

## **Simon Cohen mixing file preparation**

Hi there and thanks for entrusting your project to me :)

I'm excited to get to work bringing out the best in your track and so if you can please provide your files in the following way it lets me spend more time mixing / getting creative, and less time house keeping / guessing whether any files are missing!!!

In terms of quality, please export all files at 24bit, 44.1kHz, WAV.

All files should be bounced from the start of your project (or all from the same place) to the end. If your DAW gives you the option, please set Normalise to 'OFF' or 'Overload Protection Only' when exporting.

Please provide the tempo and key signature of the song if known.

Please include an uncompressed (no stereo buss mastering limiter) version of the instrumental and an acapella, as well as the most current rough mix (with limiter is fine) for my quick reference. This lets me check very quickly whether any part is missing from the files and hear what everyone has been digging so far!!

Most DAWs derive their export file names from the name of the individual tracks in the project so PLEASE name all the tracks in your project before exporting. This prevents me looking at files named "Audio\_1", "Audio\_2" etc and having no idea what they are!!!

If you are sub-grouping instruments in your Project, some DAWs such as Ableton will export all the individual tracks as well as the group track. To avoid confusion / doubling up, please name your group tracks with "GROUP" (eg "Drums GROUP") before exporting.

With the individual tracks, please export all tracks at the levels you have them currently set to. I like picking up where you have left off not having to start the instrumental balance completely from scratch if that makes sense. Please leave any plugins ON for the instrument tracks.

If there are any sounds where you are unsure of your FX processing feel free to send an optional dry (unprocessed) version and I can see if I can beat yours! Please make sure to label this in an obvious way (eg "Main Synth OPTIONAL DRY.wav")

For the vocals, I love having the raw unprocessed files as well as where ever your processed versions are up to. If possible, please separate these into two folders so there's no confusion as to what is what.

Once you've exported everything, PLEASE re-import the files into a blank project and just check that nothing has gone wrong/is missing (everyone forgets to do this step!!) Some programs are a bit flakey when it comes to exporting so it saves a lot of back and forth hunting for missing parts if you can just check before sending please.

Once everything is ready, please make a zip file of everything and upload. On a Mac just right click the folder and select "Compress..." to make the zip. On a PC you can use Winzip or similar. Sending a zip file minimises the chance of losing any files in transit and saves on upload time :)

Please provide a couple of reference tracks (YouTube links are fine) if there is a particular feel or tone you were trying to capture.

NB. Mix revision notes will only be accepted via email ([simoncohen@studios301.com](mailto:simoncohen@studios301.com)). No texts, Facebook, Instagram, Tiktok dances, smoke signals etc!!!!