



5 Keys to Recording Audaciously Awesome Audio

Poor audio quality is a big turn off. It plants the seed of doubt in your credibility. Here's what to do when you don't have access to a top notch studio, but still need to make a kick-you know what recording.

The devil is in these seemingly minor details. Here are 5 easy ways you can significantly boost the quality of your recording, and share your brassy audacious awesomeness.

1. Your recording space has greater impact on your sound quality than your microphone.

Read this again. ***Your recording space has greater impact on your sound quality than your microphone.***

A great microphone will make a poor recording space sound even worse.

Record in an area with sound absorbing materials like carpet, rugs, and curtains to prevent echo. Avoid rooms with high ceilings, lots of windows, and hardwood floors if you don't want to sound like you're recording in the Grand Canyon.

Sit quietly in the space for 60 seconds before you start recording. Become aware of the noise around you...air conditioning, the office loud-talker parked outside the door, and squeaky chairs. These are just a few things that can make your great recording not so great. Remove the noise, or find a different recording space.

Walk-in closets make great vocal booths if you are recording at home.

2. What to Eat, Drink, and Avoid on Recording Day

Stay hydrated. Drink lots of water. Drink room temperature water before and during recording. Cold water can cause your throat to tighten up.

Lay off the dairy, caffeine, and alcohol before recording.

Dairy creates unwanted mouth noise like lip smacks. Nasty mouth noise distracts from your killer audio content and grosses your listener out.

If you must down a big glass of milk and a cheese stick before recording – follow it up with a green apple. They magically help reduce mouth noise.

Avoid caffeine and alcohol because they will dehydrate you. Remember, you want to stay hydrated to be at your vocal best.

3. Sit Up Straight and Breathe From Your Belly

Breathe from your belly with slow controlled breaths. This will help avoid sounding out breath, calm you down if you're nervous, and give you more vocal control.

4. Turn Off Notifications on Computers and Smart Phones

This one is often overlooked. I've heard countless interview podcasts where you can hear Skype notifications, cell phones ringing, and incoming texts.

It's a common courtesy for both you and your guests to be fully present when doing an interview. If you can hear the clackety-clack of typing on the other end, politely ask your guest if this is an inconvenient time.

When possible, go to Airplane mode while recording audio or video on your smart phone to prevent calls and text messages from disrupting your recording.

5. Do a Test Recording BEFORE You Record for Real

A quick pre-test will save heartache down the line. Check your volume levels to make sure you can actually be heard, and that you aren't clipping, which is when your recording is too loud and starts to distort and break up.

Whether you're recording podcasts, meditations and visualizations, or a company update, implementing these 5 simple tips will raise your audio game and help you sound like a rockstar.

Visit brassybroad.com for more tutorials and resources to amp up your audio game.