

# The Vocal Mixing Process



## First

Get a quick balance between the vocals and the track - DON'T OVER-ANALYZE

## Setup all sub-mixes, panning, levels, FX



This is where you plan what you need for organization and easy access. It is much easier to control a few submixes instead of dozens of individual faders.

## QUICK TIPS

Use a high-pass filter on all vocals to remove low-end mud from the mix

Listen for high-end problems like irritating qualities & peircing words that poke out

Use EQ first if it sounds a little weird tonally. Compress first if the levels are all over the place and out of control. You can use multiples

## Second

Identify any sonic PROBLEMS FIRST like funny tones, uneven levels, masking, clutter, etc.

## Solve problems first

Solve problems first, then start combining and shaping the sounds to fit together. Use cut EQ, Compressors, and Limiters

## Sculpt your sounds around the vocals

Find the foundation of the groove and vocals, then gradually add each element and listen carefully for anything that KILLS the groove or clarity when added.

## Third

Get a strong foundation before adding Compression and EQ. Make sure to check at different loudness levels

## Fourth

Make sure your effects aren't causing any frequency issues. Use EQ on returns

## Low-end

Check for muddiness, fullness, competing with kick, bass, guitars, keys, etc.

## Mids

Usually cut low-mids and check high-mids to enhance if needed

## High-end

Check for sibilance, dullness, clarity, air, irritating frequencies, and intelligibility

## Vocal Mixing Secrets Course

6 Weeks



## Fifth

Test all vocals at different volume levels. For example: 1/2dB to 1dB louder and softer

**IMPORTANT:**

Adjust your approach based on the style of music, the function of the vocal, the final listening audience, the density of the mix, and your taste