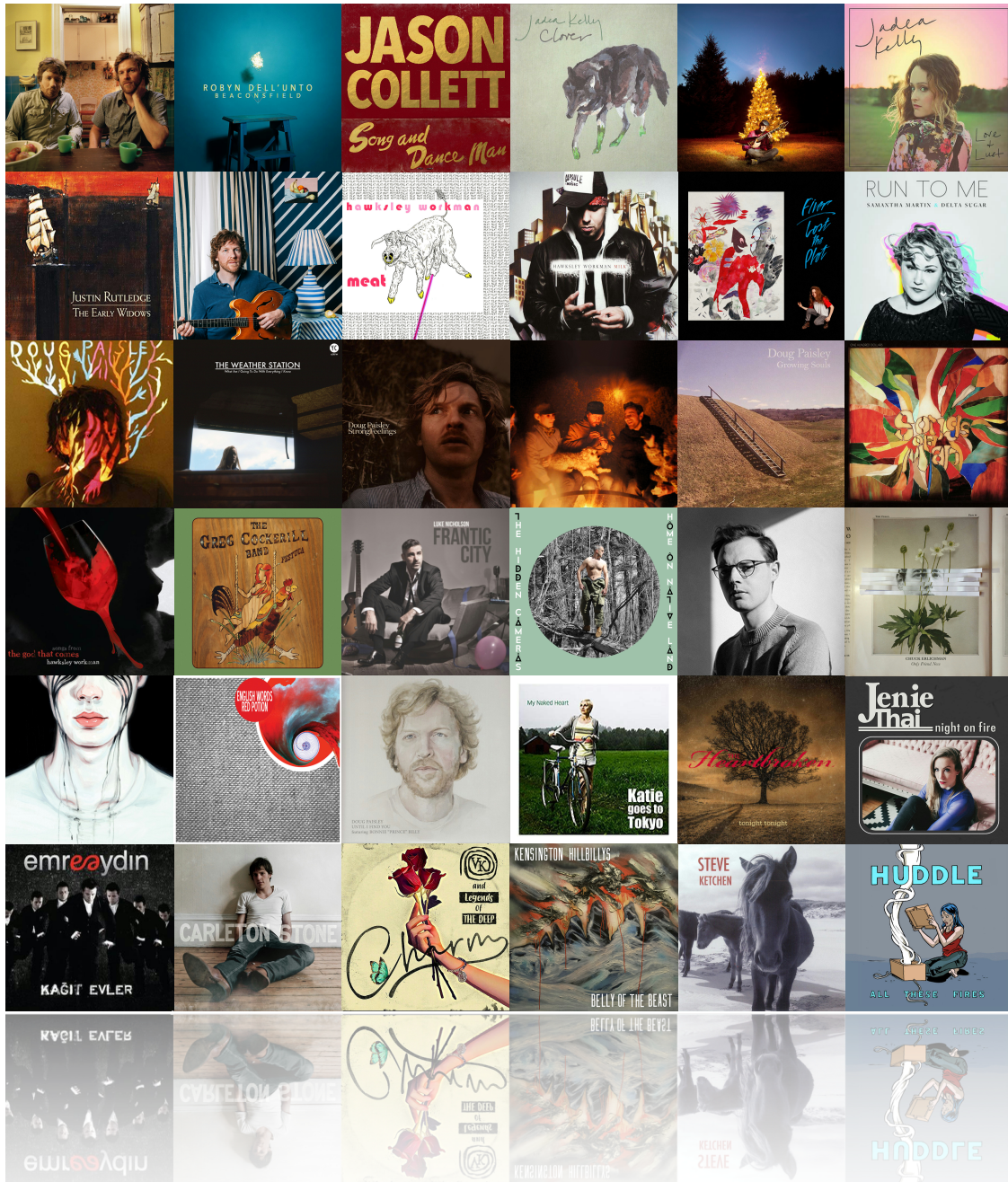


STEW CROOKES

MIX ENGINEER



Audio File Preparation Guide for Mixing

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First of all, thanks for trusting me to mix your music! This guide has all the info you need to deliver audio files that are ready to mix - if you have any questions please don't hesitate to email me at: stew@stewcrookes.com

- Before you do ANYTHING to your session, 'Save-As' and name it something like 'SONG NAME FILE PREP'
- Please make sure there's no comping, editing or tuning left to do (unless we've discussed otherwise)
- Pay close attention to any edits that may need a cross fade to avoid a click / pop and make sure you haven't cut off the start or end of any waveforms.
- Disable all non-essential plugins before exporting. By this I mean any plugins in your session that are there to make things sound more 'mixed' (compression, EQ, general reverbs, etc).
- Any plugins you are using to *create* a sound should definitely be included (like deliberate distortion, filter effects, amp simulators, character reverbs, etc). When in doubt please bounce dry and effected versions.
- Export the audio files from a common start point. Typically the first bar of the session, but if not, I *highly recommend* making a note of where you exported from in case you need to re-bounce any of the files later.
- If you have a number of instruments making one aggregate sound (a string section, group of synth pads etc) it is very useful if you bounce a stereo mix of their blend, in addition to the individual files.
- Export using the session's working bit depth / sample rate - 16 to 24 bit WAV or AIFF files at 44.1 to 192kHz.
- Please avoid bouncing 32 bit files - this format isn't well supported yet.
- Name each audio file descriptively (eg: Kick in, Kick Out, Lead Vox etc). Clearly label doubles (eg: Rhythm Guit, Rhythm Guit Dbl) and when there's alternate mics of the same performance (such as Guit Solo Ribbon, Guit Solo Dynamic).
- Put the exported files in a new folder named something like "SONG NAME [TEMPO] MIX AUDIO"
- Please provide your rough mix (and any notes about it such as what you either like or don't) as well as any reference songs you have in mind which have a similar vibe to what you're hoping to achieve.
- You can send the files through any of the usual file transfer services, like Dropbox, Wettransfer, or Hightail etc.