

Podcast Equipment Recommendations

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Smart Content Marketing, Powered by Podcasts

What's your budget?

From \$11.99 to several thousands of dollars, you can start anywhere in terms of equipment.

How to decide?

Ultimately, equipment selection is an extension of the tone of the show. Here are a few questions to ask yourself:

- Do you think you'll be recording live interviews at conferences? Will they be on the fly while walking around or standing? Will they be done at a desk?
- Will your interviews all be done via Skype?
- Will the location you use to record those change from your office to your home?

Case Study Example 1

[IMA Leader](#) is mainly an interview-style podcast. Dominick normally records his episodes in Skype and uses the same room in his house so there isn't a lot of movement of equipment.

Occasionally, he does interviews from conferences where he needs to be working a room and recording conversations with people.

Therefore, Dom uses a [Procaster microphone](#) that feeds via an XLR cable into a [Behringer USB mixing board](#). The output of the board feeds into Dom's HP i7 laptop where he records in Skype. Dom also has a Zoom H4n that he uses for live conference interviews. (see more below for photos and links)



Case Study Example 2

By definition, the Copy That Pops is a dynamic show. Laura moves from one location to another and that "work from anywhere" style permeates all aspects of the show. She might record an episode at "home" in Germany and later that week do a show from Spain.

Laura rarely interviews people face to face focusing instead on connecting with guests on her laptop: a MacBook Pro loaded with Skype and Audacity. She prefers light-weight, durable, and mobile-ready tools.

A Spectrum of Options

Very Low (not recommended):

\$11.99 will get you started...on a very bad path.

Here is the [Logitech Stereo Headset H110](#) on Amazon.

Why don't we recommend this?

While this level of product may be just fine in terms of the headset (listening) piece, it does not have a high enough quality microphone to give your show the level of professionalism in sound you desire.



It is also less durable and more prone to sound cutting with use.

Very High (not recommended):

\$1,599 will bury you financially, and in complexity.

Here is an 'everything you'd ever need and then some' package including a Mixing Board, Digital Recorder, Shock Mount, and Heavy Duty Mic Boom Arm w/ C-Clamp.

Why don't we recommend this?

This level of sophistication is more for those who have a real passion to make podcasting and sound alteration their full-time passion or job. It is more than is needed and will likely overwhelm and complicate.

But it is a great set of products if you decide to go all out.

<http://podcastanswerman.com/equipment/>



Just Right: Option 1







\$42.00 will get you off to a solid start

If you're a start small and grow person and want as much flexibility as possible, start with a quality USB headset/microphone combo like the one below. Laura loves this headset because she is currently living and traveling throughout Europe and wants something light and mobile.

Here's a [Sennheiser headset that integrates for PC and Mac via USB](#) on Amazon.

It'll run you under \$45 and give you ultimate flexibility. All you need is a laptop with an internet connection and this headset can make you a podcaster.

Electronics > Computers & Accessories > Computer Accessories & Peripherals > Audio & Video Accessories > Computer Headsets





Roll over image to zoom in

Sennheiser PC 8 USB - Stereo USB Headset for PC and MAC with In-line Volume and Mute Control

by Sennheiser

★★★★☆ 88 customer reviews | 19 answered questions

List Price: \$49.95

Price: **\$42.00** & **FREE Shipping** on orders over \$49.

[Details](#)

You Save: **\$7.95 (16%)**

In Stock.

Want it tomorrow, March 12? Order within **22 hrs 34 mins** and choose **Same-Day Delivery** at checkout. [Details](#)

Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.

Product Packaging: **Standard Packaging**

Just Right: Option 2

\$119.00 will get you moving toward pro without breaking the bank

If you want something a little more substantial the [Blue Yeti](#) is the industry standard when it comes to entry-level microphones. Probably half of all real podcasts (not the ones that only do three episodes and quit), are recorded using Blue Yeti microphones.

The Blue Yeti sits on a table so it's not as versatile as a headset microphone.

It still plugs into the USB port on a computer so it's not as complicated as a standalone microphone - like what Dom uses.

Dom actually has one of these as his backup mic.

Note: The Blue Yeti also needs a pop filter [windscreen](#) so make sure you get one that's bundled in or order one separately.



Blue Microphones Yeti USB Microphone Blackout Edition

by Blue Microphones

★★★★☆ 3,497 customer reviews | 105 answered questions

List Price: \$149.99

Price: **\$119.99** & **FREE Shipping**. [Details](#)

You Save: **\$30.00 (20%)**

In Stock.

Want it tomorrow, March 12? Order within **22 hrs 30 mins** and choose **Same-Day Delivery** at checkout. [Details](#)

Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.

style: **USB Microphone**



Foam Windscreen for Blue Yeti, MXL, Audio Technica, and Other Large Condenser Microphones - Black

by Windscreen

★★★★☆ 378 customer reviews | 23 answered questions

Price: \$14.95

Sale: **\$17.95** Prime | FREE One-Day

Delivered tomorrow for FREE with qualifying orders over \$35. [Details](#)

You Save: **\$4.00 (26%)**

In Stock.

Want it tomorrow, March 22? Order within 14 hrs 4 mins and choose **Same-Day Delivery** at checkout. [Details](#)

Sold by The Prime Directive and Fulfilled by Amazon.

Color: **Black**

- Designed to fit the Blue Yeti, Yeti Pro, and other large condenser microphones and USB microphones from brands such as MXL and Audio Technica, as well as most other mics up to 2.5 inches in diameter.
- Improves the quality of your audio recording by minimizing the sound of wind and other unwanted background noise.
- Acts as a pop filter for those harsh "p", "t", and "b" sounds.
- Protects your microphone from keeping out harmful dust and moisture.
- Perfect for improving the sound quality of your podcasts, YouTube videos, ASMR videos, gaming streams, and other audio recordings.

More in Musical Instruments

One More Piece to Mention!


\$259.99 will get you on the road for tradeshow, conventions, and more

One of the most rewarding parts of your podcasting journey is going to be the interviews you do at conferences and other places “on the road.” While you can use your phone for these impromptu interviews, we recommend something different: the [H4n Zoom Bundle](#)

A mobile recorder is an important second investment.

Not right away, but wait until you have a small conference where you can test out both the equipment and get comfortable interviewing people face to face.

You want to have this the conference *before* the conference where you make a splash.



Zoom H4n Handy Recorder Bundle with 16GB SDHC Card, RC-4 Remote, Headphones, Mini Tripod, and SKB Hard Case

by Zoom

★★★★★ 8 customer reviews

List Price: \$399.95
Price: **\$259.99** & **FREE Shipping**. [Details](#)
You Save: \$139.96 (35%)

Only 7 left in stock.
Want it Monday, March 14? Order within **21 hrs 47 mins** and choose **One-Day Shipping** at checkout. [Details](#)
Sold by [Kellards](#) and [Fulfilled by Amazon](#). Gift-wrap available.

- This Bundle Includes:
- Zoom H4n Recorder and Included Accesories
- RC4 Remote, Extra 16GB SD Card and Table Tripod

Click to open expanded view

Note: You can get this cheaper on Amazon separate from the bundle. We just think what they throw in is a nice ‘set’ to get you off and running.



Equipment Cost Summary

Lower Recommendation - \$42 for a quality USB headset

Higher Recommendation - \$119 for a Blue Yeti plus **\$17.95** for a windscreen

Later for conferences - \$259.99 for an H4n or similar handheld digital recorder

No matter what you choose, we will be there to help you get it set-up and using it like a pro!

Get pro podcast help >