

# Optimizing your Zoom Experience

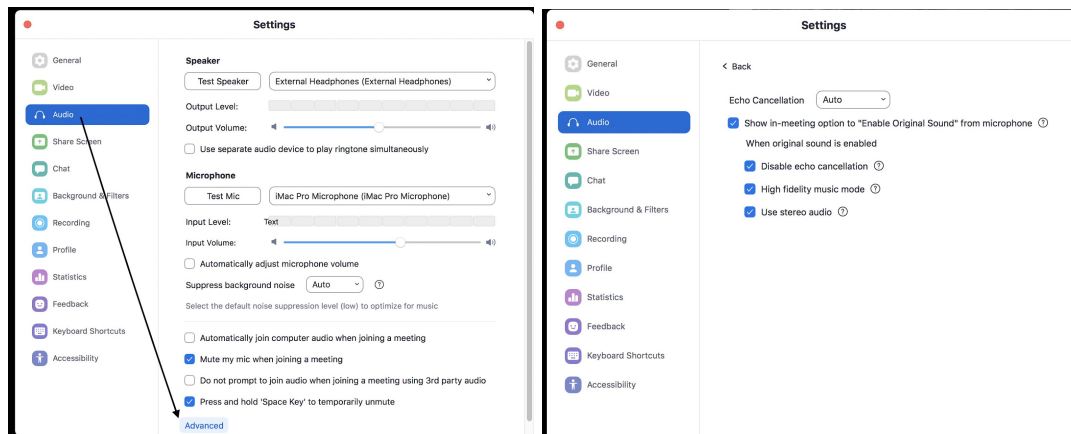
[Absolutely everyone should watch this short, 4-minute video](#)

It's a quick overview of simple steps you can take to improve your Zoom experience.

You can also better optimize audio settings for music in Zoom by making some changes to defaults in the advanced settings. [Here are instructions for optimizing Zoom for Music.](#)

## NEW ZOOM UPDATE!

Version 5.2.2 allows for "High fidelity music mode"



If you're using the Lyra mic with zoom, here are some helpful recommendations to get you started:

1. You can set the input level on both the microphone (via the knob on the back) AND in your audio preferences in zoom settings. I've found (for talking) the sound is clean when I have the input volume set just under halfway on the slider. I then adjust the level on the microphone so that at my loudest volume, I'm just shy of peaking on the meters.
2. You can find these settings a number of ways - one is to go to the zoom.us menu and down to Preferences. Under Audio you will see the microphone options I'm referencing.
3. Select "Enable Stereo"

4. Go to Advanced (button at bottom of window). Select Show in-meeting option to "enable original sound" from microphone, and under Audio processing, disable the first two and make sure echo cancellation is on Auto, not aggressive.
5. Now go back to your meeting window. At the top right, you will have the option to "Turn on/off original sound." While playing music, you will want original sound - this is the cleanest, least altered sound from the microphone. However, when you're chatting during a lesson, having the original sound off is helpful - it then allows zoom to do all those handy things like background noise suppression that helps you hear speaking better.
6. For the pattern selections on the mic itself, I've been happiest with the "Tight Stereo" option. Watch this short video explaining how it works <https://youtu.be/VmE2jD14NYo>. If you're in a room with any kind of ambient noise (I'm finding that my computer fans are rather loud) the wide stereo option really accentuates noise.
7. Mic handling noise. The mic doesn't come with a shock mount, which means noise will be transferred through whatever the mic is sitting on. If you're finding this to be a problem, folding a thick blanket or towel and placing the mic stand on it will be helpful. Just make sure the mic is secure and not able to tip over.

Capture Mode: [This quick video from AKG will explain what the different capture modes are designed for.](#)

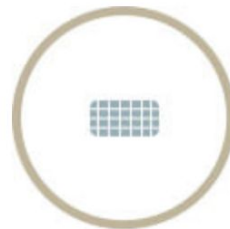
#### 4 CAPTURE MODES

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##### **FRONT**

For solo recording



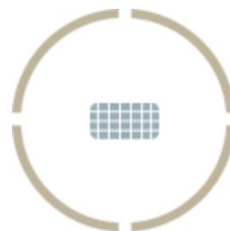
##### **FRONT & BACK**

For multi-person recordings



##### **TIGHT STEREO**

For solo instrument recordings



##### **WIDE STEREO**

For recordings with ambience