High Peak Recordings

Mixing Preparation Guide

1. Ensure you are happy that all the recorded parts of the song(s) are completely finished and that no additions need to be made.
2. Ensure all audio files are complete from start to finish. Make sure the edits are good and do not click or pop. Make sure that instruments and vocals ring-out completely, and that there is enough lead-in time for instruments.
3. If you have multiple takes of vocal and/or instruments make sure you only include the composite and edited takes you actually want to use in the final song.
4. This is *very* important: ensure that every file *starts at the same place*, preferably 00:00:00, and are *exactly the same length*. When importing the files into our DAW we need make sure everything lines up and that timings are correct. In your software, there will be a way to consolidate each track so the file length is the same. This even applies if, for example, there is one solitary triangle hit on bar 56 – all the silence leading up to that hit is not an issue!
5. Ensure you have a clear and logical numbering and naming system for each track and file. For example, 1_Kick_Inside Mic.wav, 6_Lead_Vocal.wav or 5_Bass_DI.wav, etc. Please *do not* send us a series of files named 1_Audio.wav or even Audio.wav (etc.) as this will likely severely delay the mixing process.
6. Make sure there are no plugins applied to your tracks when you consolidate them and send them to us. If there is a specific effect you want on a track then let's discuss it or send us the effected file separately to see how we can recreate it.
7. If you have MIDI tracks with VST plugins, please bounce/render these to audio .wav files.
8. Only send us .wav files. Do not send us .mp3 files.
9. Please tell us the BPM and time signature of the song. You can include this in the file name to help us – e.g. 6_Lead Vocal_120BPM.wav
10. Please tell us at what sample rate (e.g. 48kHz) and bit rate (e.g. 24bit) the tracks were recorded and exported.
11. If you are sending multiple songs for an EP or an album, please ensure that each song has a separate subfolder and that all the tracks for that song are included in it.
12. If you want send us an additional (MS Word) documents, including information on BPM of each song, sample/bit rates, order of the tracks, full names of the tracks, genres, mix notes, etc. then we're happy to receive them. Your notes can be the basis of a useful discussion.
13. If you want to send us a rough demo mix or a link to a released track with a sound you are aiming for, we're all ears!
14. When you're ready, send us a .ZIP file of all the music and we can begin the process of transforming your music into something you can take pride in.

This might all sound like a lot of work, but it will really help in getting your finished mix back to you as soon as possible.

THANK YOU!