

What is a Podcast?

A podcast is a [digital media](#) file, or a related collection of such files, which is distributed over the [Internet](#) using [syndication feeds](#) for playback on [portable media players](#) and [personal computers](#). The term, like "[radio](#)", can refer either to the content itself or to the method by which it is syndicated; the latter is also termed podcasting. The [host](#) or [author](#) of a podcast is often called a podcaster.

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Podcast

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from [Podcasting](#))

A **podcast** is a series of [audio](#) or [video](#) [digital media](#) files which are distributed over the [Internet](#) by [syndicated download](#), through [Web feeds](#), to [portable media players](#) and [personal computers](#). Though the same content may also be made available by direct download or [streaming](#), a podcast is distinguished from most other digital media formats by its ability to be syndicated, subscribed to, and downloaded [automatically](#) when new content is added. Like the term [broadcast](#), **podcast** can refer either to the series of content itself or to the method by which it is syndicated; the latter is also called [podcasting](#). The host or [author](#) of a podcast is often called a [podcaster](#).

The term is a [portmanteau](#) of the words "iPod" and "broadcast",^[1] the [Apple](#) iPod being the brand of portable media player for which the first podcasting [scripts](#) were developed (see [history of podcasting](#)). Such scripts allow podcasts to be automatically transferred from a personal computer to a mobile device after they are downloaded.^[2]

As more devices other than iPods became able to synchronize with podcast feeds, a [backronym](#) developed where *podcast* stood for "Personal On Demand broadCAST."^{[3][4][5]} though such a definition would create a [misnomer](#), because podcasts are not available "on demand"; they are subscribed to and usually received at set intervals. Such a definition would more accurately describe a direct download or streaming media.

The logo used by Apple to represent Podcasting.

The term "podcast" is a [portmanteau](#) of the words "[iPod](#)" and "[broadcast](#)", the [Apple](#) iPod being the brand of portable media player for which the first podcasting scripts were developed (see [history of podcasting](#)). These scripts allow podcasts to be automatically transferred to a mobile device after they are downloaded.

Though podcasters' web sites may also offer direct [download](#) or [streaming](#) of their content, a podcast is distinguished from other digital media formats by its ability to be syndicated, subscribed to, and downloaded automatically when new content is added, using an aggregator or feed reader capable of reading feed formats such as [RSS](#) or [Atom](#)

[Taken from Wikipedia at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Podcasting>]

Podcasting in Plain English

- [Podcasting in Plain English](#) (Video)

Why Would You Make One?

- Training
- Record lectures or events
- Share music, writing or opinions with others
- Record readings or conversations
- Language listening and comprehension
- Record interviews and fieldwork
- Create audio tours
- Provide general information about a topic or hobby
- Share hints and tips



Podcasting Logo by Dave Gray. Available at
http://www.flickr.com/photos/david_gray/521517136/

What Are the Tools?

Ufi, suggests the essential hardware and software required to podcast in its guide [Podcasting Reviewed](#):



1. A Computer
Mac or PC
2. An Internet connection
3. A microphone
You can use your computer's built-in microphone, if it has one, but recordings made this way won't sound as professional as recordings done with a better mic.
4. An MP3 recorder
Helpful if you plan on doing recordings in the field.
5. Headphones
Helpful for listening to recording during the editing process.
6. Audio editing software ([Audacity](#))
Audacity is available free for Mac, PC, and Linux computers. If you use Audacity, you'll also need to install LAME in order to convert the sound file to MP3 format. Mac owners can also record audio with [Garage Band](#), while Windows users have [Sound Recorder](#).

7. Somewhere to upload the mp3s

CofC faculty and staff can request a blog from blogs.cofc.edu, an account on stream.cofc.edu, or web space on people.cofc.edu

Students can post this to their stu.cofc.edu account – space is limited to 200 MB

If you're not really interested in the technical aspects of producing a podcast, the following and similar sites make things easier by allowing you to record, host, and publish your podcast all on one site:

- [Odeo Studio](#): Record or upload audio; free hosting; publish to Odeo directory; extremely limited online editing; can't record shows longer than one hour; file size limit of 50MB, but no limit on number of files; small intro to Odeo added to each MP3
- [GarageBand.com](#): Record by phone or upload files; free hosting; no ads; extremely limited online editing; podcast channel added to directory
- [Hipcast](#): Record online, by phone, or upload audio; paid service
- [MyPodcast.com](#): Free hosting; record online or upload audio; unlimited storage; no online editing; you choose placement of required ads; podcast automatically added to directory

8. A means of writing RSS feeds (i.e. [Poderator](#) or enclosing/posting on a WordPress blog such as BLOGS.COFC.EDU)

What Do You Need to Listen to Podcasts?

PODCATCHING: This expression is used by some about receiving podcasts. It corresponds to a radio listener.

1. A podcast aggregator

A feed aggregator, also known as a feed reader, news reader or simply aggregator, is client software or a Web application which aggregates syndicated web content such as news headlines, blogs, podcasts, and vlogs in a single location for easy viewing. Common aggregators are [iTunes](#), [Doppler](#), and [Juice](#).

The College of Charleston is a member of [iTunes U](#) hosting many academic and educational podcasts. If you would like to subscribe to the College of Charleston's iTunesU channel visit <http://itunes.cofc.edu/>

2. A digital music player

MP3 player, iPod, or any computer with an audio player application and speakers/headphones

Additional Information

- [Creative Commons Podcasting Legal Guide](#) (PDF download available at: http://mirrors.creativecommons.org/Podcast_Legal_Guide.pdf)
- [iTunes Podcast Tech Spec](#)
- [Free Podcast Course - Learn about podcasts and how to podcast](#)

