

Preparing for Your Online Voice Lesson

Easy Instructions for Zoom Users

Part 1 | General Setup

1. Internet Speed

It's recommended to have at least **10–25 Mbps download** and **3 Mbps upload speeds** for the best online video lessons. You can check your speeds at **fast.com** or **speedtest.net**.

Also, if there is a better location near your Wi-Fi router and modem, place your device there rather than in a spot with a weak signal.

2. Choosing Your Device

For the best vocal accuracy and clarity, use your devices in this order of preference:

- **Best:** iPad or Tablet

Latest models have the most sensitive and accurate "studio" microphones.

- **Great:** iPhone or Android Smartphone
- **Good:** Laptop
- **Not Recommended:** Desktop / iMac Computer

Using a desktop requires a full gear setup — including a USB microphone (which can color your sound and introduce latency) and headphones (which create the "occlusion effect," changing how you hear your own voice). This can lead to compensation such as over-singing or forced technique.

3. Choose Your Video Platform

Select the platform you'd like to use:

- **Zoom** — Studio choice (recommended if possible)
- **FaceTime**
- **Google Meet**

Part 2 | Zoom Setup Instructions

1. Update Your Software

Before your lesson, please ensure:

- Your device's **Operating System** is up to date.
- The **Zoom App** is updated to the latest version. If you don't have a free Zoom account, you can create one at **zoom.us**.

2. Activate "Original Sound" Setup (*Crucial!*)

- Before the meeting, make sure you have a free Zoom account. Then go to **Zoom Settings > Meetings** and toggle on "**Original Sound For Musicians**" (check the box).
- Then, check other settings: Ensure "**Echo Cancellation**" is **OFF** and "**Auto Volume**" is **UNCHECKED**. This stops the app from dipping your volume down when you hit those powerful high notes.
- During the meeting, you'll be able to tap your device's screen, select **More (...)**, and choose "**Enable Original Sound for Musicians.**" (If it says "*Disable,*" you're already set!)

Questions? Reach out before your lesson — we want you set up for success! ■