

WHAT IS IT?

This chapter is about recording studios and recording equipment – the places and equipment used to capture sound, mix it and turn it into a CD or other master.

We will start with an overview of recording studios, such as the types and uses of studios, which will then develop into the different recording formats.

We will look at microphones, mixing desks and other studio equipment, concentrating on how to use them to record different types of instrument and sound sources.

We will finish off by looking at the mix process, including using effects and producing a master.

WHY DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS?

Many musicians and DJs will end up working in some form of recording studio over the course of their career. These come in many different shapes and sizes, but follow the same basic principles.

Even if you have no intention of becoming a recording engineer, understanding how the studio works and how to achieve the best sound will help you as a musician or DJ to improve your abilities and help ensure you leave the studio with the best possible sound recording.

Being able to use recording equipment will make you more employable, as there are many different career paths that involve recording technology, from musician / producer, to forensic study, to conferencing, video and TV.

The same techniques discussed here can be applied to almost all recording situations, from simple 4 track or computer based recording at home to a £500 per hour commercial recording studio.

Use and trust your ears!