

ZOË MACE
SOPRANO AND SINGING TEACHER

WELCOME!

Hello! Welcome to your **New Student Preparation Pack!**

This pack is designed to provide you with all the information and steps you need to take to **get the most out of your online singing lessons.**

If you have any questions about any of the recommended steps, please **get in touch** with me *before* your lesson!

1. Book in Your Lesson!

We will find a time and day that suits you, and I will send you through a Zoom link ahead of the lesson time. The more **detail** you provide in your enquiry (experience, genre preferences, any vocal/health issues), the more I will know about **you and your voice** before we get to work!

2. Sort Out Your Lesson Space!

It's great to have the option to both **sit and stand** during your lessons. Having room to move around you will make you feel **more relaxed** into your lesson, as well as having the ability to use your entire body to get the most out of your sound. While you don't need a lot of space, feeling comfortable and not cramped is helpful to ease you into your lesson!

3. Sort Out Your Devices!

Your device's camera should be positioned in a way that I can **see your entire face and upper body**, preferably where you're **well lit!** Try a quick test of your audio on Zoom before your lesson. Make sure you are comfortable with your setup before your lesson begins!

You will also need a separate device to play your backing music from (see next point!)

PREPARATIONS CONT.

4. Prepare Your Music!

Make sure that you have any **backing tracks** for your lesson pre-loaded on a **separate device** (like your phone) so they are ready to go. Using backing tracks on the same device as your lesson can negatively impact Zoom's audio and visual quality, so set this up before your lesson begins so we can spend more time singing and less time organising!

5. Have Resources with You!

A **bottle of water** is crucial to have with you, and a **pencil and a notepad** to hand (or your Notes on your phone if you're more techy!) is also really beneficial to make sure you don't forget any new exercises and adjustments that we make to your songs. Print off your **sheet music** or **lyrics** if you can before your lesson, so you have somewhere to refer to when practising your songs between lessons.

6. Check Your Internet Connection!

Close all open internet browser tabs before joining your lesson, and make sure no one in your household is using the internet for anything major (like downloading films!). If your Wi-Fi is notoriously problematic, consider using an **ethernet cable** for a more stable connection, or moving to a room closer to your Wi-Fi router.

PREPARATIONS CONT.

7. Plug in Your Device!

It might seem like an obvious one... But it's easy to forget! There's nothing more annoying than your device dying halfway through a lesson and taking ages to reboot, so make sure you're all set up with **plenty of battery charge** before your lesson begins!

8. Consider Investing in Your Set Up!

While it is not essential, an **external microphone** can really boost the sound quality of our call. **Headphones** are also very beneficial (in-ear headphones that don't block out the sound are ideal, e.g. Apple headphones).

9. Think About Your Songs!

It's not necessary for you to have any songs in mind, as I can help you make song selections from the first lesson. However, lots of my students have really benefitted from **creating a playlist** of songs that they love to sing, whether they feel like they can currently sing them or not! There's nothing better than looking back at your playlist in a few months time and seeing how much easier some of those harder songs now are!

10. Set Up Your Sound!

Make sure you have prepared your Zoom for **optimum sound quality**. There are different procedures for preparing your sound depending on your device. **Read on to sort the sound for your device!**

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LAPTOP/COMPUTER SET UP FOR ZOOM LESSONS






- **Download and update** to the *latest version of Zoom*
- Join your lesson at your lesson time (I will send you a link!)
- Click the **arrow** (it looks like an upside down V!) next to the microphone in the bottom left hand corner of your screen
- This will open up your 'Audio' settings. Tick the box: **'Show in-meeting option to "Enable Original Sound" from microphone'**
- Tick the boxes: **High fidelity music mode** and **Echo Cancellation**
By wearing headphones with a microphone for your lesson, you will now get the best possible sound quality! Make sure you can still hear yourself singing though - Apple headphones are perfect for example, rather than over-ear headphones!
- Return to your meeting screen
- Make sure the box top left of your screen says **'Turn off Original Sound'** (this means Original Sound is turned on!)

That's it, you're ready!
LET'S SING!




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IPAD/IPHONE SET UP FOR ZOOM LESSONS

BEFORE Your Lesson:

-  Download the **Zoom app**
-  Create an account and log in
-  Click '**Settings**'
-  Click '**Meetings**'
-  Scroll down and **turn on 'Use Original Sound'** (this should turn the slider button green)

DURING Your Lesson:

-  Join your Singing Lesson at our agreed time (I will send you a link and password!)
-  Click the **three dots**
-  Click '**Enable Original Sound**'

That's it, you're ready!
LET'S SING!