



resonate

The best podcast equipment

The best recorders, microphones, accessories, and software for recording

AN EQUIPMENT GUIDE FOR PODCASTERS

Starting a podcast from scratch can be a little daunting, especially if you have little to no experience recording. Before you decide what kind of equipment you need, you should decide which of the following scenarios best describes your podcasting set up. These are two of the most common recording setups that we see. Keep in mind that you may be the exception; feel free to reach out to us for a custom equipment package recommendation if neither of these describe you.

SCENARIO A



If you plan to do in-person interviews, record on the go, and have an in-studio setup, this is for you. This setup allows you to be flexible, portable, and capture high quality audio. Having the option to use the built in mic on your handheld recorder, a dynamic voiceover mic, a shotgun style mic, and a lavalier mic means you will be prepared to record in pretty much any environment.

1. HANDHELD RECORDER:

This is our favorite all-in-one tool for podcasting. A handheld recorder replaces the need to use a computer with recording software and greatly simplifies the recording process.

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| • Top pick: Zoom H6 (\$349) – 4 inputs (expandable up to 6) |
| • Budget: Zoom H5 (\$269) – 2 inputs (expandable up to 4) |
| • Splurge: Marantz PMD 661 (\$538) – 2 inputs with higher quality pre amps |

2. MICROPHONE (FOR VOICEOVER & IN STUDIO):

This will be the one mic that you use the most. Most podcasts are 90% narration and we recommend you use this mic to record all of your in-studio voiceover narration and any in-studio interviews. That may mean that you need two of these mics.

- **Top pick:** [ElectroVoice RE320](#) (\$260) – the little brother to the RE20 and for the price this mic sounds great. It is a broadcast standard.
- **Budget:** [Shure SM58](#) (\$99) – a legendary vocal mic and you can't beat the price.
- **Splurge:** [ElectroVoice RE-20](#) (\$449) – a broadcast standard mic and one of our favorites for podcasting

OPTIONAL MICS:

a. Ambient and sound effects mic:

The built in mic on the handheld recorder is great for capturing ambient sounds to use as effects or in the background of your podcast.

b. Shotgun mic:

If you plan to record interviews outside or in other noisy environments, a shotgun style mic is a great way to capture clean interview tracks.

- [Audio-Technica AT8035](#) (\$269)
- [Rycote Pistol Grip – for shotgun mic](#) (\$159)

c. Lavaliers mic (aka lapel mics, radio mics, wireless mics):

Lavalier mics are a great option for capturing on-the-go recordings in noisy environments where your interviewee is moving around. These are tiny omni-directional microphones that are clipped onto the person's shirt and then transmitted via a wireless radio signal to a receiver.

- **Top Pick:** [Sennheiser EW 12-p G3](#) (\$629)
- **Budget:** [Shure MVL for iPhone](#) (\$69)

3. ESSENTIAL ACCESSORIES:

All of these accessories are essential to help prevent recording problems.

You can read more about the purpose of each accessory [here](#).

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|---|
| • Mic Stand (\$46) or Boom Arm (\$30) |
| • Microphone Cable (\$10) |
| • Pop Filter (\$10) |
| • Headphones (\$79) |
| • Cloudlifter (\$149) |

SCENARIO B



This setup is for the podcaster conducting interviews or recordings with remote guests. This scenario is for someone with a computer and access to the internet. Zencastr.com or Squadcast.fm are both easy to use recording software, and we have found they capture quality audio while conducting a computer - to - computer interview. If you go with scenario A but want the option to record the occasional remote recordings, we recommend getting this setup as well.

1. COMPUTER:

You can use any computer with an internet connection but you and your guest will both need an updated version of Google Chrome as a browser.

2. USB MICROPHONE:

[ATR 2100](#) (\$69) – This mic works as both a USB or XLR microphone. For this scenario you will use the mic with the usb features. The low price makes this mic a no brainer!

[AT 2005](#) (\$69) – This mic also works as both a USB or XLR microphone and is one of our favorites. This mic is a great broadcast microphone and one of the best USB mics on the market for podcasting.

3. ESSENTIAL ACCESSORIES:

All of these accessories will help prevent problems while recording.

• Mic Stand (\$46) or Boom Arm (\$30)
• Pop Filter (\$10)
• Headphones (\$79)

4. SOFTWARE FOR REMOTE RECORDINGS:

[Zencastr](#) or [Squadcast](#) – You can sign up for a free account at [Zencastr.com](#). or [Squadcast.fm](#). Zencastr and Squadcast captures high-quality recordings on both ends locally and allows you to upload the tracks once the recording is done. Squadcast also allows you to see your guests via video. It is important that your guest wear headphones or earbuds of some kind. If your guest does not have a USB microphone, have them use the built in microphone on their iPhone earbuds. Below is a checklist you can use and share with your guest before using Zencastr or Squadcast:

- ☐ Quiet recording environment (Turn off HVAC)
- ☐ Laptop or desktop computer
- ☐ Updated version of Google Chrome Browser
- ☐ Good internet connection (Reset router and modem if needed)
- ☐ Headphones or earbuds
- ☐ USB mic and pop filter or iPhone/other earbuds with a built in mic

