

The following recommendations are desirable in order to optimize mastering work

- Input format:** Audio-files should have the same bit-rate and same sample-rate resolution of workstation mixing project. Do not perform any sample rate conversion or word-length reduction.
- Peak level:** Stereo mixdown should not exceed -3dBFS.
Do not lower the master fader or normalize stereo track but treat the mixage so that the peak level measures a value somewhere between -3dBFS and -14dBFS.
Avoid peaking at 0dBFS.
- Loudness:** Do not care too much about loudness when mixing.
Spitfire Mastering Studio have all the extra gain you need without extra cost!
Use a limiter or a compressor on the stereo bus only if you are intentionally researching a particular character or dynamic behavior, avoid it if you want to add just loudness.
- Stem Master:** Send always stereo tracks.
Stems must be always post mixing process.
If a bus compressor is used on the master bus remember to bypass it during stems creation. Furthermore please specify its brand and if it is hardware or software.
Moreover describe all parameters used: threshold, attack, release, ratio and gain reduction applied.
In addition give normally a stereo mix to compare with stems sum and to check stems integrity.
- Stereo Bus:** Release the stereo bus from multiband or linear phase processing. It is preferable to try to correct mixing problems operating on single tracks
- Fades:** Have regard to beginnings and tails of tracks and provide to mute all unwanted events.
In case of particular fades request specify when and how to make them.
- Examples:** Music or audio samples in any forms are welcome to approach and reach your desired results!