

Podcasting /Vodcasting

Description:

Podcasting is a relatively new automated technology, one of several ways of distributing audio blogs for mobile listeners. Listeners can subscribe and listen to digitally recorded audio presentations. Podcasts are captured via pod catcher software, periodically, and can be downloaded to your computer and/or a portable media player device such as an MP3 player or iPod.



Click on icon to access free download



Figure 1: Examples of free pod catchers/receivers available on the Internet.

Subscribing to podcasts via a pod catcher/receiver allows automatic downloading and synchronization of audio content.

There are categorised podcast directories available for subscription on the Internet. Anyone can upload and/or subscribe to a podcast, usually free.

More advanced types of podcasts are also available for subscription:

- Enhanced podcasts – an audio file with a slideshow and /or URL
- Vodcast or Vidcast (video cast) – a video file
- Mobcast (mobile cast) – an audio /video file intended for playback on a mobile phone



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Figure 2: Examples of free podcast/vodcast directories available on the Internet.

Purpose:

Podcasts are intended to be played back on portable media however if you don't own a portable device they can also be played back on suitable hardware for MP3 (for audio only podcasts) or MP4 (for audio and video podcasts). Subscribing to podcasts allows people to replay them at their leisure. There is no longer the need to read a programme guide and wait for the next episode. The next time you access the Internet the next published episode/s will be pushed across into your pod catcher, for example iTunes.

The versatility of podcasts makes them powerful tools and therefore ideal for various educational activities and platforms. Invite student to bring their mobile devices to school or provide a few for classroom use. A class/group set of mobile devices can be used just like a listening post, but in any educational setting. Also, creating podcasts is a cross-curricular experience for students. Students can create their own podcasts for a given task, this would provide a rich require extension or are gifted /talented.

Teachers can create podcasts for students to follow independently and at their own pace. They can step them through a task. The students only require a device to play the podcast and of course the equipment and materials required to complete the task. These podcasts can assist their students to catch up on important information missed due to student absence.

Podcast	vs.	Vodcast
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smaller file size• Cost effective delivery• Any MP3 player can replay• Audio only		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Editing process more involved• Users need a multi-media player• Needs RSS 2.0• Visual and audio

Podcasting Tutorial:

[Podcasting Video Tutorial](#)

Links to Popular Education Podcast:

Educators – Podcasts for Educators, Schools & Colleges:
<http://www.recap.ltd.uk/podcasting/schools/index.php>

Grammar Girls: <http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/>

Storynory: <http://storynory.com/>

Willow Web Radio: <http://www.mpsomaha.org/willow/Radio/>

Math Grad: <http://www.mathgrad.com/>

An Example of integrating Podcasts into Classroom Practice:

Pre-made Podcasts

A teacher can search the internet for podcasts relevant to the concept/topic they are teaching.

1. Log onto the Internet.
2. Type into a search engine key words that identify what you will be teaching and "+podcast". This will present you with a selection of choices. Alternatively you can type into an Internet search engine "podcast directory". This will provide you with directories that hopefully will house podcasts relevant to what you will be teaching. Some popular sites that house education podcasts are provided in this document.
3. Follow **How to Get a Podcast** guide to download the podcast into your pod catcher/receiver.
4. Preview podcast prior to general exhibition for students.
5. The podcast can then be:
 - a. Listened to on a mobile device such as an MP3 player or iPod;
 - b. Transmitted through a computer or stereo system;
 - c. Projected onto a wall, board or Interactive Whiteboard (if they include video footage).
6. The podcast could be used in a range of ways, so get creative.

Teachers' Podcasting

A teacher can create a podcast of a story read to the class or a key concept that is being taught (you can record the actual lesson to save time, however background noise may create an issue when replaying the audio. So it is suggested that you trial it prior to actual recording):

1. Select a book.
2. Set up a microphone in the classroom.
3. Record the audio content.
4. Follow **How to Create a Podcast** guide.
5. Upload podcast to the Internet in an online repository so that it is easily accessible. Your school's portal or eSpace sites are ideal for this.
6. Students can download the podcast to their computer via their pod catcher/receiver and then onto their mobile device.

Students' Podcasting

A student can create a podcast for a specified audience:

1. Student/Teacher identifies the podcast's topic and genre.
2. Provide student/s with **How to Create a Podcast** guide.
3. Upload the podcast to the Internet (class portal site, wiki, blog or another online repository).
4. Podcast is now accessible, so encourage the students to. Another class/group of student could critique the podcast, judging entertainment, informative, audible, etc.

Podcasting How to... Guides:

How to **Get** a Podcast

How to **Create** a Podcast

How to **Create** a Vodcast

Acknowledgement:

This explanation was established after accessing the following sources:

- Ref: <http://www.digitaleducationrevolution.gov.au> accessed October 2008.
- Ref: <http://www.google.com/support/feeds/bin/answer.py?answer=79408> accessed October 2008.
- Pearce, J. (2008), *Technology Toolkit: Introducing you to Web 2.0*, Nelson Cengage Learning, South Melbourne, Victoria
- Flanagan, B. & Calandra, B. (2005), Podcasting in the Classroom, *Learning & Leading with Technology*, Nov, pp 20-25.
- Ref: www.teachertube.com accessed October 2008
- Ref: <http://juicereceiver.sourceforge.net> accessed November 2008
- Ref: <http://www.apple.com/confirm/itunes/thankyou.html> accessed Nov 2008
- Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Video_podcast accessed Nov 2008
- Ref: <http://www.teachinghacks.com/files/100ideasWeb2educators.pdf> accessed December 2008
- Ref: <http://www.podcastdirectory.com/> accessed January 2009
- Ref: <http://epnweb.org/> accessed January 2009
- Ref: <http://www.dopplerradio.net/download/> accessed January 2009
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