

Audio specifications

Formats and Runtimes

Format	Diameter	Speed	Optimum duration	Overlength	Maximum duration
7 Inch Single	17,5 cm	45 rpm	until 3:30 minutes		5 minutes
		33 ^{1/3} rpm	until 6 minutes		8 minutes
10 Inch Medium Play MP	25 cm	45 rpm	until 7 minutes		9 minutes
		33 ^{1/3} rpm	until 9 minutes	9 minutes	12 minutes
12 Inch Longplay LP /Maxi-Single	30 cm	45 rpm	until 9 minutes		15 minutes
		33 ^{1/3} rpm	until 15 minutes	15 minutes	25 minutes

All durations are estimates. They may vary depending on low-frequency signal components. Audio material with few low-frequency components (e.g. voice records) can normally be realized with longer durations.

Please note the following:

- The longer the duration and the stronger the low-frequencies in addition, the more quiet the cut may be. Durations beyond optimum may result in more noise, blurry appearance, echoes (at sine-like sounds).
- High-frequencies at the inner grooves of the record may roll off and distort if emphasized critically in digital master.
- Very loud cuts for DJ- and Club-purposes, containing excessive low-frequencies (e.g. Drum & Bass) would definitely work better on 12" at 45 rpm and durations about 8 minutes.
- Please put focus, preferences or instructions (gaps/trackmarker) for the cut in an INFO.txt or a detailed tracklist to the audiofiles.

Track arrangement

When creating the order of the tracks for the vinyl cut, please note that high frequencies will naturally roll off towards the inner area of the vinyl. Tunes containing aggressive high-frequencies (which better should be preserved as much as possible, especially at 33^{1/3} rpm), would sound best before reaching about mid of each side. The inner grooves would better contain more ambient tunes, like ballads.

Audio specifications of the master

Our goal is to cut your music as naturally as possible onto vinyl. However, in addition to the creative process of premastering, there are certain things to be considered when creating a master suitable for vinyl. Please keep in mind that a vinyl cannot be better than its original master (technically)!

Please strictly observe the following:

- Please do not use excessive limiting/maximizing. A highly dynamic master will work best, as cutting loud is mainly determined by the duration and the low-frequency components, not by the average loudness of the digital master!
- The peaks of the material should not exceed -12 dB RMS / -0.7 dB True Peak (digital master).
- Excessive high frequencies may cause distortions (especially at the inner grooves) and should be mixed decreasingly above 3 kHz. Please use a DeEsser for vocals, high-frequency pops, clicks and crackle, Hi-Hats and Cymbals and feedback noises. Frequencies above 18 kHz and below 40 Hz are critical and supposed to be filtered at 12 dB/Octave
- Instruments containing strong low-frequency components (kick drum, bass guitar) should be centered in the stereo image. Please also pay attention to phase coherence, left and right channels should always be at least positively correlated.

Specialties for cut

By standard, at the beginning of each individual song, a „spaced groove“ is inserted as an optical reference, which does not affect the sound or possible transitions. Whether you may not wish „spaced grooves“, or may like transitions (no gaps) between individual tracks, please send us a note (INFO.txt or Tracklist with cues e.g.) when ordering or with the audio file.

Loops

If demanded, a groove could be cut in a way that a sequence will repeat „infinitely“, therefore a loop could be created. The sequence needs to have the exact length as one rotation of the vinyl. At $33\frac{1}{3}$ rpm, this is exactly 1.8 seconds, at 45 rpm it is exactly $1\frac{1}{3}$ seconds.

Inside-out-cut

The cut could be done „inverted“, for playing grooves from inside to outside (consider „Track arrangement“ above).

Quality of the delivered master

If MY45 is not explicitly instructed with the mastering of the audio files, we consider all delivered audio masters ready for production. We do not control the content of the files. Only technical reproducibility would be controlled. If provided masters revealed not suitable for vinyl, the master is going to be rejected. Please mind that we at most apply minor adjustments.

The provided masters would be, as far as technically possible, cut as is onto lacquer or copper master discs. Noise, interference, distortion and inadequate sound already present in the digital Masterfile will also be present in the vinyl pressing.

Every master must be controlled thoroughly by the client before providing it to us. If corrected materials are provided repeatedly, we would charge € 25,00 + VAT per correction due to the extra effort necessary.

IMPORTANT!

Please pay attention to correct naming of the files so we know exactly which title goes where. Strictly mind the chars, otherwise Tracks could get into wrong order when cut, that would cause extra charge!

Text formatting for entire sides (A/B/C/D): **Side_CatalogNumber_Diameter_RotationSpeed.WAV**; or single tracks: **TrackNumber_Side_CatalogNumber_Diameter_RotationSpeed.WAV**

Example: **A_ABC-123_7inch_45rpm.aiff** or **B_03_XYZ-789_12inch_33rpm.WAV**.

Accepted audio formats: **AIFF (*.aif, *.aiff, *.aifc)** and **WAV (*.wav)**, RIFF each (only PCM), not **ACID WAV** or the like. Other on request.

The files should be rendered at 96 kHz/24 bit, at least 44.1 kHz/16 bit (sample rate/audio bit depth).

Professional vinyl mastering

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. But please understand that we cannot give you instructions for audio mastering. A professional sound studio which offers mastering for vinyl knows what to do.

In our mastering studio, we have years of experience in mastering audio for vinyl. We gladly offer you our complete know-how and experience and master your songs for the best representation on vinyl. We will gladly make you an offer.

Upload-Guide

Please upload all necessary graphics and audio files together to **my45.wetransfer.com** by following these steps:

1. Create a folder on your desktop. Name it with you catalog number, amount of vinyl's and diameter (e.g. XYZ001_300x_12inch)
2. Copy the audio files to this folder and name them: **Side_CatalogNumber_Diameter_RotationSpeed.WAV** for entire sides, or for single tracks: **TrackNumber_Side_CatalogNumber_Diameter_RotationSpeed.WAV**
Example: **A_ABC-123_7inch_45rpm.aiff** or **B_03_XYZ-789_12inch_33rpm.WAV**.
Do not forget INFO.txt / Tracklist!
3. Copy your label- and cover graphic files to the folder and name them with catalog number, format, type, and side (e.g. XY456_7inch_Label_SideA.pdf, AB123_12inch_Cover3mmSpine.jpg)
4. Add the rights declaration to the folder.
5. When you copied all necessary files to the folder, control it again for correctness and completeness.
6. Compress the folder by right-clicking on it -> send to -> zip-compressed folder.
7. Upload the created compressed folder to my45.wetransfer.com. After the upload is finished, a link will be shown. Send this link via e-mail to info@my45.de, with the catalog number as subject.

If physical sound storage media (CD, DVD, Magnetic Tape) is sent, always mark the storage medium itself (not only the cover!) with your name, address and catalog number. Storage media sent to us will not be returned.

CDs and DVDs should only be used as Data-CD/DVD. Please check back with us before sending us Audio-CDs, Magnetic Tapes, DA-Tapes or Audio Cassettes.

Delivery and application of audio masters as CD digital audio, digital audio tape, magnetic tape, or compact audio cassette demands our previous agreement and may cause extra charge.

Please keep a backup of your production files. MY45 only archives files for as long as necessary for production and quality assurance. Files no longer needed may be deleted without further notice.