

Getting Into Podcasts

What is a podcast?

- a radio show on the internet

What is a podcast?

- Typically recorded and available on demand
- Some are actual radio shows but most are not
- Almost always free
- New episodes released periodically
- Episodes can last anywhere from a few minutes to a few hours
- Production quality can vary widely
 - Professionally produced (e.g., actual radio shows)
 - Individually produced podcasts can still sound very good
 - Recordings of live discussions where participants connect remotely may not sound great

Why get into podcasts?

- For personal/professional growth
- For entertainment
- For inspiration
- To optimize “downtime” while doing other things
- For education and to stay informed

What do you need to listen to podcasts?

- Hardware: a computer and a speaker
 - computer can be a desktop, laptop, smart phone, tablet, car entertainment system, smart speaker
- Software:
 - *could* use just a web browser, but podcast software can:
 - help find new podcasts to subscribe to
 - organize podcasts you already subscribe to
 - automatically download new episodes
 - offer helpful playback controls
 - automatically remove episodes you've played

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- Software:
 - desktops/laptops:
 - iTunes (Windows, Mac) or GPodder (Windows, Mac, Linux)
 - mobile devices:
 - lots of options – good advice is to start with built-in app
 - Podcast (iOS)
 - Google Play (Android)

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 - mobile devices:
 - third-party apps & services – some are free, some are not
 - Player FM, Overcast, Stitcher, Pocket Casts, Spotify
 - see <https://www.podcastinsights.com/best-podcast-apps>

Where do you find out about podcasts?

- Most podcast apps & services include directories
 - keyword searchable
 - can be browsed by topic or category
 - may include reviews and popularity rankings
- Podcasts themselves may mention other podcasts you might enjoy
- Word of mouth

Some popular podcasts

Stuff You Should Know / Stuff You Missed in History Class

Planet Money / Freakonomics Radio

Ask Me Another / Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me

Car Talk

The Moth / Lux Radio Theater

The Allusionist / Radiolab / Science Friday

You Must Remember This

NPR's Fresh Air

The Daily

99% Invisible

Demonstration