How to Adjust Settings in Audacity before Recording

When I use screen capturing software, I like to record the audio separately from the video. In this case, I used Audacity to record the audio. This video will show you some of the basics of using Audacity to improve the audio for your online instructional videos.

Before you begin to record in Audacity, you will need to check your settings. In this case, Audacity recognized the microphone that I had connected to my computer. Therefore, although I am showing you options, I did not actually need to change the settings for the microphone.

When I opened Audacity, it was set to record two channels. Since I am one person and I have interest in recording one track at a time, I want to select Mono Recording. If the two channels option remains selected, then the audio will appear as two tracks that are exactly the same.

Since I will be using the speakers on the laptop and Audacity recognizes those speakers, I am showing you the options, but I will not change the settings for the speakers.

If Audacity did not recognize your microphone or speakers, then you will need to go to your start button or start menu, then click on the Control Panel. From the menu that appears, select Hardware and Sound. Next, click on Sound on the menu that appears. From there, you can select the microphone and speakers attached to your computer so that you can adjust the settings in Audacity. Now you are ready to begin recording and editing in Audacity.