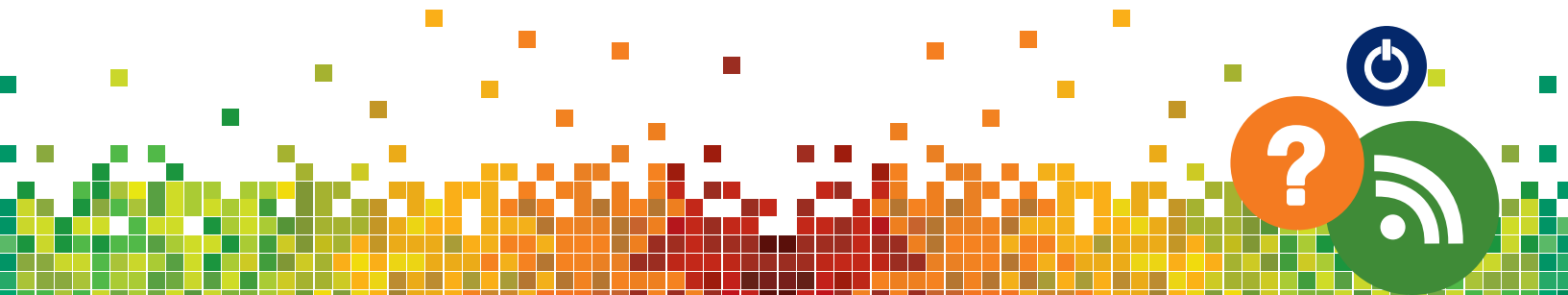


The Little Guide to Making a Podcast



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Audio Podcasts are like radio shows. Covering just about any conceivable topic, they can contain -

- Voice recordings
- Interviews
- Field recordings
- Sound Effects
- Music

Podcasts are delivered via RSS (Really Simple Syndication) on the Internet. The audience can subscribe to the podcast RSS feed, and will be notified of new episodes as you publish them, or they can set up podcast client software to download new episodes automatically.

Audio podcasts can be made with free audio software like Audacity or commercial audio applications with more advanced features.

Audio can be gathered with a portable recorder or even some mobile phones, or recorded directly onto computer via a suitable soundcard or USB microphone

Make sure to obtain clearance from copyright holders for any third party materials (e.g. music) you use! Similarly, ask contributors to sign consent forms allowing you to publish your recordings of them. Creative Commons offers some free licenses to copyright your work.

Top Tips

- Take care when setting your record levels
Too low = faint & indistinct
Too high = distortion
- Make test recording(s)
- Use closed-back headphones for better isolation
- 'Top & Tail' editing removes silence / preparation noise at beginning and end
- Normalisation maximises levels

Podcasts are delivered as digital audio files. Popular formats include MP3, AAC and FLAC, all of which reduce file size with data compression.

