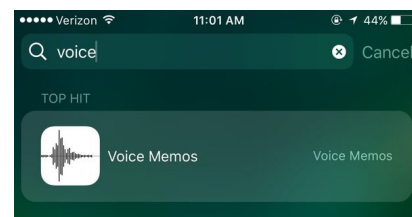


Audio Tape Sync Using Smartphones and Videoconferencing

Your smartphone can act as a high-quality recording device if used correctly.

What you need

1. Smartphone with voice recording app (Both iPhones and Androids come loaded with voice recording apps. For iPhones it's called **Voice Memos**; for Androids it's **Voice Recorder**.)
2. Zoom link.
3. Plug in headphones. **DO NOT USE AIR PODS.** Wired ear buds are fine, but not air pods.



Find a good location:

Your phone's microphone is sensitive so find a quiet space away from air vents, appliances, TVs, open windows, people talking for the interview. Avoid echoey rooms with hard surfaces. A car can be a good location as long as it is away from traffic, barking dogs or other noisy environments.



Set up phone

1. Go into the Settings on your phone and turn on the **Do Not Disturb** function. Alternatively, you can put your phone in **Airplane** mode.
2. Open the voice recording app.

Set up Zoom

Zoom allows you to see and talk to each other, but Zoom audio isn't always ideal. Both parties will talk to each other via Zoom or other audio or video conferencing method. The headphones should be plugged **into your computer** so the audio from the other person won't bleed into the recording. At this point, the phone acts as a field recorder, not a phone. You communicate through Zoom, but the audio is recorded locally on your phone. Reminder: no air pods because they will take over and the audio they record is poor quality. The Zoom recording can act as a backup.

Get in position



The internal mic on your phone is surprisingly good — there's no need for any attachments to make a great recording. The best way to get the mic in a good position is to hold it to your ear as if you're talking on the phone. **Do not use Air Pods.**

Start the recording



Push the red button — you'll know it's recording when the counter starts and you see the waveform dancing as you talk. If you need to email the files, you may want to stop every 15 minutes or so and start a new voice memo. Hit the red button again to stop.

You and your guest might want to clap at the same time so you can easily sync the files later.

Save it and send it

Give the recording a name and save the recording. Open up the file by tapping the recording, and click the share button on the bottom left-hand corner or on some phones you will see three dots that you can click for a menu. If the file isn't too big, email it. If it is, you can share it in Dropbox, a Google Drive folder or an app like WeTransfer.

Editing

Merge the files in an editing software program on separate tracks. Because the files were recorded separately, you can delete portions where the other person was talking (unless there are asides you want to keep).

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