

BLACKMON AUDIO

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Pre-Mix Info



Record in 24bit. I prefer 44.1KHz sample rate but **don't convert** your files if you've already recorded higher.

Please leave generous headroom. Loudest peaks between -6 and -3 dBFS.

Name tracks exactly the same in all sessions (not *Kick* on song 1 and *Bass Drum* och song 2).

Name tracks logically, example: GTR1_SM57, GTR1_R121, GTR2 etc. rather than "John" "Eric".

Record one-shots of all drums and provide separately. Preferably 4 hits on each drum and 3 or 4 different velocities. Leave enough time in between the hits to let the drum ring out completely, and then a few seconds of silence.

If not agreed otherwise, make sure all editing is done before sending out your material. This includes making sure everything is nice and tight as well as editing out all silent/background noise parts with appropriate fades in/out. This also includes making sure all overlapping regions have appropriate X-fades.

You can either send me cleaned-up Pro Tools sessions (containing only the files needed for the mix, no additional versions of takes or left over clips) **or** consolidated files.

Organize all files in 1 folder / song, **unless** you recorded the album in one big session - in that case export the album tracks in one folder.

If the whole album is delivered as one continuous set of consolidated files, please include song start/end positions in a separate text document with time stamps.

If you send me consolidated files, make sure (and double check) they are all consolidated with the same start position so they align from zero.

Please include a text document with the following:

- Correct song titles (double check spelling).
- Track running order.
- What formats you need for the master.
- EAN and ISRC codes if you have them.
- BPM for all tracks. Even better is a midi-file including tempo that aligns with the audio files.
- Any other details that might be good for me to have - Fades or ideas for track spacing etc.

To make a clean version of a Pro Tools session

1. Make a backup
2. Make all editing (see above)
3. Consolidate all tracks
4. Commit any software instruments to audio
5. Delete all alternative playlists
6. Save session, Close session, Re-open session
7. In Clips-window, **Select all unused** (menu item)
8. **Clear Unused** (menu item), choose **Remove** when asked
9. Go to **File -> Save session copy in**, select **All Audio Files** under **Items to Copy**
10. Save the new clean session to a new folder on your hard drive, ready for export.

Note that you can leave plugins / your working mix, with automation etc, as it is.

Important! If exporting from Cubase make sure to use the "**Bounce Selection**" feature and then copy the new rendered files. **Do not** use the Audio Mixdown feature. More info on this can be found online. Good info: <https://youtu.be/JLVXA6NNVoU>

Please be restrictive with the use of processing during recording. Gentle EQ is fine, a few dBs of compression on vocals, but generally leave this to the mixing stage.

For tracks that depend on heavy processing, go ahead but if you are not 100% sure, record a clean backup version for safe keeping.

Please include any rough mixes you have of the songs, as well as general feedback on what you aim for with the final mix. Inspirational references and general guidelines are welcome.

Please record and include clean DI tracks for all bass and guitar tracks.

The DI-box needs to be connected before any distortion pedals etc. If you use a lot of pedals for different song sections, even better is to record two DI boxes, one before and one after the pedals.



Pre-Master Info

Please make sure the mixes are not over-processed on the mix bus. Some compression and EQ is great, and I would advise you to always check your mixes through a limiter, but don't send me limited files.

Make sure there is headroom on the mix bus. Peaks around -6dB is great.

Mix down to 24 bit and whatever sample rate used for recording.

Please leave the fade in/out to me - supply time codes for start of fade and end of fade if you have specific requests.

Please include a text document with the following:

- Correct song titles (double check spelling).
- Track running order.

- What formats you want for the master.
- EAN and ISRC codes if you have them.
- Any other details that might be good for me to have - Fades or ideas for track spacing etc.

Rates & Payment

All prices are excluding 25% VAT!

I need the **name** and **address** for the client (person or company).

If this is a EU company I need the EU-VAT number.

For companies outside of the EU I need the equivalent to a VAT-number / TIN number.

You don't need to pay me in advance, I will normally send out the invoice when the mix is finishing up. The invoice will be set for 30 days.

I prefer payment through **bank wire**. If this is not possible I can do PayPal but with an additional 4% charge to cover PayPal fees.

Mixing

Every mix project is different, I can give a quote based on your project if you contact me.

Email me at william@blackmon.se.

Mastering

Please note: playtimes below refer to pre-mastering.

Album (18-60min)	2500 SEK
EP (5-18min)	1700 SEK
Single (0-5min)	1200 SEK

Prices include one format and unlimited revisions.

I do **NOT** charge extra for stems mastering. In fact, I encourage it. I only ask that you make sure the export of the stems are correct, so that when they combine at zero they make the original mix.

It's not always as straight forward as it sounds. Ask me if you have any questions on Stems

Mastering. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stem_mixing_and_mastering

Additional formats are 200 SEK / format.

I master for CD, iTunes/Digital Tape and Vinyl.

CD-masters delivered as DDP files and separate 16 bit wave files.

Vinyl and Tape masters delivered as 24bit continuous wave files for each side, with cue sheets.

iTunes/Digital masters delivered as 24bit wave files as well as lower resolution 16-bit 44.1KHz files.

I'm certified for the "Apples Digital Masters" standard. Ask me if you have any questions on this.

<https://www.apple.com/apple-music/apple-digital-masters/>