

### Horizon Wimba Online Audio Tools Comparison

Audio Options	Description	Tool Location	Best Practices	Communication	Can it be saved?	Pro	Cons
<b>HW Voice Announcements</b>	Simple recording/player interface is available to provide brief audio announcements.	Bb/Control Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide clarification of an assignment</li> <li>• Words of encouragement</li> <li>• Greetings</li> </ul>	One-way Asynchronous 20 min. max	Yes • Desktop • .SPX, .WAV, and .MP3 formats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates greater warmth</li> <li>• Students hear a voice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in a quiet room to avoid competing background noise</li> <li>• Posted announcements cannot be modified; must be re-posted.</li> </ul>
<b>HW Voice Boards</b>	A threaded discussion with voice	Bb/Communications & Content Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Brainstorming</li> <li>• Foreign language instruction</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Debates</li> </ul>	One-way Asynchronous Postings can be limited by instructor to 15 seconds or up to 20 minutes per post.	Yes • Desktop • .WVB, .WAV, .SPX, and .MP3 formats • Archives available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates greater warmth</li> <li>• Students hear a voice</li> <li>• Appeals to different learning styles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in a quiet room to avoid competing background noise</li> </ul>
<b>HW Voice Direct</b>	Real time audio conferencing with text chat (similar to a phone call without the long distance cost)	Bb/Content Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live oral instruction</li> <li>• Small group role plays</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Debates</li> <li>• Virtual office hours</li> </ul>	Two-way Synchronous No time limit	Yes • Desktop • .WVB, .WAV, .SPX, and .MP3 formats • Archives available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simpler interface than HW Live Classroom</li> <li>• Less resource-intensive than Live Classroom</li> <li>• Instructor can moderate discussions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in a quiet room to avoid competing background noise.</li> <li>• No visual content like HW Live Classroom (audio and text chat only).</li> <li>• Takes some practice to manage a conference.</li> </ul>

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<b>HW Voice Email</b>	Students and Instructors can send audio email messages to anyone and recipients reply by sending their own voice email.	BB/ Communication & Content Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide clarification of an assignment</li> <li>• Words of encouragement</li> <li>• Greetings</li> <li>• Assignment feedback</li> <li>• Weekly recap</li> <li>• Introduction to a new course topic</li> </ul>	One-way Asynchronous  3 min. max	Yes Yes • Desktop • .WVB, .WAV, .SPX, and .MP3 formats • Archives available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saves the cost of a long distance call</li> <li>• Allows instructors to provide verbal feedback to on-line students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in a quiet room to avoid competing background noise.</li> </ul>
<b>HW Voice Recorder</b>	A small recorder is incorporated in the content area of a BB course that allows a brief message to be included	Bb/Course Content Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain complex ideas</li> <li>• Post assignments</li> <li>• Highlight or recap important ideas that have been or will be discussed</li> </ul>	One-way Asynchronous  20 min. max	Yes • Desktop • .WAV, .SPX, and .MP3 formats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates greater warmth</li> <li>• Students hear a voice</li> <li>• Appeals to different learning styles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in a quiet room to avoid competing background noise</li> </ul>
<b>HW Podcasting</b>	Instructors can record files and make them available to students to listen on a computer or mp3 player	Bb/Content Area as an mp3 file iTunes website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portable audio that can be listened to on-the-go</li> </ul>	One-way Asynchronous  No time limit	Yes • mp3 file	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audio can be loaded onto portable devices for listening away from the computer (great for long files)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in a quiet room to avoid competing background noise.</li> </ul>

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HW Presenter	Instructors can annotate an arbitrary set of web pages	Bb/Course Content Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain different resources available on Internet</li> <li>• Encourage students to comment on information available from a particular website</li> </ul>	One-way Asynchronous Postings can be limited by instructor by instructor to 15 seconds or up to 20 minutes per post	Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desktop</li> <li>• WVB, .WAV, .SPX and .MP3 formats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great way to author online presentations</li> <li>• Students can give their opinions about information available on the web</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be in a quiet room to avoid competing background noise</li> <li>• Only URLs can be annotated</li> </ul>