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What is GoPro SuperView?

SuperView is GoPro's widest field of vision available when shooting standard video. Here's what it looks like.



TEXT & PHOTOS BY [DAVID COLEMAN](#)

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GoPro likes giving their features catchy names. Names like HyperSmooth, Timewarp, Protune, SuperPhoto, HyperSmooth, and SuperView. But it's not always clear what each does. The one I'm focusing on here is **SuperView**, a feature that's available in some video modes on some of the newer cameras.

So what is SuperView, anyway?

SuperView is GoPro's name for its widest field of view, or FOV, available when shooting video.¹ GoPro calls it “the world’s most immersive field of view.”²

It's also not the same thing as [SuperPhoto](#), which is GoPro's name for some photo enhancement features first launched in the HERO7 Black.

The default field of view for shooting video with GoPro cameras is known as Wide. It has that distinctive fisheye look that can give an immersive feel, and it's the perspective we're most used to when we see GoPro footage.

The SuperView FOV is an even wider and more distorted perspective. The most obvious change is that it milks just a little more from each side. To include that extra information, it squashes the rest of the frame a bit more.

To accomplish that, it stretches a 4:3 aspect ratio capture into a viewport that has an aspect ratio of 16:9. But it's not just vertical squishing– it also uses more of the available sensor data on each side.

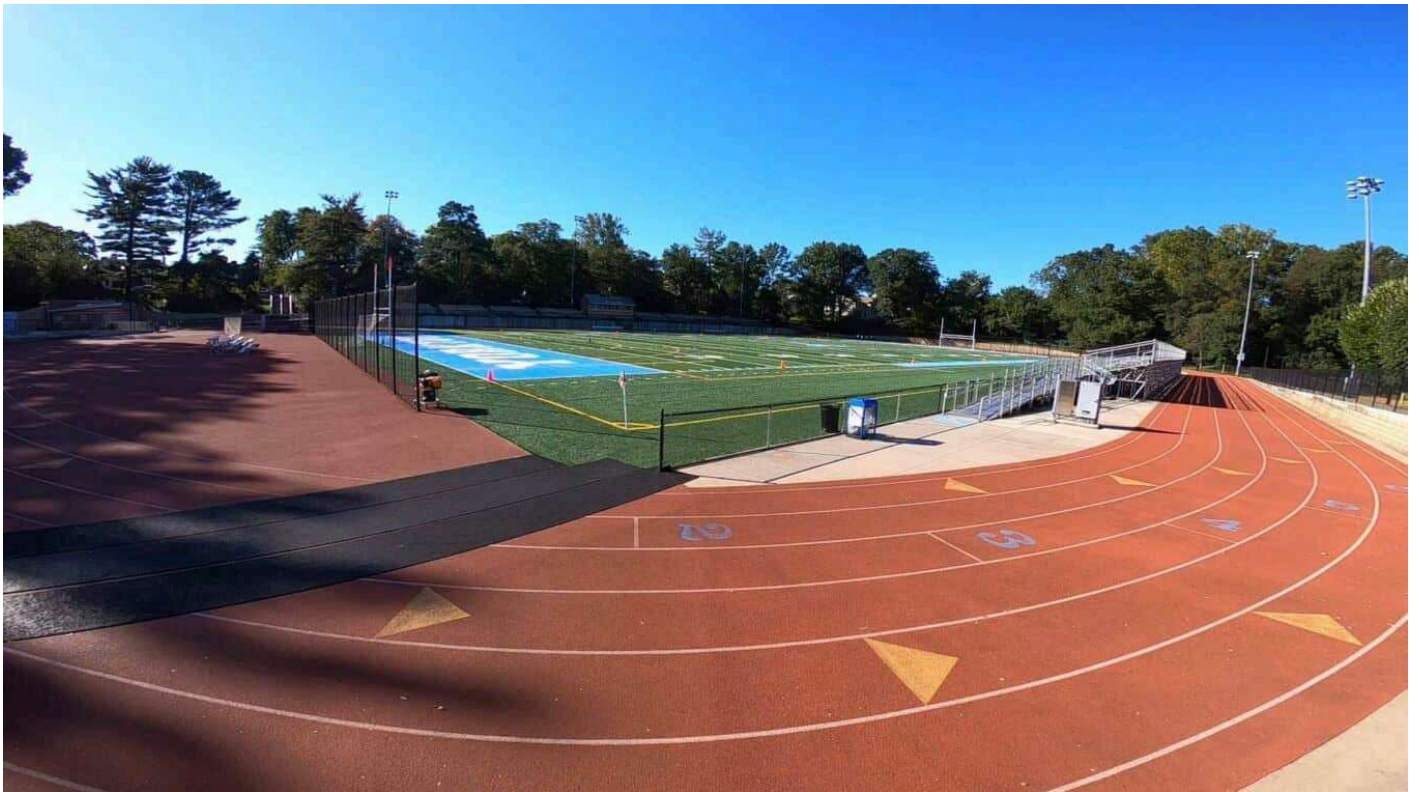
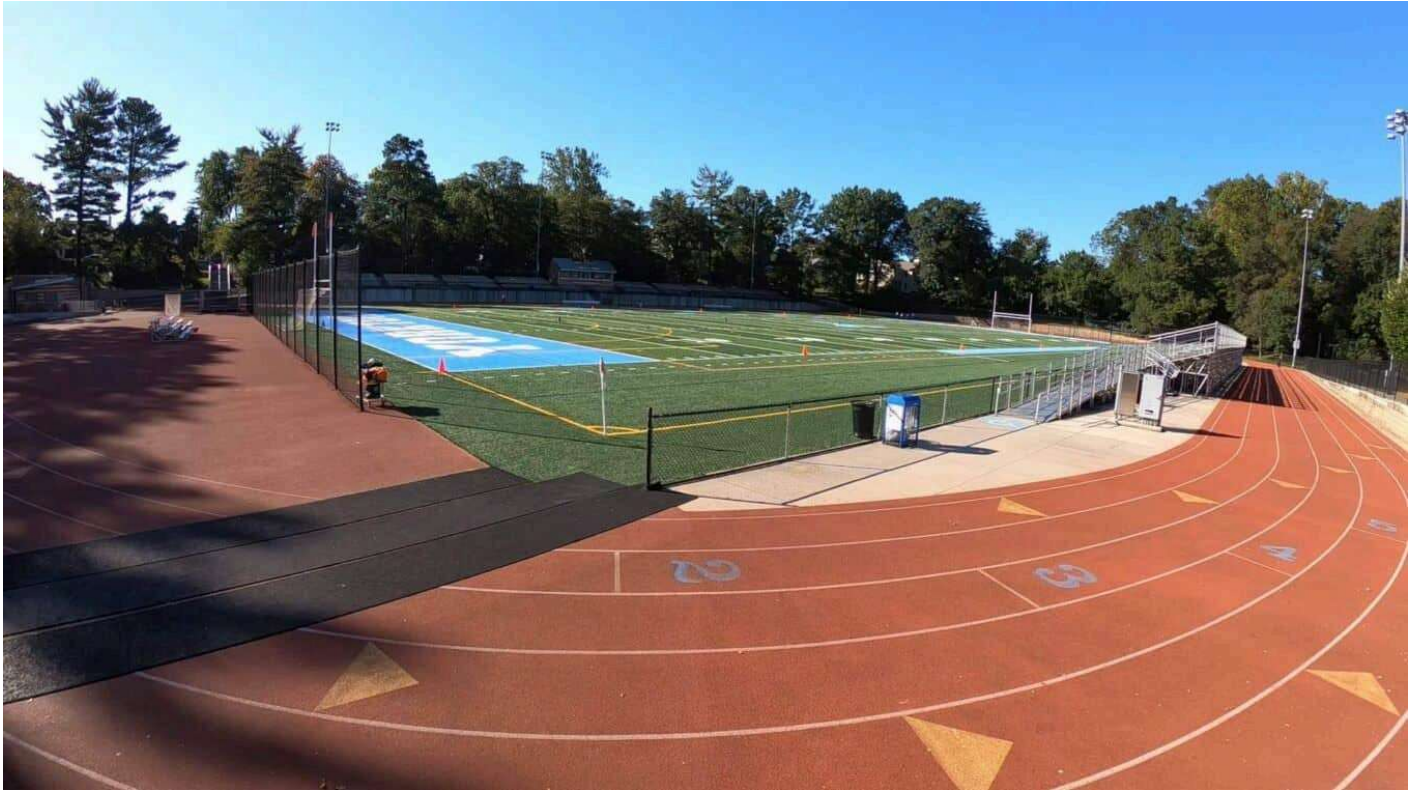
SuperView not available on every camera, and even on cameras that do have it, it's not available in every resolution/framerate combination. On the HERO7 Black, for example, it's not available on the highest framerates for each resolution (you can find details on the [table at the bottom of this page](#)).

SuperView Practical Examples

Here's a practical example of what it looks like compared with the default Wide FOV. The left image is the standard Wide FOV. The right is the SuperView FOV. These are screen grabs from footage taken on the [HERO7 Black](#) with the HyperSmooth stabilization turned off (the stabilization crops the frame slightly).



Here's another example, this time shot on a HERO6 Black:



And another, again with the HERO7 Black:



When to Use SuperView

There are no hard and fast rules on which field of view to use when– that’s very much a creative decision–but the extra leeway with SuperView is particularly well suited to two common situations. One is when it’s not practical to compose the shot precisely and want to make sure that your subject remains in the frame (i.e., a simpler version of the idea of overcapture used on the [Fusion](#) or MAX). Another is when you’re shooting in a tight space where you’re trying to capture as much of the surroundings as possible. GoPro suggests that it’s good for body- and gear-mounted shots, which falls within those scenarios.

What it’s not especially useful for is any time that the highly distorted and compressed look is going to appear strange. So you wouldn’t usually use it for standard people shots, for example, where it’s going to distort their face and body in a distracting way.

More to Check Out

If you enjoyed this, these might also be of interest:

- [How to Join GoPro HEVC Files with VideoProc Converter](#)
- [What is HEVC on GoPro Cameras? HEVC & H.264 Explained](#)
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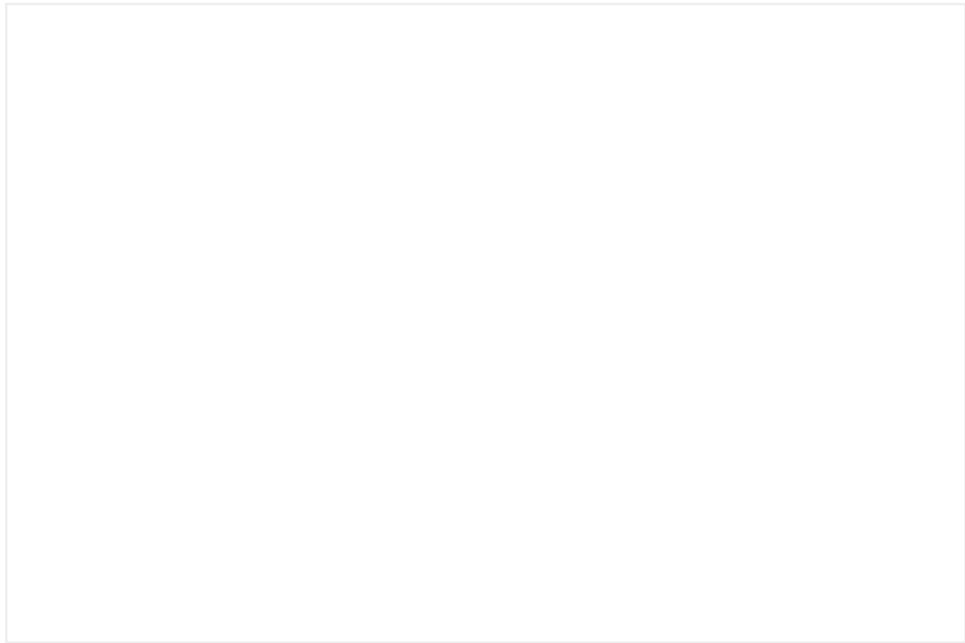
Notes & References:

1. Technically, the MAX and Fusion can do wider fields of view because they can shoot 360° and overcapture. I'm referring here to the non-360° cameras that shoot traditional non-360° video. [[↔](#)]
2. 360° footage like that from the GoPro MAX and Fusion is presumably more immersive. [[↔](#)]

Text & Photos by David Coleman

I'm a freelance travel photographer based in Washington DC. Seven continents, up mountains, underwater, and a bunch of places in between. My images have appeared in numerous publications, and you can check out some of my [travel photography here](#).

I've been shooting with GoPros for years, starting with the HD HERO, and have owned and used just about every model since. [More »](#)



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My name is David Coleman, and this is my site.

I take photos for a living. Seven continents. Dozens of countries. Up mountains. Under water. And a bunch of places in between. I'm based in Washington DC.

I've been shooting with GoPros since the HERO2 and have personally owned nearly every model since then. I find them particularly interesting as go-anywhere cameras, and there's nearly always one in my camera bag when I head out on my travels.

All posts and reviews on this site are written by me. And I only review gear with which I have personal hands-on experience. [More about me.](#)

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