

5 simple ways to connect microphone to PC

Want to record some audio on your computer but don't like the quality of the built-in microphone? Are you surprised to find that your PC or laptop doesn't even have a microphone? In those cases, you will need to connect the microphone to your PC.

Perhaps you already have a microphone, but the jack doesn't seem to match the port on the computer. So how do you connect it now? Here are some methods you can use to connect your microphone to your computer right now.

1. Easiest way: Use the headphone/mic



You almost certainly have a hands-free headset or at least a microphone with a 1/8-inch jack; such as the headset that came with your phone.

It's also possible that your computer has a microphone port or combo socket for headphones with a built-in microphone. Some computers may have a 1/4 inch port, so you will need a suitable adapter to connect your headphones in that case.

On desktop computers, the port will be found on the back of the machine. Fortunately, many modern systems also have a port on the front, often found alongside a USB port and perhaps an SD card reader.

All you need to do is plug in your headphones and check the results. You can try it in an online game or record a video with a webcam. You can even start a Skype or Zoom call, or simply use an audio editor like Audacity to check out the audio in action. Just make sure your microphone is selected before you record!

2. Use various micro USB options

USB is also an option to connect the microphone to your computer as follows:

1. Using micro USB
2. Connect phono microphone via USB adapter or sound card
3. Connect a phono microphone or XLR via USB mixer

If you have a micro USB or a headset, it will install almost immediately upon connection. Again, this is the easiest solution and allows you to continue with what you want to record.

Using a USB adapter is another good option. These devices can be purchased online for as little as a few tens of thousands and will allow you to connect your existing microphone or headphones.

Are you planning to use USB mixer? If you already own an XLR microphone and don't see the need to add one, this is a good way to connect it. USB mixers also have other advantages. For example, it's ideal for creating podcasts or recording your own playing of an instrument.

3. Use the XLR microphone with the conversion cable



If you own a good quality XLR and want to connect it to a computer but don't want to buy a USB mixer, a more affordable option is to connect the XLR microphone to a TRS converter cable. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes, from simple XLRs to phono adapters or Y-splitters.

All you need to do is connect the converter cable to the microphone port on your computer, then connect the XLR microphone to the cable.

Note that XLR devices won't work without phantom power, so make sure you have one of these connected as well.

4. Use mobile device as microphone on PC

Notably, you can even use your mobile device as a microphone for your PC. As you know, smartphones have built-in microphones. This helps the people you call to hear you!

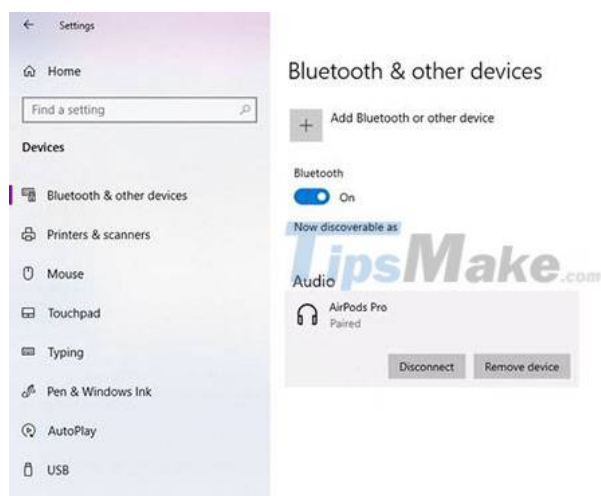
Using this microphone allows you to save money on buying a separate microphone for your computer. It's a great option for setting up a microphone, working over USB, Bluetooth, and WiFi.

5. Use Bluetooth microphone

All of the above microphone solutions depend on you plugging in the cable. As you know, these things can get messy. Wouldn't it be great to have a wireless solution?

Bluetooth microphones (and headsets) have been around for a while, and their quality continues to improve. Current Bluetooth mics have reliable build and sound quality for use with computers.

While they may not be ideal for professional vocals, Bluetooth microphones are perfect for online gaming, podcasting, and vlogs.



Connecting to a micro Bluetooth may not be as simple as plugging in a cable, but it's not too complicated either. Start by determining if your computer has Bluetooth built in. Otherwise, you will need an additional Bluetooth dongle. They are very reasonably priced.

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