

required files

one stereo reference mix representing your intended balance, tone, and creative direction.
a full set of processed stems, exported exactly as they currently sound — including any channel, group, or bus processing that forms part of the production or sound design.
a matching set of dry stems with all processing removed, if available — allowing elements to be rebuilt or adjusted cleanly if needed during mixing.

audio format

wav or aiff at 24-bit minimum (32-bit float welcome).
export at the native sample rate of your project.
no mp3s.

export & alignment

all stems consolidated from bar 1 beat 1.
all files the same length.
ensure reverb and delay tails are fully printed — not cut off.

group & mix-bus processing

group or bus processing is fine if it's part of the production or sound design.
during mixing, group architecture may be rebuilt from scratch where needed.
if any mix-bus processing is integral to the sound or balance of the track, please flag this so we can discuss the best approach.

levels & integrity

no clipping — no distortion, crackling, or red overload indicators.
make sure any normalisation functions are disabled when exporting.

labelling & organisation

stems must be clearly labelled.
if you're using groups or buses, include the group/bus name in the stem name (e.g. drums – kick, bass – sub, music – pad 1, vocals – lead).

notes

include any creative notes, references, or specific concerns.