

# Kay's Top 10 Favorite

*VO Mics, Gadgets, &  
Studio Peripherals*





## Stage Ninja Portable Mic Clip

This thing is insanely versatile and probably my most cherished piece of travel gear. It allows you to clamp your microphone to just about anything. Not only do I use it for travel, but I use it in my home studio as well.

## Roost Computer Stand

This is a fantastic computer stand. It's very, very steady. Your laptop will not slide off of it. And it's got three different levels. There are other, cheaper, alternatives for sure. If this one is too expensive (and it is too expensive) there are a few solid alternatives in a more pleasing price range.



## AudioSigma Mike Hero

The Mike Hero is now my in-studio interface, but because it's so portable and reliable, it's about to become my travel interface as well. Easy to use, easy to set, and easy to read. It's also affordable.





## Twisted Wave Software

Twisted Wave is the simplest, most user-friendly voice over recording software out there. There are others, to be sure – Adobe Audition, Audacity, etc. By all means, explore them. Twisted Wave is my favorite. It was built for voice over and the developers had input from some of the best voice talent in the country. What you absolutely DON'T need is ProTools. I've said it before, but it bears repeating: It's like flying a 777 to the grocery store. I used it for years, and I know a few voice actors who still use it, too. More power to them. But honestly.

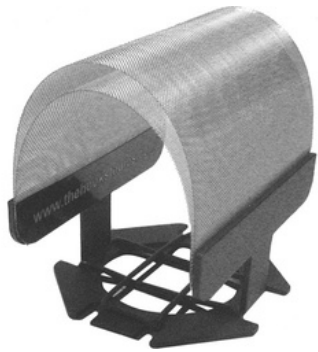
It's overkill.

## BeyerDynamic DT770 Studio Headphones

These headphones are beloved by many. Including me.

They are so, so comfortable and the sound is spectacular. They are over-ear, but the pad is velvet-cloth covered so there can be bleed through if you like things loud in your phones. It's never been a problem for me. And I do like things on the loud side...





## The Hook Studios Octo-842S Front-Address Pop Filter for Small-Diameter Mics

I love this little pop filter. It works on shotgun mics like the Sennheiser 416 and the Deity Smic2. It's effective and sleek. I like things that are functional AND aesthetically pleasing.

## Microphones:

I know there are a LOT of microphone options out there, and this is by no means a comprehensive list. These are just my personal favorites. You can't go wrong with any of them. And if these aren't for you, let them act as comparison points in the search for your perfect microphone.

## Neumann TLM 103

The TLM 103 is my favorite mic. It loves my mid-to-low-range voice and brings a beautiful warmth to it. However, it picks up a lot of room and my booth is better suited to the Sennheiser 416. I have local a singer/songwriter friend who was in need of a microphone, so I loaned her this one! One of these days I'll reconfigure my studio and ask for it back, but until then my 416 is on duty 24/7!



## Sennheiser MKH 416



The 416 is the industry standard across all genres, and particularly in promo, trailer, and narration. It's the mic used by the promo trailer greats back when they were the only voiceover artists with home studios. That's how trends begin. It's better on some voices than it is on others, but it's good on all of them. While the TLM 103 is my favorite mic for my voice, I am splitting hairs. The 416 is fabulous and it's a workhorse. If the price tag hurts, you can always find one on sale, whether from a retailer or a vo actor who's parting with one. Either way, it's worth the investment. I bought my first one used 20 years ago and she is still going strong. I've got another in my travel bag. It's that good.

## Deity SMic2 Pro Shotgun

At \$359 it's an affordable and quite respectable alternative to the 416. I've got a couple of working friends who swear by it, particularly for travel.



## Sennheiser MK4

A nice (and at \$429, much cheaper) alternative to the TLM 103. I've no experience with it, but it's well reviewed and much loved by several engineers I know and trust.



*I hope this has been helpful!*

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