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Preparing a song, EP or album for mastering ensures that everyone's time, including yours, is used efficiently and heads off A LOT of potential problems and pitfalls which could surface at later stages in the project. Please follow all of these steps carefully. If you have any questions consult us using the contact information above.

Preparing your project for mastering:

1. Remove compressors from masterbus. You can include a copy of your file with masterbus compression, but also include a copy w/o compression.
2. Submit at least 24 bit x 44.1khz WAV or AIFF files, no MP3s, no dithering. Higher sample rates up to 24 bit x 192khz are encouraged. Do not "upsample" your audio as this can cause artifacts, but submit the highest quality original format available.
3. All files must have headroom, -6db of headroom is ideal but not required. Do not submit mixes that clip.
4. Submit reference masters for your project, including any masters you may have- recommended
5. Include ISRCs if you have them and need them embedded in a DDP image (for CD, vinyl replication)
6. Include a single stereo file per song as your final mix submission
7. Organize your songs into folders, labeled appropriately in order, and include a document describing project information, notes, and reference tracks if applicable [[like this](#)].
8. The more information you include about your project in the form of notes, the more customized your service will be.

*Stem-mastering requires uploading 3-5 files per song in groups typically (drums, bass, guitars, keys, vocals etc.). Make sure to export these separately and correctly label them.

Upload your project folder contains all song subfolders to smithingrecords.wetransfer.com addressing the transfer to thaine@smithingrecords.com