



## How to...



### HEAR THIS!

About 62% of people in the US have listened to a podcast at least once.

# Start your own podcast

Find out how to record a show that other people can listen to.

Podcasts are audio shows that you download and listen to on your phone. They're super popular, and it's easy to see why. Podcasts are free, simple to access online, and great for when you're on the go (like riding in a car or on the bus). Besides listening to podcasts, you can also create your own. Here's how you can get started.

### Choose a topic

Pick a subject you're interested in, like animal facts or sports trivia. Then you can plan specific episodes around that general topic. For example, if you decide your podcast will be about amazing animals, you could create one episode about different types of apes and another about unusual pets.

### Consider a co-host

Many podcasts have more than one host, and the hosts have a conversation. Maybe you have a friend or a sibling who would like to work on a podcast with you. Or you could invite a "guest" onto each show, like a cousin who plays on the high school team for an episode about soccer or a sibling who loves Legos for your toy-themed podcast.

### Research and write

Brainstorm a theme for your first episode, then research your topic online or gather books from the library. Organize the most interesting facts you find into an outline. You don't need to write a full script, but it's helpful to have an idea of what you're going to talk about and in what order. Your episode doesn't need to be long—you can aim for five to 10 minutes to start. Practice out loud to test whether you have enough material for a show.

### Record it

Professional podcasters often use expensive microphones and computer programs. But all you need to get started is a voice recorder, which most smartphones and tablets have. For the best sound quality, record in a quiet room. Keep the phone or tablet microphone near your mouth to make sure people can hear you well.

### Share your work

The easiest way to have your family and friends listen to your podcast is to add the audio file to a shared drive (like Google Drive or Dropbox). Then you can email them the link so they can enjoy your show.



Try practicing out loud.

## Learn the lingo



You can sound like a podcast pro by using some of these common podcasting terms.

**Intro** The intro is an opening segment of the podcast where you might introduce yourself and the topic of your show.

**Episode** An episode is a single installment of your podcast, like a chapter in a book.

**Transition** A transition is music or sound that can connect one part of your podcast to another.

**Outro** The outro is a quick closing segment to wrap up your podcast. For instance, you can ask listeners for feedback or tease the next episode.