



EchoForge— ACX Recording Checklist

Pre-Recording Setup

- Choose rights-cleared or public domain text (2 – 5 min samples).
- Quiet recording space (no fans, HV AC, or outside noise).
- Mic set up 6 – 8 inches from mouth with a pop filter.
- Consistent posture, mic angle, and distance.
- Room dampened with blankets, curtains, or foam to reduce echo.

Technical Requirements (ACX Specs)

- File format: WAV (record) → export as MP3 (1 9 2 kbps CBR, 4 4 .1 kHz).
- Bit depth: Minimum 1 6 -bit.
- RMS L evel: – 1 8 dB to – 2 3 dB.
- Peak L evel: – 3 dB max.
- Noise Floor: – 6 0 dB or lower (no hiss/hum).
- File Opening/Closing: 0 .5 – 1 sec room tone at start, 1 – 5 sec at end.

Recording Process

- Warm up voice (hydration + articulation exercises).
- Record in short takes to reduce fatigue/mistakes.

- Maintain consistent vocal tone, pace, and energy.
- Re-record stumbles immediately (saves editing time).
- Save backups regularly.

Editing & Mastering

- Edit out mistakes, long pauses, and major breaths.
- Apply light EQ (remove mud around 100 Hz , brighten 3 – 6 kHz).
- Add gentle compression (3 :1 ratio) for even volume.
- Normalize peaks to – 3 dB.
- Check RMS levels fall in – 18 dB to – 23 dB.
- Confirm noise floor below – 60 dB (silence check with headphones).

File Delivery

- Save final edited sample in WAV (archive copy).
- Export submission file in MP3 (192 kbps CBR, 44.1 kHz).
- Name file consistently (e.g., EchoForge_ Sample1 _ Fiction.mp3).
- Upload to portfolio/website or share via ACX audition.