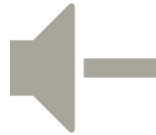


Audio Recording Techniques

There are lots of different ways people can use audio to tell a story. This handout will give you some top tips and techniques that you might want to use to make sure that your audio stories and clips are clear, communicate the story well and keep the listener playing them!

1. Find a quiet space



If you are recording someone then this is a must. Reducing the noise level around where you are recording will get you better quality audio and make it easier for the listener to hear the story.

2. Mic placement



Make sure the mic is directed towards and is close to the source of the sound you are recording. This will get you the clearest audio. If the mic is pointing away from the sound you intend to capture, you may struggle to hear it when it is played back.

3. Check your levels



Do a sound check before recording. You can do this by using headphones to listen to the sound you intend to record or by recording a short clip and playing it back. The sound should be not too quiet or too loud. Readjust the mic's placement if you need to.

4. Keep it steady



Try to keep the mic as steady as you can. If you are moving it around or moving your hands on it then it will pick this movement up. If you struggle to keep it steady trying putting the mic on a holder or a tripod/clamp.

5. Avoid wind



Wind is a terrible enemy when recording audio and sounds much worse than it does in real life. If it is windy you should try and find an indoor or sheltered location to record in. You can also try shielding the mic or using a windshield on it.

6. Record atmos



If you are recording someone talking and you intend to edit it, it is a good idea to record some 'atmos'. Atmos is basically the sound of a room when no one is talking. You can then lay this underneath the person talking in the edit and it will join the cuts together!

Community Reporter Programme Resources

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