

Snoke is *obviously* R2-D2. I mean, come on:

- As Anakin Skywalker's most trusted companion, R2 has a unique perspective on Darth Vader that he would pass on to Kylo Ren.
- Likewise, he has the most experience with Jedi training of any character still alive by the end of RotJ. As someone who watched all of Anakin and Ahsoka's training, as well as Yoda's pitiful summer camp on Dagobah, it's no wonder he was a better teacher than Luke.
- It's a reasonable assumption that Ben Solo would be familiar with him and trust him.
- Likewise, as Luke's companion we should expect him to have unrestricted access to Skywalker's Jedi students.
- We only see Snoke in the form of a holographic projection. Who's the character we see with the greatest facility for producing these projections? R2.
- This also fits with Lucas' Ring Composition and Abram's desire to imitate the original trilogy. One of the most memorable and famous scenes in ANH is when R2 uses a seductive hologram to turn a naive young man against his father.
- R2 has the temperament of a Sith Lord. He's secretive about his past and his motives, even when it doesn't make sense for him to be. He's prone to violent outbursts involving lightning. He uses an obnoxious and widely scorned side character to manipulate a Senator (C-3PO and Leia in this case, as opposed to Jar-Jar and Padme for Sidious).
- He clings to powerful people, slowly working his way up the galactic food chain. It was a setback when Sidious stole Anakin from him, but R2 finally got his revenge in the form of Luke.
- Like Sidious, he just seems to have this weird fixation on the Skywalker/Solo family.
- When Snoke begins to work openly in the galaxy, R2 mysteriously goes into "low power mode" when his supposed friends need him the most.
- Does Snoke/R2 freak out when his apprentice Kylo Ren is defeated and Starkiller Base is destroyed? No, he calmly powers back up and does what he's done before. He befriends a new, more powerful apprentice (Rey) and goes about hunting down Skywalker himself.
- Jedi are really, really bad at sensing when a Sith is ordering them around. That nobody has caught on to R2's machinations in six movies and a tv series is actually an argument for how plausible this is.
- R2 has a wide range of powers beyond what anyone would ever expect an astromech droid to be capable of. He's a rolling navicomputer. But somehow he's also a firefighter, expert slicer, mechanic, and waiter who can fight off battle droids - oh, and he can fly for some reason.
- It makes at least as much sense as Plagueis.