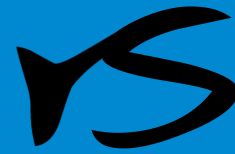




www.robsmallmastering.com



Rob Small Mastering – Pricing Information & Pre-Master Specifications:

Thanks for your interest in using Rob Small Mastering for your mastering purposes & requirements. Here is the basic info on our pricing, turnaround times and file delivery specifications.

Mastering Prices & Turnaround Times:

- Mix Consultancy = £5 per track (your mix will be run through the mastering setup and checked for issues. A great tool for getting your mix right prior to mastering. Premaster file must be supplied and upfront payment is required. Mix issues are not always found but please be aware that the fee is non refundable if this is the case)
- 1x Stereo Mastering = £12.50 British Pounds
- 3x Stereo Mastering = £35.00 British Pounds
- 4 – 15 Track Bulk Orders = £10 Per Track (33% Discount)
- 1x Vinyl Mastering = £25.00 British Pounds
- 4x Vinyl Mastering = £80.00 British Pounds (20% Discount)
- MP3 Conversion = £1.00 per track
- Soundcloud/Widget Preview = £2.50 per track
- Stem Mastering (8 Stems) = £50 per track + £5 per additional stem

Stem Mastering is an enhanced form of mastering which allows more control over the dynamics, frequency isolation & attenuation and troublesome instrumentation. You send 8 or 9 **mixed** stems (which means you leave all of your processing such as compression, eq, effects etc. **switched on** and the volumes of the channels set to how you want them), grouped into instruments, such as:

Kick

Bass

Snares/Claps

Percs

Tops (hats/cymbals/shakers etc)

Chords

Synths

Build up effects/transitional effects (white noise/filter noise/cymbal crashes etc)

Vocals (if any - must be mixed properly)

*It's important that you remember; for Stem Mastering the track still needs to be mixed to the best of your ability, so that all stems played simultaneously would sound exactly like the entire premaster mix would sound in your DAW. Stem mastering is not like Stem Mixing; which is where you would send every stem from your track (with your processing switched on) and would then be mixed together. Stem Mastering & Stem Mixing is very different process entirely.

Payments can be made with either of the following method:

- Bank Transfer
- Paypal

We will provide you with the necessary details to complete the payment.

**All bulk files must be sent in the same working day for the discount to apply. We can also offer a further discount on a bulk order of Digital & Vinyl masters. Due to the high volume of mastering requests we receive, we require at least 5 business days for the turnaround time on your mastering so please be patient. We will let you know the scheduled date for your mastering ASAP. Please inform us if you require urgent mastering.*

Files can be sent to rob@robsmallmastering.co.uk using one of the following free transfer sites:

- www.wetransfer.com
- www.sendspace.com
- www.mediafire.com

We will inform you when we have downloaded the files and will advise you to delete the premasters from the hosting site for added security **after we have downloaded them. We NEVER share your files but we must warn you that Sendspace & Mediafire links can be compromised with Google searches so we recommend using We Transfer, as this is the safest and most secure.*

Pre-Master Specifications & FAQ's:

- **Important:** premasters are to be sent without any compression, eq, or limiting plugs on the master output channel prior to exporting/bouncing the track from your DAW. Please leave at least -7dB of headroom volume on your master channel when you export/bounce down your premaster. Heavy limiting will result in less headroom for mastering. Peaks cut off by limiting can never be restored in the mastering process thus affecting output quality greatly.
- **Which File Format Should I Send?** The preferred file format is 24-bit WAV or AIFF, although 16-bit WAV or AIFF is also fine. Please do not send your tracks over as MP3's. Please remember to switch off your dithering.
- **How Should I Prepare My Tracks For Mastering?** When exporting/bouncing your premastered tracks from your DAW (Digital Audio Workstation), please create a one-bar gap at the start of your recording. Select the area to be exported starting one bar before the track starts playing and one bar after all audio has stopped and the fade has completely gone to silence, this includes reverb tails and effects such as delays. Export to 24-bit Interleaved WAV stereo or AIFF, and please turn your dithering to OFF. No dithering please!
- **Track Titles?** Please ensure that you name your tracks/projects properly, such as:

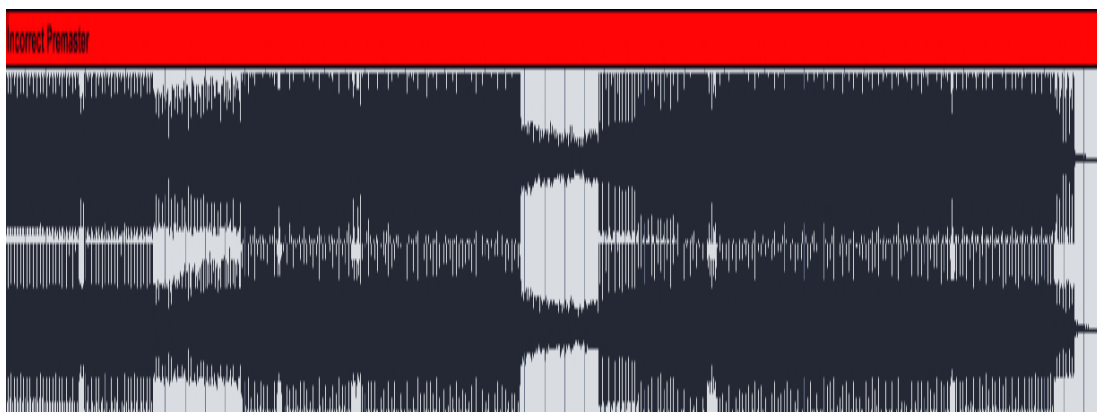
ARTIST NAME – TRACK TITLE (MIX)_2444 PRE
- **What Levels Should My Mix Have?** Please take care to ensure that the peaks of your mix do not exceed -3dBFS, and that your peaks do not reach 0dBFS as this is where clipping can occur. Please also make sure that you switch off any processing plugins on your master channel. This includes EQ's, Vintage Warmers, Compressors, and Limiters. We have all the equipment necessary for this and you do not need to process your premaster prior to sending it for mastering.
- **Try to not mix the track too hot and harsh!**

Below are some reference images of how your file should look in your DAW (pictured here in Ableton Live) prior to sending it for mastering:

Perfect Premaster in Green – Please take note of the amount of headroom and presence of dynamic range & transient peaks:



Incorrect Premaster In Red – Please take note of the lack of dynamic range and flattening of transient peaks due to heavy limiting and processing on the master output prior to exporting:



***Please make sure that you're completely 100% confident with your mixdown before you send your track to be mastered. If your kicks are too loud, or your hats are too high, then the mastering will enhance this. *PLEASE* make sure your mixdowns are done to the best of your ability and that you're satisfied before sending. There will be an additional £5 fee if mixdowns need to be altered post mastering and sent to be re-mastered. This is to cover the additional studio time spent remastering your material. Check our 'Mix Consultancy' service if you are unsure of your mix.**

***NO work will commence until some form of payment has been made. International IBAN payments are subject to a payment confirmation screenshot before any work will commence.**

Thanks! We look forward to working with you!!

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Contact:

rob@robsmallmastering.co.uk
[+44 \(0\) 7949 373 268](tel:+44207949373268)
www.robsmallmastering.com