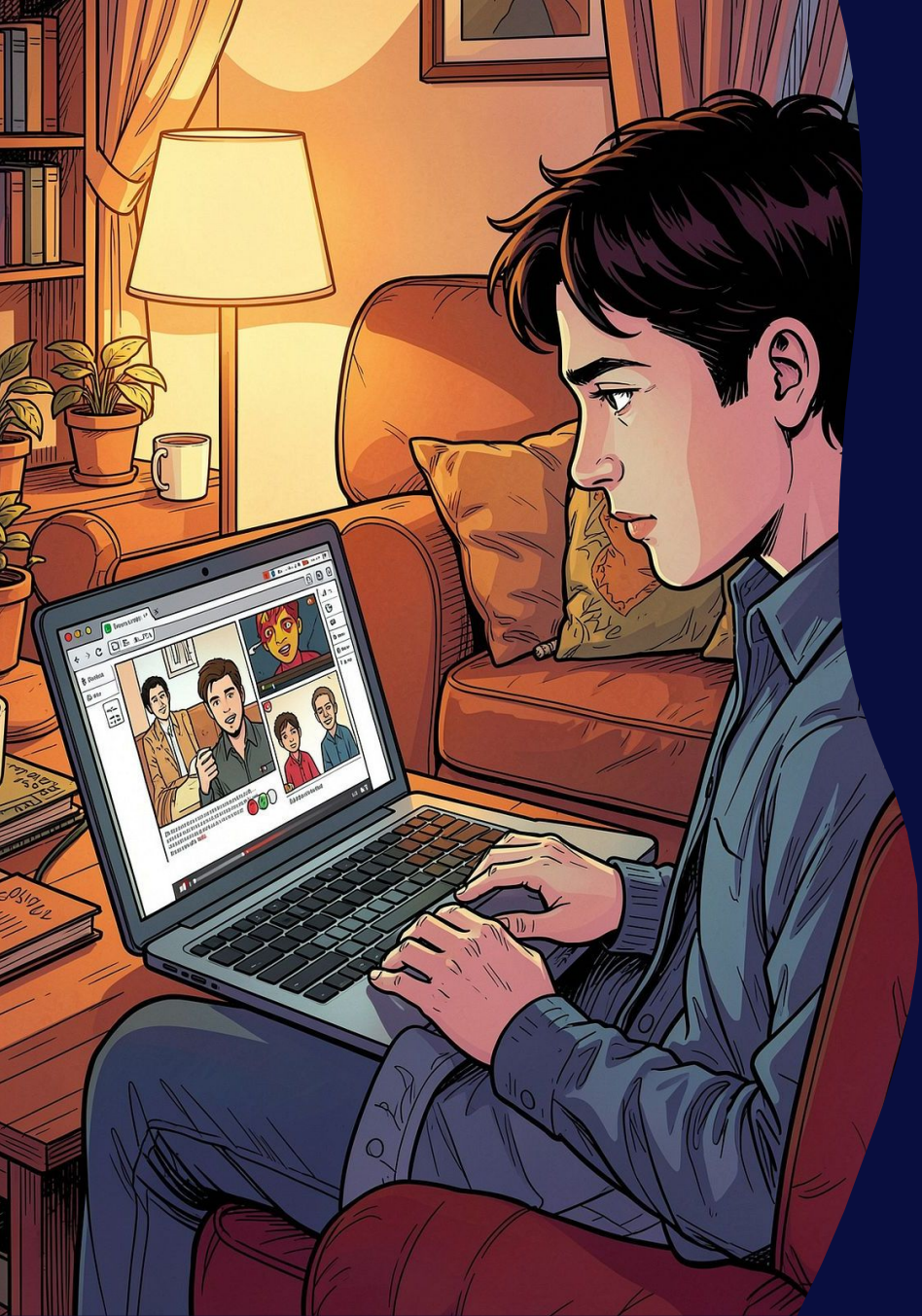


How to Properly Voice Your Videos

A practical guide for YouTube, TikTok, and beyond — from script to final audio.

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Why Voiceover Matters

A voiceover is recorded speech that plays during a video to explain, guide, or add context to what viewers see on screen — making tutorials, demos, and storytelling easier to follow. It transforms video from a purely visual experience into a guided narrative, helping your audience stay engaged, understand key points, and connect with your content on a deeper level.

The Four Elements of Great Voiceover

Clear Audio

No background noise, proper levels, clean recording environment

Steady Pacing

Speak at a natural rhythm — pause intentionally for emphasis

Natural Tone

Conversational, not robotic or overly dramatic

Clear Pronunciation

Enunciate words clearly — avoid mumbling or trailing off

Types of Voiceover



Narration

An omniscient guide that provides context and bridges scenes — the most common format for YouTube and tutorial content.

Character Voice

Dialogue performed for animated or on-screen characters, requiring distinct vocal personas.

Dubbing

Replacing original dialogue in foreign language content — demands precise lip-sync timing.

Setting Up Your Recording Space

Room Choice

Opt for a small to medium-sized room, away from traffic noise and HVAC units. Hard, parallel walls create unwanted echo — break them up with furniture and soft surfaces.

Soft Furnishings

Carpets, bookshelves, heavy curtains, and upholstered furniture absorb sound reflections that muddy your recording.

- ❏ **Pro tip:** A walk-in closet packed with hanging clothes creates an instant vocal booth — often better than a treated studio room.





Microphone Placement & Technique

1 Dial in your distance

Position a condenser mic **6–8 inches** from your mouth, or **4–6 inches** for a dynamic mic. Too close = proximity bass buildup; too far = room noise.

2 Go 30 degrees off-axis

Angle the mic slightly so breath passes *across* the diaphragm, not directly into it. This single move kills most plosives. Add a pop filter 8–10 cm in front as a second line of defense against hard P and B sounds.

Writing Your Script for Impact



Sound Like Yourself

Your script should feel like a conversation, not a document being read aloud. Use short sentences, contractions, and natural pauses — the same way you'd explain something to a friend.

Sync your script timing with on-screen action so your words and visuals land together. When in doubt, read your script aloud before recording — if it sounds stiff, rewrite it.

Recording & Editing Essentials



Record Multiple Takes

Aim for 2–3 clean versions to choose from. Rarely does a first take deliver the best energy and precision.



Nail Your Audio Levels

Peak around **-12 to -6 dBFS** to stay clear of clipping. Headroom is your safety net in post.



Edit for Cleanliness

Remove breaths, mouth clicks, and background noise before syncing audio to your timeline.

Common Mistakes to Avoid



Uneven Pacing

Speaking too fast or rushing through sections breaks the viewer's ability to follow along.

Untreated Rooms

Recording in bare rooms adds echo and reverb that no plugin can fully fix after the fact.

Clipping Audio

Levels too hot cause digital distortion — **this cannot be repaired in post.** Always monitor your input gain.

Skipping Takes

Your first take is rarely your best. Multiple takes give you options and improve consistency.

Sources

- [How to Record a Voice Over: Complete Guide - TechSmith](#)
- [How to Record a Voiceover at Home \(Clean, Pro Sound\)](#)