



# Podcasts

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## What is a podcast?

A podcast is a radio show on the Internet. It's that simple. Some podcasts also have video, but we're only talking about audio podcasts today.

These free digital audio files can be streamed or downloaded to any device.

They are usually talk programs that are part of a series that can be automatically retrieved in installments if you're a subscriber.

Content varies greatly and encompass all genres, from politics to sports to culture to comedy to everything in between.

They allow you to listen to content whenever and wherever you want. Podcasts can also be stopped and started, paused and returned to later.

Podcasts are always available. You can listen to a podcast as soon as it's available, or you can listen to it 5 years later.

Typically, podcasts have a host who often interviews people about a specific subject. The length varies from a few minutes to hours.

## What are the benefits of podcasts?

- They're entertaining
- They're educational
- They're convenient
- They're time-efficient
- They're FREE!

## How do I listen to a podcast?

How you listen to a podcast depends on the device you have, whether a smart phone or computer, or internet-enabled device. You can use the built-in apps on your smart phone or download another podcast app. Apps have the most features for listening and subscribing to your desired shows. Podcasts can also be accessed directly on the web from a computer or smart device.

## How do I listen on an iPhone using the built-in app?

- Go to the Podcast app on your home screen.
- To subscribe to a podcast, tap Subscribe on the page for that podcast.
- To play a podcast, tap on any episode.
- To download an episode, tap the iCloud icon in the episode list.

## How do I listen on an Android using the built-in app?

- Launch the Google Play Music app from your Home screen or the app drawer.
- Tap the menu button in the top left of the screen.
- Tap Podcasts.
- Tap Your Podcasts on the top center of your screen.
- Tap a podcast.

## How do I listen to a podcast on a computer?

Go to a podcasting site and click on the hyperlink. You can listen right away.

## What does it mean to “stream” a podcast?

Streaming is when you listen to a podcast through a website, which you can do from any device. Most podcasts can be streamed from a website.

## What does it mean to “download” a podcast?

Downloading a podcast allows you to store the program on your device. You can listen while on the move, even without an internet connection.

## What does it mean to “subscribe” to a podcast?

If you decide you like a podcast series, you can “Subscribe” to it from within a podcast app. New episodes will be downloaded automatically to your device.

## What features do “podcast apps” give me?

- Keyword search
- Download and play podcasts when you’re offline
- Volume control buttons
- Buttons to start, pause, stop, restart, back up or skip forward, change speed
- Change audio output to another device
- Read episode description
- Queue podcasts and view queue list
- See what podcasts are popular
- Sync across your devices
- ...and many more

## What are some podcast apps?

The best podcast apps automatically download and sort the newest episodes of your subscribed podcasts, help manage your subscriptions and include a variety of audio tools and features to give you the best listening experience possible. A few apps can even help you discover new podcasts — a welcome feature if you suddenly find yourself looking for more things to listen to.

Some podcast apps also have features that can turn your smartphone into a mobile recording and editing studio. Here are the top 20 iOS and Android podcast apps recommended by [tomsguide.com](http://tomsguide.com) (3/25/20).

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| 1. Pocket Casts (Android, iOS)           | 11. Downcast (iOS; \$2.99)                |
| 2. Overcast (iOS)                        | 12. Podcast Republic (Android)            |
| 3. Google Podcasts (Android, iOS)        | 13. Podcast Addict (Android)              |
| 4. Castro (iOS)                          | 14. Procast (Android, iOS)                |
| 5. Spotify (Android, iOS)                | 15. Sticher (Android, iOS)                |
| 6. Laughable (Android, iOS)              | 16. TuneIn Radio (Android, iOS)           |
| 7. Luminary (Android, iOS; \$4.99/month) | 17. Podbean (Android, iOS)                |
| 8. Himalaya (Android, iOS)               | 18. RSSRadio (iOS)                        |
| 9. Castbox (Android, iOS)                | 19. Spreaker Podcast Radio (Android, iOS) |
| 10. RadioPublic (Android, iOS)           | 20. Spreaker Studio (Android, iOS)        |

## How can I find podcasts?

You can find a podcast by searching the web, following recommendations from others, or using the search available within podcast apps. You can listen to a single episode, multiple episodes, or subscribe — that is, set up your app to download each new episode as it’s released.

# What are some recommended podcasts?

## News

- Slate Political Gabfest
- Global News
- Democracy Now
- PRI's The World
- Rachel Maddow Show
- The Daily
- On the Media
- The Takeaway

## Comedy

- My Brother, My Brother, and Me
- The Dollop
- How Did This Get Made?
- Throwing Shade

## Science and Philosophy

- Go Vegan Radio
- Science Vs
- Radiolab
- Stuff You Should Know
- Freakonomics Radio
- Stuff Mom Never Told You
- Science Friday
- Hidden Brain

## Storytelling

- Lore
- This American Life
- The Moth
- Snap Judgment
- Death, Sex, and Money
- Criminal
- Revisionist History
- This is Actually Happening

## Technology and Video Games

- This Week in Tech
- Digital Planet
- Giant Bombcast
- Shop Talk
- Trends with Benefits
- The Giant

## Arts and Culture

- Fresh Air
- Slate Culture Gabfest
- 99% Invisible
- Off Camera
- NYT Book Review
- Arts and Ideas

## Business

- Planet Money
- Marketplace
- Working
- How I Built This

## What's on Ellen's Podcast List Now?

- 5-Minute Daf Yomi
- 99% Invisible
- 9to5Mac Daily
- A Way with Words
- BrainStuff
- Coronavirus 2020
- Coronavirus 411 podcast
- Coronavirus Daily
- Coronavirus Morning Report
- Coronavirus Today: Alerts and Updates
- Coronavirus: Everything You Need to Know
- Coronavirus: Fact vs Fiction
- Curiosity Daily
- Daf in Practice
- Daf Yomi for Women
- Daily Coronavirus Update
- Daily Daf Differently
- Daily Tech News Show
- Diane Rehm: On My Mind
- Does This Change Everything?
- Fighting Coronavirus
- Freakonomics Radio
- Fresh Air
- Giving Voice to Depression
- Guy Kawasaki's Remarkable People
- Hidden Brain
- Judaism Unbound
- KPBS Midday Edition
- Life Kit
- Make Me Smart with Kai and Molly
- Marketplace Tech
- On the Media
- Pandemic: Coronavirus Edition
- Parsha Pulse
- Planet Money
- Pop Culture Happy Hour
- Prognosis Daily: Coronavirus
- Rabbit Hole
- Radiolab
- Reset
- San Diego News Fix
- San Diego News Matters
- Science Diction
- Short Wave
- Six Feet Apart with Alex Wagner
- Something You Should Know
- StoryCorps
- Take One Daf Yomi
- Talking Talmud
- TechStuff
- TED Radio Hour
- Telescope
- The Book of Life: Jewish Kidlit
- The Chochmat Nashim Podcast: Women Talk Judaism
- The Daily
- The Frontline Dispatch
- The Indicator from Planet Money
- The Internet of Things Podcast
- The Joy of Text
- The New Abnormal
- The New Yorker Radio Hour
- The New Yorker: Politics and More
- The NPR Politics Podcast
- The United States of Anxiety
- This American Life
- Throughline
- To the Best of Our Knowledge
- Today in San Diego
- Two Librarians & A Microphone
- Unorthodox
- Up First
- Viral: Coronavirus
- Voice of San Diego Podcast