

What's a Podcast?



Podcasting lets anybody with a microphone, a computer and an Internet connection publish audio shows that can be listened to by people anywhere in the world. Podcasts are usually free and can be automatically downloaded to portable media players, so you can listen to them whenever it's convenient.

What kinds of shows are available as podcasts?

There are many types of podcasts, including audio books, music shows, news, humor and sports. Many podcasts are created by amateurs, but there are also commercial podcasts. News outlets like NPR, *The New York Times*, MSNBC all produce podcasts, as do ESPN and comedians like Penn Jillette.

How do I find podcasts?

Look for icons like these on web sites you visit:



You can also use a podcast directory like PodcastAlley.com or Podcast.net to find podcasts. The software you use to subscribe to podcasts, such as iTunes or Juice, will have a built-in podcast directory, as well.

How do I subscribe to a podcast?

You can download a free "podcatcher" program like iTunes or Juice. If you see an iTunes icon like the one above, you can subscribe just by clicking on it. Otherwise, right-click on the icon, copy the web address and paste it into your podcatcher software. You'll be ready to listen right on your computer, or download to an MP3 player.

Enjoy!