

Using Digital Learning Technologies in Junior Cycle Music How to Edit and Mix Audio

in Audacity

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Step 1: Import the Backing Track and multiple Vocal Tracks

- Option 1: Click, drag and drop the MP3 files or
- Option 2 for multiple MP3s: Select File > Import > and Select Audio

Step 2: Adjust Volume levels for playback to avoid distortion

- Hold CTRL/CMD + A to select all the audio files
- Select Effect > Amplify > and turn down volume e.g., by -20 decibels

Step 3: Align Vocals

- Set the volume of your backing track
- Delete all unwanted silence at the beginning of each track
- Use your ear to align each vocal track, one at a time
- Click **Solo** on the backing track to hear just this track
- Select Shift & Click on Solo on the vocal track you wish to align
- Once aligned, get rid of the silence at the end of each track

Step 4: Apply Processing FX

- Panning: Use the Slider
 - Set Sopranos to left / Altos centre / Bass to right etc
- Reverb: to add to Vocal tracks only
- Select all the audio by holding and dragging the cursor across the vocal tracks
- Click on Tracks > Mix > and Mix and Render to New Track
- All your vocals are now in a NEW track which audacity will call Mix
- Click on this new track: Select Effect > Reverb > Manage > and Factory Presets
- Choose your preferred reverb e.g Church Hall, Medium Room
- If you want to add more reverb, adjust Wet Gain Click Ok
- Compression: enables a more fuller sound
- Select the New Vocal Mix track and the Backing Track by holding and dragging the cursor across
- Select Tracks > Mix > and Mix and Render to New Track
- Your choir and accompaniment are now in another new MIX track
- CTRL/CMD + C to copy this new Mix track
- Create New Stereo Track: Tracks > Add New > and Stereo Track
- CTRL/CMD + V to paste your new Mix track into this Stereo track
- Click on Effect > Compressor: Threshold, Noise, Attack Set low and Ratio and Release Set High
- Mix and Render both these tracks in the same way as before

Final Step

- Click on this final track Select Effect > Normalise > Amplitude to -1.0dB
- Select File > Export > choose WAV or MP3, Title and Save your Master Audio Track











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| -24:68 | | | | | | | |
| -4848 | | | | | | | |
| -40 | 68 | -48dB | -36d8 | -2 | 4d8 | -12dB | 0d |
| Three | hold | | | | | | Bb 00- |
| Noise | Floor: | | | | | | -80 dB |
| | Ratio | | | | | -0 | 10:1 |
| Attack | Time: | | | | | | 0.10 sect |
| Release | Time: | | | | | -0 | 30.0 sec |
| Mark | | ain for 0 dB a | ther compre | essing | Compres | | n Peaks |
| Mana | 90 | Preven | | 0 | Cancel | _ | ok j |



