



PURCHASE GUIDE



WHICH VOICE
RECORDER
SHOULD YOU
CHOOSE ?

A LITTLE HISTORY LESSON: LIFE BEFORE THE DICTAPHONE

Human beings have always been surrounded by sound: the sounds of nature, music, voices and so on. Our desire to record these sounds probably goes back as far as our desire to take snapshots of the world around us. So no surprise that a few decades after the invention of photography, the first sound-recording device was born. It was called the phonograph and it recorded and played back the sounds it captured. It was soon used to broadcast music and news, as well as being used as a language-learning tool.

The oldest known intelligible voice recording was produced in 1860

and lasted just 12 seconds. Édouard-Léon Scott de Martinville recorded himself singing the French song "Au clair de la lune". Over subsequent decades, recording devices evolved into the dictaphone, a small, portable object that arrived with the advent of digital technology.

Nowadays, we all have one on us, as our smartphones have an integrated recording device. It's in the form of an app that records sounds and stores them in our phone's memory. But this doesn't mean the end of dictaphones. This lightweight, portable device is still a must-have for professionals and non-professionals alike.

Dictaphones are lightweight, compact tech gems specifically designed to record sounds. All their settings are geared towards optimising the quality of your recording. Here's Kodak's guide to choosing a dictaphone, a run-down of this device's features and a look at the wide range of models in our catalogue.



**IF YOU WANT A
RECORDING WIZARD,
THEN REACH FOR A
DICTAPHONE!**



The dictaphone is now the only device entirely geared to voice recording. It can also be used to replay recorded sounds and transfer them to different storage media or a computer. Despite the advent of new technologies, the dictaphone stands out thanks to its superb recording quality. All of its settings are designed for sound recording, guaranteeing an accurate rendition.

Professionals can dictate reports or record interviews, so they can listen to and write them up later on. Transcription is a profession in its own right, and the dictaphone is indispensable tool. Creative types will also benefit from such a device; you can ditch cumbersome notebooks and pens and record voice notes whenever and wherever you like.

Journalists, teachers, doctors, lawyers, students, writers... Tons of people rely on their dictaphone. Plus, as well as being practical, they're lightweight and easy to carry around. You can keep a word-for-word record of a meeting or brainstorming session, vital information from a conference, or share your observations in a research context. And today's digital dictaphones produce incomparable quality combined with intuitive features.



WHAT ARE A DICTAPHONE'S MAIN FEATURES?



Think a dictaphone's a waste of time and money because you've got a voice recording app on your smartphone? Smartphone apps don't have all the features and qualities of a voice recorder. So, here's a non-exhaustive list of what makes a dictaphone a worthy addition to your tech:

DICTAPHONES ARE LIGHTWEIGHT AND EASY TO HANDLE.

So you can take one anywhere. They're discreet and above all professional, unlike a smartphone which may give the impression you're not fully-focused on the task in hand. Dictaphones also have hands-free settings such as an instant recording button or voice control.



TOP-QUALITY RECORDINGS

A dictaphone's main function is to provide top-quality recordings that reproduce sounds perfectly. Noise reduction and the recording scene selection means you can record in various environments, whether it's a loud, crowded place, outdoors in windy conditions, or if you need to record a number of voices. You'll get way more options that you would with a smartphone.



STORAGE CAPACITY



A dictaphone's storage capacity is entirely dedicated to recordings! So you won't have to worry about using up your smartphone's memory or running out of space if you need to record a very long session. These clever devices can store over 700 hours of audio! Depending on the device, you can also increase its memory by adding an SD card.

BATTERY

In addition to storage, the dictaphone's battery is also only used for recordings. You won't have to watch your smartphone's battery quickly drain while you record voice notes. A dictaphone can be used continuously and will have a battery life of at least 20 hours!



OMNIDIRECTIONAL



When choosing a dictaphone, you can opt for one with an omnidirectional channel. This feature is essential for perfect 360° voice recordings. In other words, you don't have to point the microphone at the person you're talking to, or remain frozen to the spot while you record. You'll have a versatile and discreet device as well as top audio quality.

MONO OU STÉRÉO

Finally, you can choose between a mono and stereo device. A mono device captures sounds via a single channel, while an audio version has two. Stereo has a greater capacity and is ideal for recording multiple voices and atmospheric sounds. Mono devices are more suited to fairly quiet environments and the dictaphone needs to be close to the sound.



So you get it, dictaphones are specialised sound recording devices. They're specially designed to give you top-quality recordings in any number of situations. Battery life, storage, quality, practicality: dictaphones can be extremely useful for our daily life.



**THE DICTAPHONE, A
GREAT ALL-ROUNDER
WHATEVER YOUR
NEEDS**



There are numerous situations where you find a dictaphone handy. However, here are a few examples of activities and professions where a dictaphone is a complete game-changer.

A MUST FOR JOURNALISTS

Journalism is one profession that relies on dictaphones. This practical, discreet device can be used to record interviews, as a mini-microphone if out on an assignment, to take voice notes or to record editorial meetings. In a profession where facts and words must be accurately reported, dictaphones are essential if written content must stay true to what has been said.



A CRUCIAL TOOL FOR LAWYERS

Lawyers and legal professionals including judges, often need dictaphones. These practical device are perfect for note-taking that doesn't alter words or information being communicated. However, care must be taken to protect professional secrecy and to ensure that these recordings are stored in a digital safe, for example.

A dictaphone can be used during a meeting with a client, to ensure a reliable and complete record of the discussion. Plus conversations flow as they aren't interrupted by someone having to scribble down notes. Voice recordings are also useful during brainstorming sessions - you'll be able to record all those fantastic ideas!

DICTAPHONES FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PROFESSIONALS

Dictaphones are extremely useful devices in medical and scientific settings. You can use it to record your observations, dictate reports, take patient notes during a consultation or keep a research log. They're also a real time-saver as you can talk to someone or examine results while dictating at the same time.

You can also connect a dictaphone to a computer and use pre-installed dictation software. This 'voice to text' means audio recordings will be automatically typed up. Some professionals also use dictaphones so secretaries or transcribers can type up reports, minutes or letters, without mincing or missing out any words.



STUDENTS LOVE THEM!

Entering higher education involves a new way of learning. This includes endless lectures and having to take in vast amounts of information that has to be written down and memorised in order to pass exams. So it's easy to miss points, not have the time to write down every word and then later forget what was said. So, students will find dictaphones are worth every penny when it comes to recording lessons that they can listen to later on while they complete their notes. Dictaphones are also a great teaching aid, particularly for people with an auditory memory.

Most undergraduates spend 20 hours a week in lectures, tutorials, etc. So a good dictaphone will be able to record a week's worth of lessons without needing a recharge. Plus some take SD cards, so you can stock a whole year's worth of recordings.

DICTAPHONES AS A TEACHING AID

Teachers and parents will find dictaphones really useful. They've been used to improve foreign language skills from the moment they arrived on the scene. We can record ourselves speaking another language, listen to it and improve our pronunciation.

Dictaphones are also great for learning to read and write. Adults can record a dictation that a child can then write down without feeling watched or under pressure. Likewise, pupils can record themselves reading and their teacher can play it back and assess their progress.



**KODAK DICTAPHONES
HAVE ALL THE
SETTINGS YOU NEED**



We've developed a range of connected dictaphones whether it's for home use, when you're on the move or at work. You'll get all the connectivity you need for a practical voice recorder, such as two 3.5 mm mini-plugs. This means you can connect your device to an external microphone for even better audio quality.

We also use Plug and Play technology to make your dictaphone even more versatile. In case you don't know, "plug and play" means "ready to use". Plug and Play compatible devices can be connected to a computer, without having to install any special software.

Your computer will automatically recognise your device, saving you loads of time when transferring your files. You can also play music on your dictaphone as it will work like an MP3 player. Just plug in your headphones, and you're good to go.

Every Kodak dictaphone is equipped with the best of our tech for optimum performance. A lithium battery ensures 20 to 34 hours battery life, depending on the model. Being designed for continuous use, these digital recorders have a storage capacity of 581 to 725 hours. So there's no limit to the number of meetings or voice notes you can record. Finally, they all have an omnidirectional microphone making them extremely versatile.



**A RANGE OF
DICTAPHONES TO SUIT
ALL YOUR NEEDS**



Our range consists of four state-of-the-art models to suit all needs, whether professional or not:

KODAK VRC250

The Kodak VRC250 is our entry-level dictaphone. You'll love that it weighs a mere 34 grams and has a battery that lasts 20 hours. It also has hands-free recording. It's perfect for frequent, moderately demanding use in a quiet environment.



KODAK VRC350

The Kodak VRC350 is the model with the longest battery life, which lasts an impressive 34-hours! It's perfect if you're on the move. Its scene selection means you can choose a setting to your environment. We recommend this one if you're likely to be in range of relatively quiet environments.





KODAK VRC450

The Kodak VRC450 has a battery that lasts 22 hours. Perfect for everyday use and all situations, you can switch between mono to stereo and benefit from noise reduction technology. Students will love this model, as it's perfect for lectures in echoey halls.

KODAK VRC550

The Kodak VRC550 is our top-of-the-range dictaphone. People who rely on dictaphones will love its stereo microphone, colour screen and a large storage capacity that can be increased by adding an SD card.



So now you're a dictaphone expert, what are waiting for? Treat yourself to a Kodak dictaphone for a high-tech device that will nail all your recordings. Lightweight, compact and connected, they have all the essential features for quality recordings all at a great price.

MORE INFORMATION



On www.kodak.gtcie.com