



Microphone Information

Microphone Type	Typical Use Cases	Pros	Cons
Headset	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good for screen recording• Records one person	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convenient• Inexpensive• Can be used for webinars and other online meetings• Microphone follows the talent if they move around• Easy to use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easily seen on camera• Audio quality isn't as good as other types of microphones generally• Tends to capture mouth noises
Wired Lapel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great for on-camera talent and can be used for screen recording and voiceovers• Records one person	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Placed close to the talent for clearest sound• Can plug into camera or recording device	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will lose sound if talent turns their head• Omni-directional mic can pick-up room noise or other talent• Cord tethers talent to one spot
Wireless Lapel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great for on-camera talent• Records one person	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Placed close to the talent for clearest sound• Provides the talent flexibility in their movement• Can hide the wireless pack and microphone• Can plug the wireless receiver into camera or recording device	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interference from other electronic or wireless devices• Needs batteries, which can run out in the middle of recording• Will lose sound if talent turns their head• Omni-directional mic can pick-up room noise or other talent
Desktop	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good for voiceovers and screencasting• Records one person	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sounds great• Great for small spaces• Looks great	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talent has to stay in front of the microphone• Blocks talent's face if on camera• Typically requires a pop filter



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Shotgun	Recording outside (when using the appropriate windscreens) Record multiple people at one time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works well with multiple people • Very directional, focused, pick-up pattern helps you to get only the sound you want 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mic needs to be pointed at the talent, best within a few feet (with a boom pole) • Easy to miss the target and not capture the best audio • Usually need someone else to move the mic around • Moving during recording can cause movement noises • Can cast shadows during video recording

Microphone Placement

<p>Headset</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place the mic at the side, off to the corner of your mouth • Keep microphone about one to three inches from the mouth • Avoid mouth noises, like breathing or smacking sounds • Keep the microphone in the same position for consistent results • Use a windscreen if possible (small foam covering for the microphone) 	<p>Lapel (wired & wireless)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place the mic six to eight inches from the talent's mouth, or middle of the top of the talent's chest • Clip mic to clothes - button up shirt or jacket is easiest • Make sure the mic is pointing towards the talent's mouth • You can put the microphone behind clothing, but be careful as it can rub against the clothing and reduce audio quality 	<p>Desktop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place the mic between six to eight inches from talent's mouth • If mic is on a desk, place soft material under it to reduce vibration and desk noises, or consider mounting to a boom or scissor arm stand • Talk directly into the microphone • Make sure your talent is speaking into the correct side of the microphone 	<p>Shotgun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a boom pole to hold the microphone and stay out of view of the camera • Place the mic as close to the talent as possible without being on camera • The mic should be pointed at your talent's mouth, but experiment with between the head and middle of the talent's chest to find the best sound • Watch out for shadows from the boom pole and mic
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