

WHAT IS IT?

Live sound is the term used for ensuring that performers can be heard when performing in public. This chapter is about live sound from a musician and DJ's point of view, and aims to give an introduction into the sorts of equipment and systems available, and how to set it up and get a good sound.

We will start by looking at Public Address systems (PA's) and their uses.

We will then look in detail at situations where PAs are used and what you might need, including small (pub) gigs, karaoke and permanently installed PAs.

We will then look at techniques for getting a good sound. It will help if you have read chapter one before reading this section.

We will conclude by looking at Health and Safety, from a setting up and performance point of view.

WHY DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS?

Playing live is an important part of the music industry, and the sound of the performance is critical. Understanding what makes up a PA and how to get the best out of it will help ensure that your live audience can hear you properly and help ensure you have a good gig.

The information in this chapter applies equally to DJs, Karaoke performers, bands and electronic musicians who perform live.

The health and safety aspect of this chapter is also highly important as some venues have very strict rules about health and safety and what you can and can't bring in.