



# Getting Started

## Basic Setup Notes

### ❖ Choosing a Microphone:

- First, start with the right microphone. For most podcast situations (and, especially for brand new, green podcasters), it's best to use a dynamic microphone, which is built to pick up the sound most directly in front of it. (The other main type of microphone--a condenser mic--is built to pick up the full room.) When looking for the right dynamic mic for yourself, be sure to note whether the microphone will:
  - Plug into your mixer or similar interface (if using one) via an XLR cable, or
  - Plug directly into your computer via USB. If you have a Mac, you may also need to order a USB C to USB Adapter. Typically, if you have a Macbook with USB ports that look like this, you will need to order one of these adapters:



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### ❖ Prepping Your Space:

- Next, you want to choose the right space and prep it for the best quality audio you can get. The goal here is to minimize the any echo effect, so you don't sound like you are in a cave. So, generally speaking, these are the rules of thumb:
  - As quiet and isolated as possible
  - Smaller space, versus a larger space
  - Softer surfaces, versus harder surfaces (What you've heard is true: lots of podcasters do it in the closet!)
  - Place your mic at a height and angle that feels natural for you

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