



SKETCH IT OUT.

Using Storyboards to “Mock Up” Your Podcast.

What is a storyboard?

- A storyboard is a visual organizer that gives you a “bird’s eye view” of your podcast.
- The storyboard can take a lot of different shapes, but it might look like a “flow chart” with boxes representing each “scene.”

			
Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____	Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____	Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____	Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____
			
Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____	Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____	Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____	Scene Start: _____ Duration: _____ _____ _____ _____

From www.IndependentMusicAdvice.com

Why storyboard?

- Any large project (a book, a movie, a website, an app, etc.) can benefit from a storyboard.
- The storyboard helps you figure out:
 - How much time you have and how you should use it;
 - How “scenes” might fit together;
 - What you’ll need to collect (recordings, sounds, music, transitions);
- The storyboard is modular. It helps you anticipate the podcast “flow” and reorganize and/or revise your vision early on.
- The storyboard gives you direction to move forward.
 - You may use it to build a script, to write interview questions or discussion prompts, etc.

How to Storyboard

- There is not a single correct way to storyboard.
- Still, your storyboard should include:
 - Detailed and specific descriptions of “scenes”;
 - Accounts of discussions/voiceover narrations (topics/major points or ideas at least--you don't need scripts just yet);
 - Placeholders/ideas for music, sound effects, and other audio effects;
 - Timestamps (How long will each “scene” last?)

An example

Audio Podcast Storyboard

Podcast Title (Program Name)	
Producers (Your Names)	
Composers (Music/Sound Effects)	
Speakers (Whose voices you will record)	
Introduction (<i>Podcast Title, Your Names, Date & Location</i>)	Music
	Intro music:
Overview/Teaser (<i>What this episode is about</i>)	
	Bumper music:
Content (<i>Main ideas for your stories</i>)	
	Bumper music:
Closing (<i>Thanks to interviewees, Goodbye to audience</i>)	
	Closing music:
Script (<i>Write the script for your stories, in detail</i>)	

Important: Your podcast may not fit this “flow”; customize your storyboard to plan your podcast as needed.

Try it!

Using the models we considered above, or a format that makes more sense to you and your group, craft a storyboard for your own podcast. Be sure to include:

- Descriptions (as detailed as possible) of your various “scenes” and conversations, including who will speak when and about what;
- Timestamps (at least rough estimates) that will show how you will break up your podcast and how long you expect each scene to run;
- Audio components: Where will you have music? Transitional cues? Sound effects?