

DIGITAL FIELD METHODS INSTITUTE

 Digital Writing & Research Lab

This is not a definitive list of the best recording gear out there. Rather, these are all reasonably priced recording solutions tested by the DWRL. The intention is to provide recommendations on devices that would stock a recording kit with essential gear, without being cheap but also not top-of-the-line.

Field Recording Gear List

Recommended Recorders

Compact

Zoom H1
Tascam DR-05
Sony ICD-UX530 Series

Handheld

Zoom H4
Tascam DR-40
Marantz PMD 661

Zoom H5
Zoom H6

Camera Mounted

Marantz PMD 706

Field Recorders

Zoom F4
Sound Devices Mix Pre 6

Interface

Focusrite Scarlett 2i2

Recommended Mics

USB

Samson Go Mic

Small Diaphragm Condensor

Samson C02

Large Diaphragm Condensor

Mojave Audio MA-50

Dynamic

Shure SM7B (with Cloud CL-1 Cloudlifter)
Electrovoice RE20
Blue Encore 200
Shure SM58

Shotgun

R0DE NTG2
Audio-Technica AT8035

Mobile

Samson Go Mic Mobile

Lavalier (wired)

MXL FR-366 Lavalier Microphone Kit

Wireless

Shure BLX 1288/CVL Dual-Channel Wireless System with Handheld and Lavalier Microphones

Recommended Accessories

R0DE Blimp and Dead Wombat

R0DE Artificial Fur Wind Shields

R0DE PG2-R Pistol Grip

R0DE PG2 Pistol Grip

R0DE boompole

K&M 231/1 - Black

K&M Microphone Desk Arm

Small, medium, and long XLR cables

WD-40

Gaffer tape

Stereo Mini Jack to 1/4-inch Adapter

“I use a Zoom H4n with two Blue Encore 200 microphones. I use them because they are stage mics and my guests generally know how to hold them. They also have a good sound because they are like a half condenser mic. They’d be a little bulky for the average person.”

~Marc Maron in an e-mail to Will Burdette