

Music File Preparation for Lathe Cuts by Tyler Bisson of Audio Geography

My lathe cuts are MONO* – any L R stereo information will be summed into one mono track. I highly suggest you sum your file to mono to hear how it sounds, but please send me the stereo mix. Send me a stereo, mastered file. No need to pay the mastering engineer to do an extra “vinyl master” for you, just send your “CD mastered” file. If you know ahead of time that your particular song’s cymbals get cancelled out when summed to mono, you can let me know that. It’s better I do some fixing here, than you spending more money and time on a mastering engineer who’s not quite sure what a lathe cut is. You may think that sending a more dynamic master for vinyl is a good idea. It is if you’re making a professional pressed record, but for lathe cuts, the surface noise will overcome any very quiet areas. Send me your regular CD master files for lathe cuts.

*Stereo HIFI lathe cuts are stereo, please send your CD masters in 16 bit/44.1 kHz for HIFI cuts. If you have a higher res file, please notify me before sending.

You can make my job easier by combining multiple tracks per side into one file, “tyler_7in_Side A.WAV” for example. If you want visual space between tracks on the record, make note of the time stamps.

File types accepted:

320 kpbs MP3 (preferred)

WAV or AIF, 16 bit, 44.1 kHz sample rate

Please do not send me higher sample rate files, there is no fidelity difference with the lathe cut process, and high res files take up quite a lot of time/storage space.

File sharing sites:

Please don’t send me a link to a questionable file sharing site. I only accept downloads that are attached to the email (google drive, etc), dropbox, or www.wetransfer.com These are all easy, free, and totally safe. No need for me to get a virus to download your file. Please don’t send me to your bandcamp/soundcloud/facebook and ask me to download your track from there. Send a direct link to dropbox/wetransfer or attach it to the email.

Side Length:

For 5in records, there is a hard limit of 1:30. No exceptions!

7in records can fit up to 7:00 per side, wiggle room is 5 sec over or less. No more than that!

10in records can hold up to about 15:30 per side, but I wouldn’t go over 14:00 if you can help it.

12in records can hold a max of 20:00 per side, 18:00 suggested.

If your files aren’t sequenced correctly, I can space them for a \$20 editing fee.

When I get your files, if I hear anything really alarming, I’ll tell you about it.

After all, I do have to listen every time a copy is cut!

Please email with questions, tragwag@gmail.com

Thanks!

-Tyler

Audio Geography

www.audiogeography.com