

The [AKG Ara](#) has a sturdy build, cardioid and bidirectional polar pattern settings, and can record in high resolution at 96kHz. However, in our brand-concealed tests, it commonly ranked in the middle of the pack or lower. Same goes for the [AKG Lyra](#), which has higher resolution and more features.

The [Audio Pro USB](#) held up well in our brand-concealed tests, is affordable, and looks cool. Unfortunately, on multiple occasions this mic would fail to connect to our computer, or disconnect randomly.

The [Behringer BU5](#) had, by a wide margin, the worst sound of any mic we tested, with lots of background noise and a harsh, distorted tone.

The [Fifine K699B](#) is compact and affordable, but in our tests it sounded unnatural and somewhat garbled.

The [JLab Epic Talk](#) has a desktop-friendly design, features multiple pickup patterns, and is affordably priced. Our panelists liked its clear sound, but some complained that it picked up more room reverberation than they preferred.

The [JLab Go Talk](#) sounded pretty good in our tests, but a couple of listeners commented that it sounded too sibilant with female voice.

The [JLab JBuds Talk](#) picked up more room reverberation than we'd like, and had a slightly nasal sound on female voice.

The [Joby Wavo Pod](#) is a neat design, but in our tests it often sounded distorted, even after we double-checked our levels.

The [Logitech Blue Yeti Classic](#) is a former top pick. For the price, it's a versatile mic, but its bulky design is now dated, and many competitors have surpassed its sound quality; it never ranked above the middle of the pack in our latest round of tests.

The [Logitech G Yeti Orb](#) seemed to make voice recordings "pump," or fluctuate in level unnaturally.

The [Maono PD400X](#) is similar to the Røde PodMic USB, with USB and analog XLR outputs, but at a considerably lower price. However, our listeners thought it sounded a little coarse in comparison to our top picks.

The [Presonus Revelator](#) is a cool, high-tech microphone with multiple features and polar patterns, and numerous included software plugins and the PreSonus Studio One Artist digital audio workstation software. But both Freddy and Brent had problems getting it to work, often resulting in blank files or annoying distortion. We had similar problems with the [Revelator Dynamic](#).

The [Røde NT-USB+](#) had a dull, canned sound in our tests.

The [Samson Q2U](#) sounded good with male voice, but somewhat sibilant on female voice. While the [Samson Q9U](#) had low sibilance on female voice, but a somewhat dull sound on male voice.

The [Sennheiser Profile](#) had a clear, natural sound for voices in our tests, and its front controls make it well-suited for voice work. However, it didn't exhibit any substantial sonic advantage over several less-expensive models.

The [Shure MV5C](#), a former also-great pick, sounded pretty good, although a couple of listeners complained that its treble seemed a bit soft. However, the neat-looking integral desktop stand limits its utility; for example, it can't be used with a swingarm stand.

The [Tonor TD510](#) comes in at an amazingly low price for a mic with USB and analog XLR outputs. For the most part, our panelists didn't favor its bassy, somewhat bloated sound, but for some voices it might work well.