

Hello there! Please follow these guidelines to get the most out of working together. The better you prepare your songs, the more time I can spend being creative and the better your mix will be as a result.

- Please ensure you are sending me the right version of the song and make it clear which session I am to open.
- Songs to be mixed can be received in either ProTools sessions or as raw audio files all starting at the same point.
- The audio format (bit rate, sample freq, file type) should be the same as the original session, please do not convert it to anything else. If you are debating recording at 16bit or 24bit, definitely work at 24bit.
- Files can be sent digitally (server, iChat transfer) or mailed on a small USB jump drive (FedEx, USPS, etc).
- Please include the latest rough mix of the song.
- Please remove all "opinion" or "sweetening" plug-ins that are simply trying to make it sound "better."
- Please print or render all amp modelers, soft synths and MIDI tracks as audio.
- There are times where elements in your song have important effects such as extreme filtering, distortion, delays that you really like, etc. Please print these tracks "with" and "without" the effect, this way I can try and improve upon it
- Track names should be clear and short.
- Please place tracks next to each other, arranged by type meaning, drums, percussion, bass, guitars, keys, strings, background vocals, lead vocal, etc.
- All tracks to be used should be visible and un-muted.
- Any track you are unsure about and want to give me the option of using, please put a "?" in the track name.
- Any track you absolutely do not like and do not want used, please don't even send it to me so no time is wasted on something you don't like.
- Please do not give me any blank tracks with no audio on it.
- Do not mute any sections of tracks with fader volume automation or mute automation. If you don't want something to occur in the bridge, for example, delete it, or mute it using the region mute feature, not the fader mute. If you are unsure, leave it in and let me know somehow, but don't rely on automation to make your arrangement play correctly.
- Please do not give me two mono, identical files in a stereo file or on a stereo track.
- I will accommodate 3 mix revisions (recalls) before incurring possible extra cost.
- I include "instrumental" mixes for no additional charge. If you want instrumental mixes to be mastered please let me know.
- I can do "vocal up" mixes for you if requested at no additional charge, but I suggest trying to get it right on the main mix. For example, sometimes the vocal only needs to be up in the choruses, etc.
- Discrete "stems" that reflect the mix can be made for an additional fee. Please let me know at the beginning of the project if you'd like to schedule extra time to make these stems.
- It can be helpful for you to let me know some other bands that you like the production/mixing on. Everyone has a different opinion about drum sounds and vocal treatments, especially. I'm absolutely available for a phone call, IM or email chat about this. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about anything above. I look forward to working with you!

Bryan Cook

bryancook@juicemonster.net
mixaudio (AIM)