

# Preparing for Stem Mastering

## What's the difference from Stereo Mastering?

**Stereo Mastering:** Only your final song is processed.

**Stem Mastering:** We work with individual groups of tracks (Stems) from your song, offering more room for enhancement.

## Which Stems are needed?

- Lead Vocal** - Your main voice, without any backing vocals.
- Backing Vocals** - Harmonies and voice doublings.
- Adlibs** - Individual words or effects you've added.
- Bass** - All bass tracks.
- Drums & Percussion** - Your entire drum set and all percussions.
- Music** - All instruments.

**Note:** If you have the beat only as a finished mix, that's fine.

## How do I export the Stems?

1. **Determine Song Length:** Mark the beginning and end of your song. Make sure the song doesn't get cut off at the end. This range should be consistent for all Stems.
2. **Turn off Effects:** Turn off all effects on the main channel. Exceptions are special effects that contribute to the song's sound. Effects on individual tracks remain on. Caution: Volume! Protect your ears!
3. **Check the Volume:** Turning off effects can change the volume. Ensure the main channel isn't distorting.
4. **Export Stems Individually:** Mute all tracks you don't currently want to export and export each Stem individually.
5. **Choose File Format:** When exporting, select the WAV or AIFF format, 32bit, and 48kHz or the original sample rate of your project.
6. **Review Before Sending:** Before you send the exported Stems, please listen to them in full once more. This ensures no errors are present, and everything sounds as you imagined.