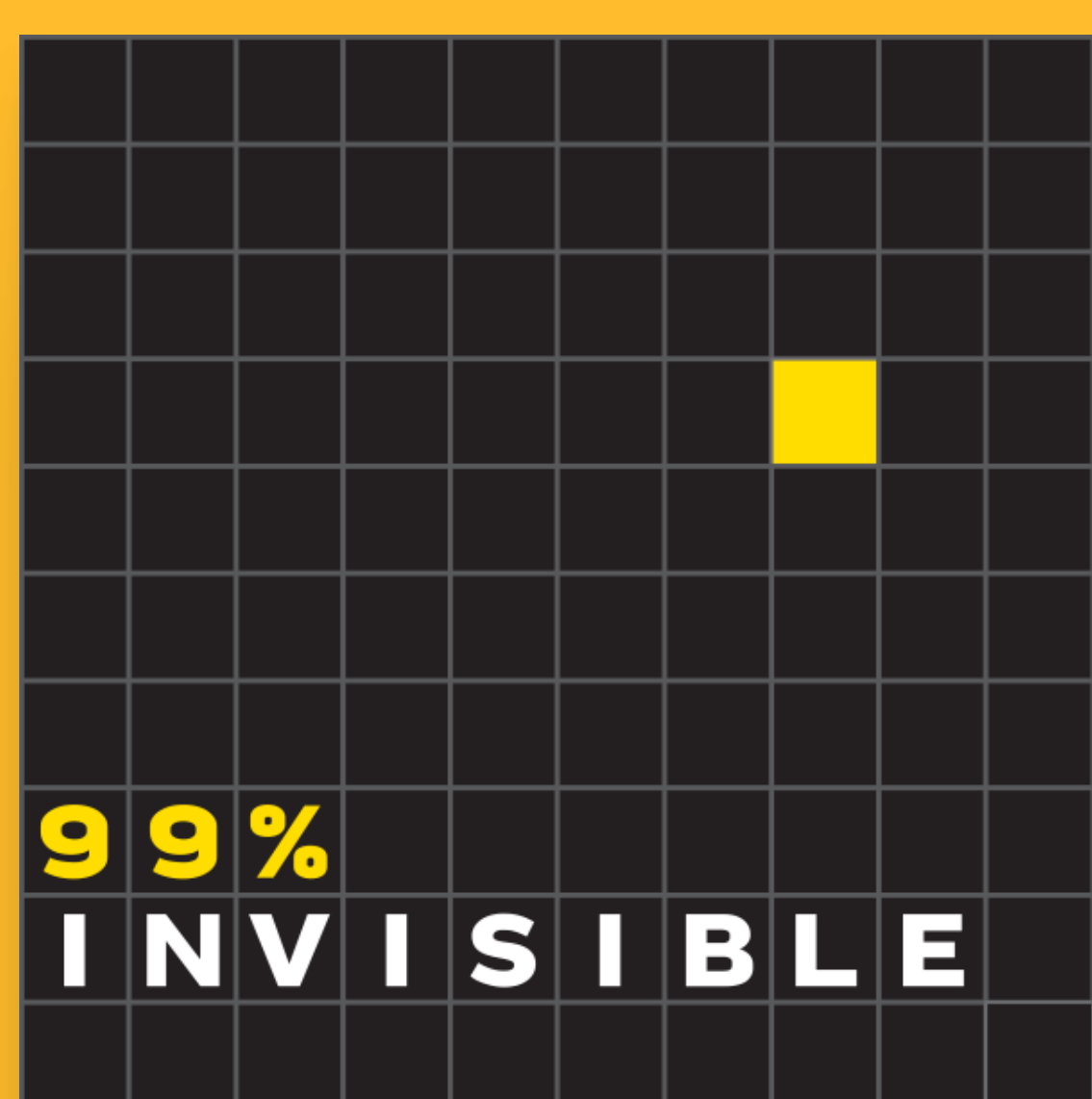


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Here's our master directory, if you will, of the tools and sources for information we're leaning into to **listen, create, and elevate** in 2021.

**Our favorite podcasts:**



**99% Invisible**

If a friend recommended this as the podcast you should be listening to they were 100% right. Each episode is centered around design and provides a good shake up to get you thinking outside the box.



**Business Casual**

Great insights on how to thrive as a business during uncertain times, provided by company leaders who have transformed their businesses over the years.



**Marketing Over Coffee**

Under 30 minute episodes that are as approachable as your morning coffee and cover the gamut of topics in the field.



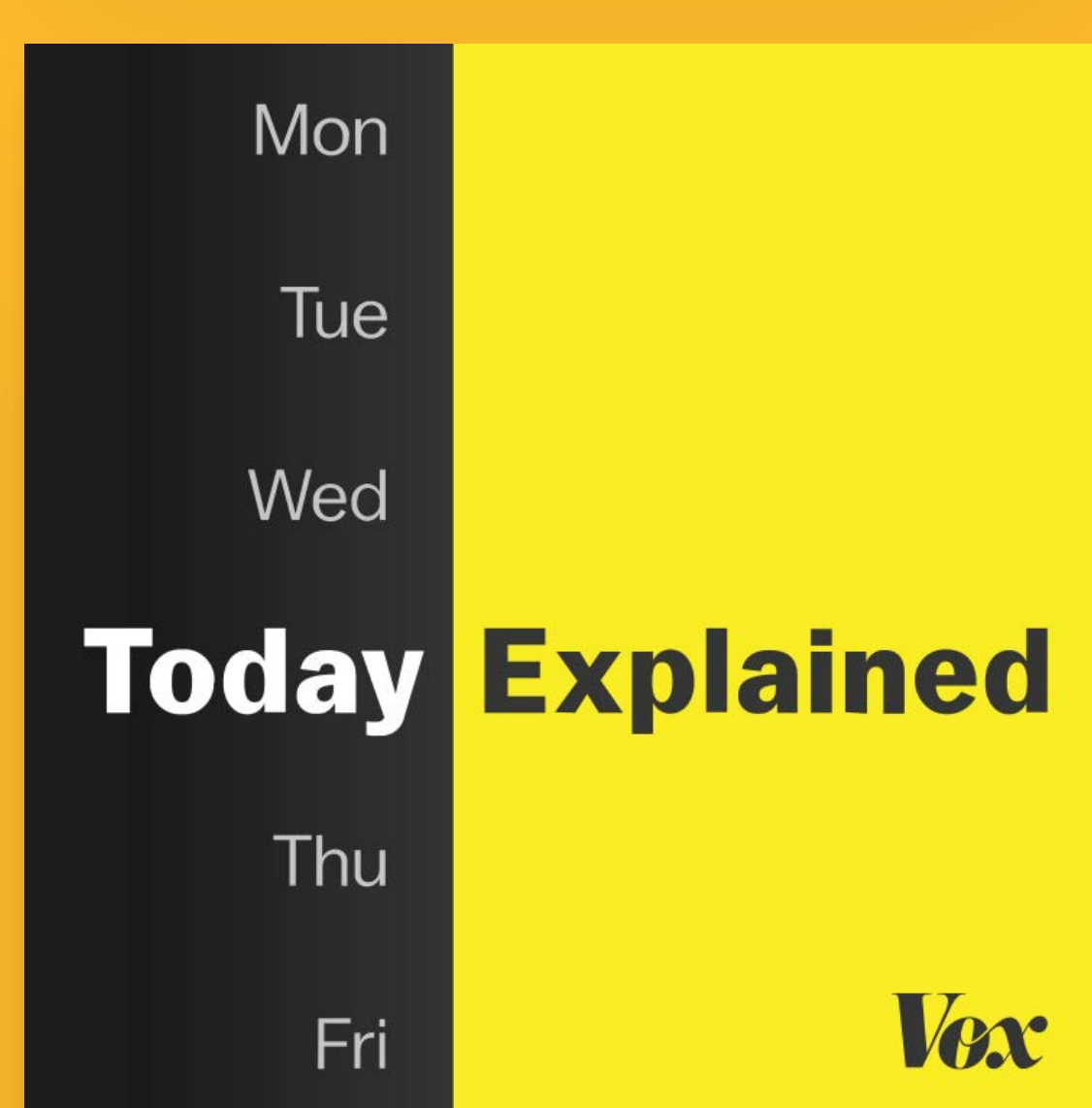
**Daily Tech Headlines**

Stay in tune with what's happening in the tech industry at a high level and how the digital world is shaping businesses and ideas that may be considered analog.



**WSJ Tech News Briefing**

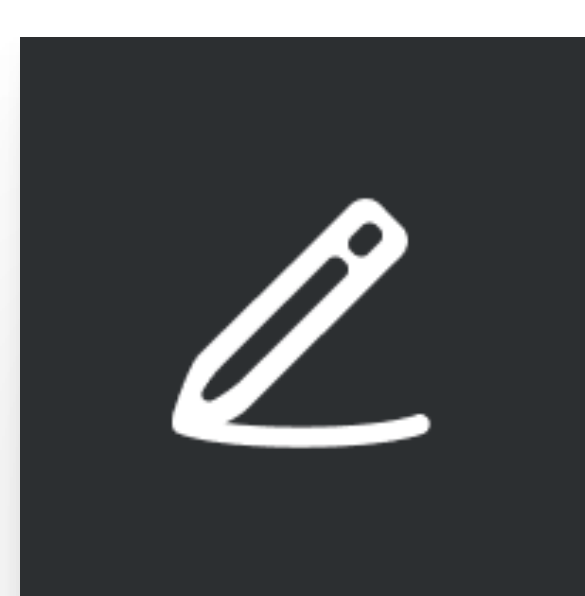
One tech-focused story each day to stay ahead and be informed of the key tech happenings throughout the world.



**Today Explained**

Being inspired is about having an open mind and learning about different viewpoints. This podcast takes one story of the day and breaks it down by showing all different angles and points of view.

**10 tools we use daily:**



**Marker.io**

Our go-to for sharing feedback visually is this tool: an extension for Google Chrome that allows you to easily take screenshots to mark up, comment, and share. We have this one baked into our QA processes, so much that our friends at marker.io have a case study featuring how we use the tool.



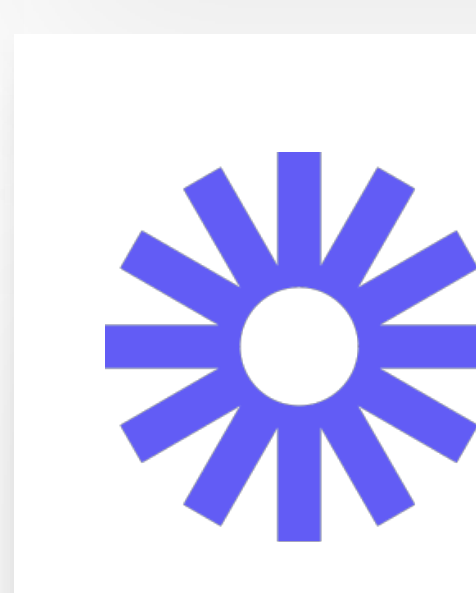
**Slack**

This communication app is good enough for NASA and it definitely works well for our team. If you haven't given it a try yet, think of it as chat where you can have dedicated channels and direct messaging. The mobile app really comes through in a pinch.



**Invision**

Our favorite tool for collaborating with clients. It lets us create user experiences without writing a line of code, that clients can click through and add their feedback to. Freehand, the app's virtual whiteboard, allows the whole team to illustrate ideas simultaneously all in one place.



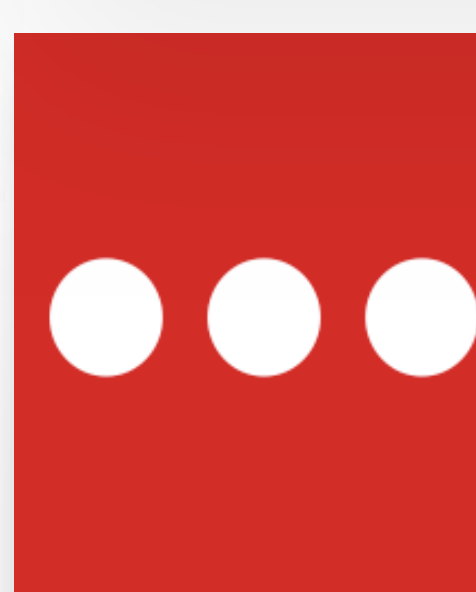
**Loom**

Sometimes asynchronous communication is the best way to go and Loom is the best platform for it. Although we like it for personalizing project overviews, there are so many creative ways to utilize Loom and we are excited to keep applying this tool in the coming year.



**Teamwork**

We use this app to track internal and client projects, our hours and more. From a developer perspective, we really appreciate how easily you can customize projects, layouts, etc. It's levers and switches give you a high level of control to use it as it works best for you.



**Lastpass**

The perfect compliment to utilizing all the tools on this list. Add this extension to your browser and you'll never type in your login info or click on a forgot password button again.



**Remove.bg**

If you need the background removed from an image, there's no easier way to do it then with this clever AI tool. Just go to their website, upload your image and there you have it. Clean it up or add a new background after with their built in editor.



**Muzli**

Another cool tool from InVision. This all-in-one content feed delivers visual and creative inspiration when you're thinking about websites, graphic designs, marketing campaigns and any other design work you need a spark for.



**Zapier**

With no fuss you can integrate your key communication apps for automating repetitive tasks. This tool is one that we look forward to integrating more in the coming year for streamlining our own communications between the team and beyond.



**Feedly**

Create a personalized news feed that organizes and serves up the type of content you want and won't have to go searching for. This works not just for your own information, but as a useful way to share resources.

**We love to visit these blogs and websites:**



**Ann Handley**

Ann is a brilliant and fun digital marketer who offers thoughtful inspiration that you'll want to channel into your own communications. Her weekly newsletter Total Annarchy is totally worth subscribing to.



**WhereAreTheBlackDesigners.com**

This initiative for black designers is elevating a much needed dialogue about representation in the design world and pushing change forward. We are far from perfect in this area, but have ears to listen and desire to be a part of the progress that this initiative is advocating for.



**MaddyBeard.com**

Maddy is a UI/UX designer who is lighting up wellness topics in the digital world. Her Visual Q's monthly advice column shares content intended to lead you to a healthier state of mind and support your digital wellbeing.



**ReallyGoodEmails.com**

Enough said.



**ProductHunt.com**

Stay ahead on new product across a myriad of disciplines, from product design to personal time management.



**BuiltWith.com**

See a website you admire? BuiltWith allows you to plug in that site's URL and find out where it's living, how it's content easing being managed and a lot more!