

How to Create an Audiobook For Beginners (Checklist)

*This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:
[Every Step You Need to Make an Audiobook: Tools for Writers Series](#)*

- Decide whether you want to record the audiobook yourself or hire someone else to do it. If you choose to DIY your audiobook recording:
 - Purchase recording equipment, including [a quality microphone and a pop filter](#).
 - Download and install an audio editing software, such as [Audacity](#). This can be used for recording and editing your audio files.
 - Record one audio file for each chapter. Try to record each file in one sitting. Also, listen to your previous recordings to ensure that you maintain the same tone and pace. Continuity creates a rewarding listening experience.
 - Record opening and closing credits.
 - Ensure that you add one second of silence at the beginning of the audio recording and one to five seconds of silence at the end to account for room tone.
 - Record in mono (preferred) or stereo.
 - Edit your audio files to ensure that they meet the [guidelines set by ACX](#).
- Decide whether you want to edit the audiobook yourself or hire someone else to do it. If you choose to hire someone else:
 - Search for voice artists. You can go through ACX, but we highly recommend [John Marshall Media](#) for both voice artists and editing/post-production services.
 - Audition voice artists with a sample of your work.
 - Search for an audio engineer who has experience with audiobooks specifically. Editing audiobooks reminds a different skill set than other types of audio files.
- Create a script for your audiobook (or, if working with a professional voice artist, a list of detailed notes on pronunciation, *etc.*).
- Create an ACX account (add your bank account and tax information or you won't get paid).
- Submit your mastered audio to ACX.
- Wait 30 business days for approval.