. A good ratio is 40" Screen with a 55" IR Frame. Fits through a door and the back of a hatchback car or SUV. Going much larger would require a bigger vehicle for hauling the photo booth mirror from location to location.

## SMART MIRROR

Glass or Acrylic? That is a pretty common question when it comes to the mirror photo booth project.

A Glass Smart Mirror is the perfect glass for a photo booth project. It has a gorgeous 70% reflection and allows for 25% of light to pass through from your display. All while hiding the tech behind the mirror within its powerful reflection. The glass smart mirror will closely resemble the color of a standard mirror. Its durable mirror coating can withstand fingers touching it if it is installed with in IR touch overlay or underlay. It can be easily tempered and tends to be much flatter than acrylic in larger sizes.

## FRAME & CASE

The planning and researching stages are crucial for your photo booth build. As yourself questions like,

- How large should I build it?
- How am I going to cart it around?
- How will the mirror be mounted inside the frame?
- What size monitor should I buy?
- Will it be touch?
- If so what touch technology do I use?
- What software will work the best for the tech I'm about to purchase? Is it compatible?
- How will I mount the DSLR behind the mirror?
- How heavy will the materials make my build?

These questions will help guide your build in the right direction as you map out the materials. Remember, you want your photo booth mirror to be functional, portable, and high quality. You don't have to rush into this project. Take time to read others builds and figure out what will work best for you. Get it right the first time by learning from others that may have jumped the gun.

## TOUCH TECHNOLOGY

If you plan on implementing touch technology within your photo booth be sure to heavily research your best options depending on frame and mirror size, budget, software and monitor compatibility.

Touch technologies you can implement include an IR Touch Frame or an IR Touch Film Underlay.

It can get tricky as touch technologies tend to run on the pricey side and can be confusing in terms of the research. Ordering the smart mirror glass samples ahead of time to determine compatibility is a must. Some Touch Technologies will not work with the touch aluminum coating of the mirror.

Ordering a larger IR Touch Frame with a smaller display can be done, but not without a few complications and possible headaches. Check out the helpful links located to the left of this paragraph to see others that have achieved this installation successfully.

## CAMERA

Most photo booths or mirror photo booths will have a DSLR. You can mount the DSLR above the photo booth or inside the mirror photo booth.

When mounting the camera inside the booth and behind the smart mirror, a DSLR is nice for setting the camera on manual to the desired settings based on the light already existing in the room as well as your additional top light. When shooting from inside the booth you may have to crank up the ISO to allow for more detail to get captured through the mirror. Having the option to adjust those settings is a must.

It is also nice when mounted inside the unit for the DSLR's protection from rowdy or intoxicated guests that like touching expensive things they don't own.

## LIGHTING

Most photo booths use a strobe flash and trigger instead of continuous lighting. Continuous lighting may ruin the mood of the party or give an un-welcoming glow. It would also increase the reflectivity of the mirror on your mirror booth. Making it a little harder to see the display from behind.

Studio strobe lighting hooks up nicely to DSLRs and can brighten even the darkest of rooms. Add a white diffuser for softer looking light on your subjects. Its affordable and adds a professional flare to your mirror photo booth.

## SOFTWARE

Most photo booth software you find will let you download a free trial. Test as many as possible to determine the right software for your setup and customers. There are many free and paid options to choose from. They start at free and go all the way up to \$3250.00! How serious of an endeavour is this for you? What features are a must have? These are great questions to ask yourself when determining the perfect software for your build.

## HARDWARE

When building a mirror photo booth from scratch, you are going to find yourself constantly running into needing every type of hardware. From aluminum channels, hinges, mirror clips, and many other custom pieces.

Did I mention the amazing FB Group with thousands of members and an extremely helpful community. Questions about your future build?

Check them out here.