

MuteCast Handbook

Understand detection, choose what to skip, and teach MuteCast



Listen to podcasts, not interruptions.

MuteCast combines subscriptions, offline playback, transcripts and on-device analysis. You decide for every podcast which detected passages may be skipped automatically.

What this handbook explains

- ✓ How Basic Analysis and Audio Verification work
- ✓ What the colours on the timeline mean
- ✓ How to teach recurring ads and self-promotion
- ✓ How iPhone, iPad, Mac, Apple Watch and CarPlay work together

No MuteCast account, no tracking SDK and no server-side episode analysis.

A new episode becomes most useful after it has been downloaded, transcribed and analysed. MuteCast can prepare this automatically; the queue shows the exact state.

1. Add a podcast

Search for a show or add its RSS feed. Subscribe so new episodes can be found automatically.

2. Set the rules

Open the podcast settings. Enable ad detection and choose which segment types may be skipped.

3. Prepare an episode

Stream immediately or download for offline playback. A local file allows complete transcription and audio verification.

4. Check the queue

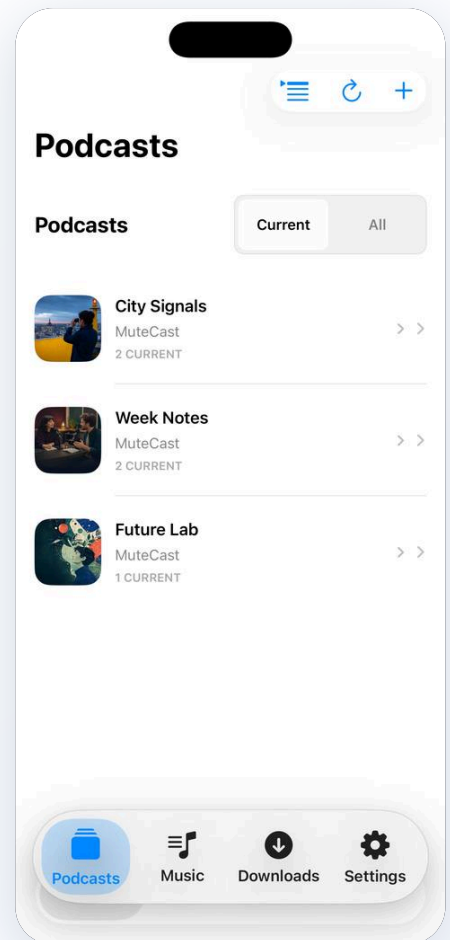
Transcription is followed by Basic Analysis and then Audio Verification. Progress and pauses are shown separately.

5. Start listening

The coloured timeline shows detected passages. MuteCast only skips types that you enabled and that pass its safety checks.

Good default

Begin with ads and self-promotion. Review a few episodes before enabling additional segment types.



MuteCast does not rely on one keyword. It combines several kinds of evidence and stores the result with the episode.

Transcript and structure**Transcript and structure**

Timestamps, show notes, chapters and language cues locate likely boundaries and commercial wording.

Basic Analysis**Basic Analysis**

Text patterns, episode structure and your podcast-specific corrections produce candidate segments.

Audio Verification**Audio Verification**

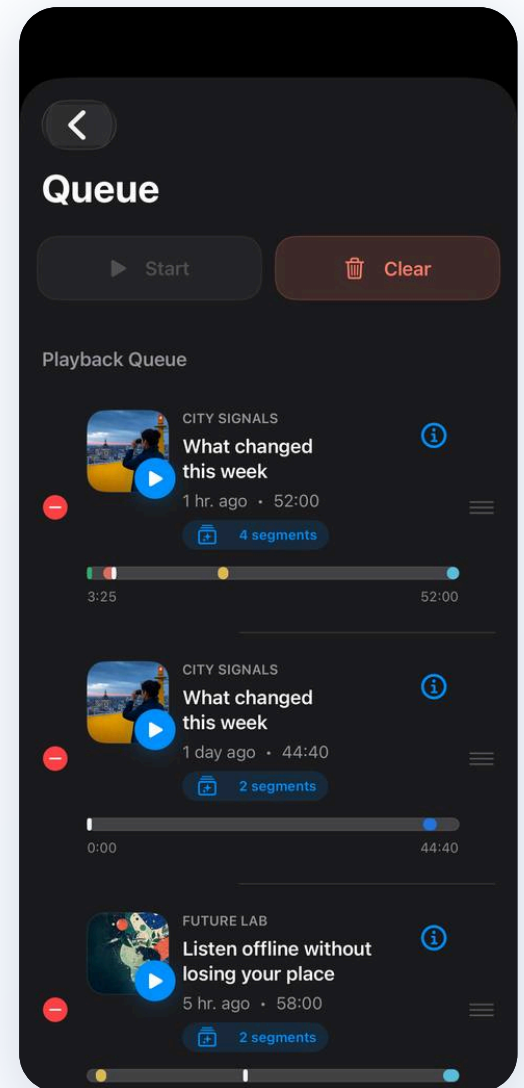
When a local audio file is available, acoustic changes and recurring audio cues can confirm or refine boundaries.

Playback policy**Playback policy**

A visible result is checked again against confidence, evidence and your settings before Auto-Skip is allowed.

Detection is assistance, not a guarantee

Podcasts change their wording and dynamically inserted ads may differ between downloads. Review important results and correct mistakes; your corrections improve later episodes of the same podcast.



Different shows need different rules. MuteCast therefore keeps detection, Auto-Skip, segment selection and playback speed with the individual subscription.

Ad detection

Allows automatic preparation and displays recognised segments.

Skip detected segments

Enables Auto-Skip for the selected types. Turn it off when you only want visual markers.

Segment types

Select ads, self-promotion, donation calls, introductions and outros independently.

Playback speed

Choose a comfortable default for this podcast; the player can still change it temporarily.

Timeline colours

Ad

Third-party commercial message

Self-promotion

Promotion of the show or publisher

Donation call

Membership or donation request

Introduction

Opening before the main content

Outro

Closing after the main content

Uncertain

Evidence is not strong enough for automatic skipping

The thin coloured line is a map of the whole episode. The white marker is your position; coloured sections are detected segments.



Tap a segment

Open its details, confidence and source. In the transcript, matching text uses the same colour.

Visible does not always mean automatic

The type must be enabled, the analysis current and the evidence strong enough. Uncertain passages remain visible for review.

You stay in control

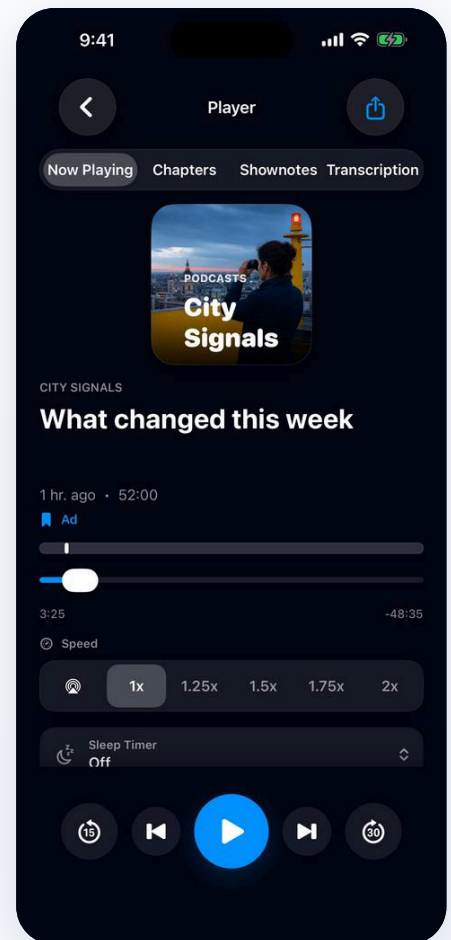
Use chapters, the scrubber, 15 seconds back or 30 seconds forward at any time. Auto-Skip seeks past a segment; it never deletes audio.

Across devices

Playback positions and settings can sync through iCloud. Downloads remain local and another device may need its own analysis.

A coloured segment was not skipped?

Check the podcast's Auto-Skip switch, the selected segment type and whether both analysis steps are current. A low-confidence or unverified marker is intentionally not skipped.



A timestamped transcript is required. When you hear a commercial passage, mark the current block; MuteCast stores both an immediate correction and a reusable pattern for this podcast.

Ad

Choose the red button

Use it for third-party advertising.

Choose the yellow button

Use it when the publisher promotes its own products, events or subscriptions.

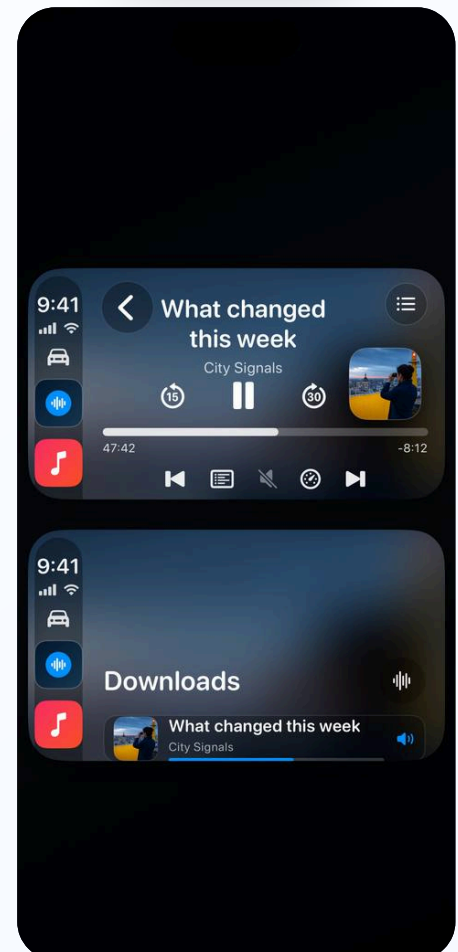
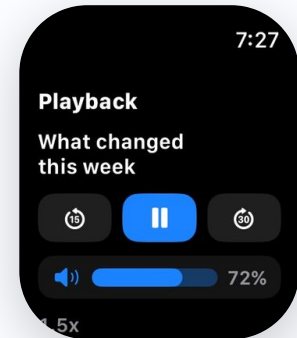
Continue listening

If the playhead is still in that block, MuteCast moves to its end and refreshes Auto-Skip immediately.

Reuse the pattern

Later analyses compare the learned wording with other episodes of the same podcast. It is not applied globally.

Self-promotion



Where to find the actions

iPhone and iPad: directly below the timeline

Mac: in the episode player and permanent mini player

Apple Watch: red and yellow controls in Now Playing

CarPlay: More → Mark → Ad or Self-promotion

You can also press a transcript block and add its context to the known inserts.

Some breaks last much longer than 30 seconds. MuteCast turns repeated user skips into one growing, podcast-specific pattern.

Ad

0 s

+30

≤ 10 s

+30

≤ 10 s

+30

≤ 10 s

1. Mark the current block

Tap the red or yellow action. This creates the beginning of the learned commercial range.

2. Skip forward again within 10 seconds

Press +30 once more if commercial content continues. MuteCast extends the same correction instead of creating a second pattern.

3. Repeat when necessary

Every additional +30 within the rolling 10-second window can extend the same block, including breaks lasting several minutes.

4. Let MuteCast stop earlier when safe

If the transcript contains a reliable return-to-content cue before the full 30 seconds, MuteCast may land there instead.

What is learned

The stored correction covers the complete confirmed range. Representative wording from the beginning, middle and end becomes reusable evidence, while the return to editorial content stays outside the pattern.

A backward jump, scrubbing, a chapter change, another episode or an expired 10-second window ends the chain. Automatic skips never extend it.

If preparation seems to wait

- ✓ Download work can have priority before analysis, especially on iPhone and iPad.
- ✓ Low battery, background limits, storage pressure or disabled analysis can pause work.
- ✓ Open the queue for the reason, progress percentage and Continue action.
- ✓ Manual and currently played episodes receive higher priority than older automatic work.

What iCloud synchronises

- ✓ Subscriptions, settings, playback positions and learned patterns can sync through Apple's iCloud.
- ✓ Audio downloads and their local state do not move automatically between devices.
- ✓ Large or locally generated transcripts may remain device-specific; another device can prepare its own analysis.
- ✓ A downloaded episode is not silently replaced just because its feed changes.

Quick checks

Red or yellow action is unavailable

Make sure a podcast is playing and a complete timestamped transcript exists.

Marker is visible but nothing skips

Enable Auto-Skip and that segment type for this podcast; wait for current verification.

Another device shows no analysis

Download or prepare the episode on that device. Audio files are not synced.

A result is wrong

Correct the transcript block. MuteCast keeps the correction and learns it for this podcast.

Private by design

Episode analysis runs on your device where supported. MuteCast uses no account, analytics or tracking SDK. Network access is still required for feeds, artwork, downloads and publisher-provided transcripts.

More help and current product information:

[Support](#) [Privacy](#) support-mutecast@tstange.de