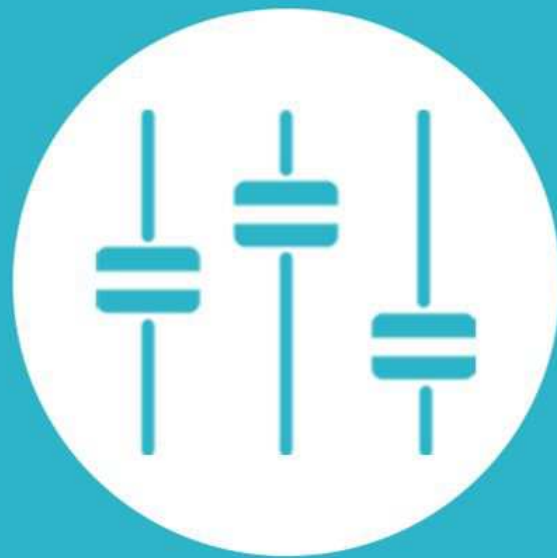


*How To Do  
Voice Overs*

# The Toolkit



**Rob Mayzes**



Thanks for downloading this free toolkit! I'm excited for you to jump in and start learning what equipment and software you need to record awesome voice overs.

If you haven't already done so, you can also sign up at [www.homestudiocenter.com](http://www.homestudiocenter.com) for free weekly emails about home recording.

Enjoy!

*Rob Mayzes*

## Equipment

To record a good voice over, you need the right equipment.

Your recording and processing chain consists of 5 main pieces:

1. Microphone
2. Accessories
3. Computer
4. Software
5. Headphones/Speakers

Of course, there are many optional extras. And some essential accessories.

In this toolkit, I will break down each section and give you my personal recommendations. Keep reading...

# Microphones

The first piece of equipment in your recording chain is the microphone. Your choice of microphone will have a big impact on the sound of your voice, so choose wisely.

You have two options here:

1. Get a USB microphone that plugs straight into your computer.
2. Get a professional microphone that requires an audio interface.

If you can afford it, I would highly recommend purchasing a professional microphone and a USB audio interface (like the [Focusrite Solo](#) or [PreSonus Audiobox](#)).

You will capture much higher quality audio, and you have the ability to upgrade your microphone in the future.

If your budget doesn't allow it, you can still get a great sound with a USB microphone...

## Audio Technica ATR2100 USB Microphone (around \$50)



This is a great mic for beginners. Nice warm sound, and doesn't pick up on much background noise.

[Click here for more info](#)

## **Blue Yeti USB Microphone (around \$99)**



An extremely popular microphone. It's a bit pricey, but for the extra cost you get a much clearer, natural sound. No need for a separate stand.

[Click here for more info](#)

## **Audio Technica AT2035 Professional Microphone (around \$149)**



A highly affordable professional microphone. Ideal first mic for anyone wanting a more professional setup. Also comes with some great accessories on Amazon (just follow the link below).

[Click here for more info](#)

## Accessories

Some accessories are required, while others are optional.

All of the optional accessories will improve your recordings, so are worth getting.

Required accessories:

- A boom microphone stand (like this [Samson MK-10 Microphone Boom Stand](#))
- Cables (a USB cable for USB microphones, or an XLR cable for professional microphones)

Optional accessories (but still very important):

- A pop shield to prevent plosives (like this [Neewer Studio Microphone Mic Wind Screen Pop Filter Mask Shield](#))
- A shock mount to prevent vibration noise (specific to the microphone that you use)

## Computer

I'm guessing you already have this essential item (otherwise you wouldn't be reading this downloadable toolkit)!

A fast computer is beneficial, but not necessary.

Most modern laptops and computers will be more than enough. And you can use any operating system. Mac, Windows or Linux - there is software available for all.

Here are my basic recommended minimum requirements:

- 2 GB RAM
- 1 GHz Processor
- 10GB of hard drive space for audio files and projects

## Software

Now that you have your microphone and a computer to record to, you need some software to do the recording.

The most popular is [Audacity](#). It's free, it's easy to use and there are loads of tutorials online.

For a more sophisticated option with much better effects (and a lot more functionality) try [Reaper](#). They have an unlimited free trial. It's a bit harder to learn, but worth the effort.

## Headphones/Speakers

Once you've recorded your voice, you need a way to listen back and apply effects/edits.

You will get much better results with a good set of headphones or large speakers (rather than your built in computer speakers).

Headphones are the easiest option. Over the ear headphones will generally allow you to hear more of the full range of your voice (rather than in ear headphones, which tend to lack bass). I highly recommend the affordable [Samson SR850 Professional Studio Reference Headphones](#). They're crazy good for the price (around \$45).

Studio monitor speakers are ideal, although they aren't cheap. The [Mackie CR3's](#) are great for a beginners and only cost \$99 for a pair.

That's it! You now have everything you need.

Tell your friends about this eBook and the guide! It helps us to grow and keep the lights on. Simply use one of the sharing buttons below or direct a friend to [this webpage](#).

SHARE ON FACEBOOK 

SHARE ON TWITTER 