

Recommended devices

A portable audio recorder can be a useful and cost-effective way to prepare materials for auditions and performances. Some devices can even act as a useful USB audio interface for a computer. CIM Recording Services recommends the Zoom H4n audio recorder for its superior quality and affordability. To order one at a discounted price with a credit or debit card, call our Full Compass sales representative, Eric Radej, at 1-800-356-5844 extension 1191. Eric and any of us in Recording Services are happy to answer any questions you might have about the Zoom H4n audio recorder.

Here is a link to a good video review of a Zoom H4n:

http://reviews.cnet.com/voice-recorders/zoom-h4n/1805-11314_7-33483153.html

Portable video recorders are not as advanced when comparing their price points to those of audio recorders. However, video recordings are becoming required for many competitions. Canon is a good brand in general, and is a good place to start shopping when in the market for a video recorder. It's most helpful to have a device that records onto flash memory, SD or SDHC card, or any media that can be mounted to your computer's hard drive. Look for cameras with USB or firewire ports. Standard Definition (SD) is easier to manipulate and play back than High Definition (HD). SD is also less expensive. Video editing software varies. Many newer computer operating systems offer a basic video-editing program, but make sure the program you choose can handle your camera and the footage. Also, the flash memory or SDHC cards are not necessarily included with the camera you purchase—you might have to buy one separately. Check the box to understand what you're getting. Please note that built-in microphones on video devices vary in quality. An possible solution is to buy a microphone to connect to your video device. If you choose this option, make sure the video device is compatible with the microphone and contains an eighth-inch jack.