

The Podd Brothers' Virtual Caroling Kit

Step-by-Step Directions for Singers

O Christmas Tree - SATB Guide Videos

[Soprano Guide](#), [Alto Guide](#), [Tenor Guide](#), [Bass Guide](#), [Full Choir Guide](#)

STEP 1: Learn the music.

- It's simple. Each *Guide Video* has the score and sound combined and synchronized. (No paper!) Just click the link to your voice part's video (above) and start singing along.
- There's one *Guide Video* for each voice part, so you can hear only the part you choose to sing, which makes learning the arrangement easy.
- There's also a "Full Choir Guide" video if you'd like to hear all the parts together.

STEP 2: Set up your shot.

Once you've learned your music and feel ready to record, you will need **2 devices** to make your recording: a **Guide Device** (computer or tablet) and a **Recording Device** (smartphone). You will also need **Headphones**.

1. Set up your **Guide Device** (computer or tablet).

- Set up the **Guide Device** at eye level so your gaze is natural while you record. You may need to stack books or use a dresser.
- Connect **Headphones** to your **Guide Device**. **(Very Important!)**
- On your **Guide Device**, cue up the *Guide Video* that you plan to sing along with for your recording.

2. Set up your **Recording Device** (smartphone).

- Set up your **Recording Device** as close to your **Guide Device** as possible so that your gaze is close to your camera. Frame your shot using the device's front-facing camera.
- Use a tripod or make your own stand for the **Recording Device**. Get creative!



Here's an example of a good final setup. The **Recording Device** is very close to the **Guide Device**, and both are at eye level with the singer, who has her headphones connected to her **Guide Device**.



STEP 3: Make your recording!

Once both of your devices are set up, you are ready to record.

1. Make sure your **Recording Device** is set to take video.
2. Press the record button on your **Recording Device**.
3. Press “Play” on your **Guide Device** to start your Guide Video.
(The sound should ONLY be coming through your headphones.)
4. Be sure to follow the directions and **CLAP on beat 4** when indicated.
(Make sure your hands are visible for the clap.)
5. Sing along with your part!
6. When you get to the end of the piece, wait about 2 seconds after the music stops, and then stop your **Recording Device**.

Here are a few **PRO TIPS** to make sure your video turns out great.

- **Layout/Orientation:** Your shot should be landscape/horizontal.
- **Lighting:** Make your face the brightest thing in the video. Especially avoid being backlit. Face the window or light source.
- **Minimize all background noise** (air conditioners, fans, TV’s, white noise machines, etc.).
- **Have fun!** Let your enthusiasm SHOW. It makes a big difference. If you find yourself getting tired or frustrated, take a break, and come back refreshed to record a new video.



Here’s an example of a well-framed, well lit, landscape shot.

STEP 4: Submit your recording to your group’s organizer.

The method of delivering your video recording can vary from group to group. Your group’s organizer will outline the best way for you to share your video with them in order to begin assembling your Virtual Caroling video. To keep your video high quality, we strongly advise against trying to email or text your recording.

Congrats you’re done! The final product is now one step closer to completion. Once all the individual videos are collected, they will be assembled and edited into an awesome virtual choir performance that you can share this holiday season.