

Owen's Mix Prep Guide

Hi, thanks for choosing me to mix your songs! I'm looking forward to hearing your latest creation.

Below is a list of requests that will make things simpler when it comes to mixing your songs. This way I can spend more time mixing and less time making sure that everything you've sent is correct and in order. I'd hate to mix a song for you and have a vital track/instrument missing!

Please send:

- All multitrack files exported from the beginning of the session as WAV files. All exported files should be the exact same length. No stems please (i.e. send kick and snare as individual files, not the whole drum kit as a stereo file). All Instrument or MIDI tracks should also be rendered out as WAV files.
- All files exported should be mono if they were recorded in mono and stereo if they were recorded in stereo. If it was recorded in mono, please don't export it as a stereo file, this can make the track counts messy and double in size.
- All files as 'dry' (without FX) and 'wet' (with FX) versions. This is so I can hear an approximation of the sound you're looking for, but be able to tweak or improve on it if required. Examples include a vocal you may have been listening to with reverb on, but also a version without the reverb. These should be labelled as 'dry' and 'wet' in the file name (e.g. Vocal Main_dry.wav, Vocal Main_wet.wav)
- All Melodyne/Autotune that has been done during the production phase should be printed to the exported files. If I need to re-tune the vocals as it wasn't done beforehand this will eat into the time allocated for mixing, giving me less time to make your songs shine.
- A rough mix that you like of the song. This way I can hear your vision for the track and also double check that there are no instrument files missing
- All files should be exported at the same session bit depth and sample rate as your original session (i.e. if you're using 24bit 48KHz, the exported files should match)
- A text file labelled 'Song_Details.txt' containing:
 - Artist name (e.g. AC/DC)
 - Song Name (e.g. Thunderstruck)
 - Sample Rate (e.g. 48KHz)
 - Bit Depth (e.g. 24bit)
 - Key (e.g. B Major)
 - Tempo (e.g. 120bpm)
 - Lyrics
 - Song Structure (e.g. Intro, Verse1, Chorus1, Verse2 etc)
 - How many multitrack files I should be expecting (e.g. 28 files)
 - A list of the file names (Kick_01.wav, Snare_01.wav, Vocal_01.wav etc)
- A separate text file labelled 'Mix_Notes.txt' containing mix notes and some links to reference tracks you either took inspiration from during the recording process, or songs you'd like me to refer to for certain sounds. I find this more useful than just using descriptive words like 'dark, light, tight, big' etc as they can be relative and possibly misinterpreted. Links to Youtube, Spotify etc are fine. You can also send files to me in a folder if you wish.

The folder structure should be:

- Master Folder
 - 'Multitrack files' folder
 - Individual Song Folder (If you have multiple songs)
 - 'Rough mixes' folder
 - 'Reference Mixes' folder (if required)
 - Song_Details.txt
 - Mix_Notes.txt

Once you have this together, please zip the entire contents of the Master Folder and send me the zip file. This way at my end I only need to download one file and know that everything is in one place.

Please use **Dropbox**, **Wetransfer** or **Hightail** to send the files and make sure the download doesn't expire within a month of sending. Google Drive and Microsoft One Drive are **not recommended** due to issues sometimes arising with download permissions.