

Imperial Mastering info sheet
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Thank you for choosing Colin Davis and **Imperial Mastering** as your source for high-end CD mastering! Here is some information that will help us make sure that your project goes smoothly. Paragraphs 1 and 2 are for the artist and mixing engineer, the rest are for the artist.

Artist and engineer:

1. File format: Please send me **24 bit stereo WAV files with no master fader plug-ins applied.** If you have not worked with an outside mastering engineer before, you can read more about mixing down for mastering in an article on my blog [here](#). Engineer: please leave room at the heads and tails of the songs and eliminate any unwanted sounds. ☺

2. Uploading. For test masters, just upload one song to a file-sharing site and send me the direct link to the file. **Include the name of the band and song name.**

When its time to upload all the mixes to begin your album mastering, **please compress multiple files into a zip or rar archive and upload them as a single file.** See [this guide](#) for instructions if you have not used file compression before. **Or use a file-sharing site like Dropbox or Google Drive that lets me download all your songs in one click.** This way I can receive all your files quickly and easily. If you do not have a preferred file-sharing site, [Dropbox](#), [We Transfer](#), [Google Drive](#), are popular and free options. If you are asked for an email for “access permission”, use imperialmastering@gmail.com

Artist:

5. Pricing: Please see my [Pricing Schedule](#) and choose **Bronze**, **Silver** or **Gold** mastering package.

3. CD text info: Please send me an e-mail (or include a text file) that tells me the **name of the band, the title of the album, and each of the song names in their proper order**. If you need a physical CD sent to you, include your mailing address and contact me for shipping costs if you are outside the U.S., but these days I deliver most masters as individual WAV files and/or DDP master image file. See [pricing](#) for options.

4. Song to song spacing and fades: If you have a preference for the amount of time in between songs, please let me know. If you have no preference I will use my best judgment, which is usually good for most clients.

If you want me to fade or cross fade any of your songs please let me know where you want the fades to start and end. You can refer to the clock time or to a section of the song. Example: “Begin the fade out on song 2 at 3:45 and end it by 4:10.” Or, “Begin the fade out after the last tom roll and end it just before the guitar stops playing”, or something to this effect.

6. Payment: After we have completed the test master phase and you are ready for me to start your project, I ask for full payment before I begin.

[PayPal.com](#) is the best option, or if you are in the U.S., a money order is fine too. Just ask me for the mailing address. If you want to use a bank-to-bank wire transfer, contact me for the info. You might want to use a friend’s PayPal account if you are located outside of the U.S. and don’t have your own account. My PayPal e-mail is imperialmastering@gmail.com PayPal charges a fee of 3.9 percent for most transfers so I will include this fee in the total price that I charge for your project.

7. Sound preferences. If you have any ideas about what you want to achieve in mastering, let me know. Generally, all albums have their own unique sound and it’s my job make your unique mix shine, but if you have any specific requests for the way you want your music to sound, let me know.

8. Loudness. If you are requiring your master to be “loud”, let me know. Usually I will find the place where your mix wants to sit naturally and I will bring it up to the best average loudness. For most rock, pop and metal, this means that the sound will be fairly loud and comparable with other mixes on the market.

For other styles such as acoustic, folk, new age, world, jazz, pushing for loudness may alter the dynamics in a negative way. Generally I am familiar with most styles of music and will make a good judgment about loudness for you. When I make a test master for you this is a good time to check and make sure the average loudness level is good for your tastes. If there is a question about loudness vs. quality, I recommend you go for quality! Your fans will appreciate it. ☺

9. Deadlines. If you have a deadline from your label or replication plant schedule, let me know what it is and I will work to meet your deadline. My average turn-around time is 4-5 days, but let me know if there is more or less time available.

Thank you for taking the time to read this info sheet! I very much look forward to working on your project and helping to make your musical vision come true! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions!

Colin Davis

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